

# City of Rochester



**WHEREAS**, 165 years ago in 1857, businessmen, including former Rochester Mayor Charles Lindsley (1857-1859), planned and built a district here, which came to be called Lower Town (planned & purchased 1855, platted & developed 1857), constructing large mills and more with the vision and intent of old Lower Town becoming the primary central district of Rochester, Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, the ambition of old Lower Town was challenged on August 21, 1883, when three tornadoes touched down, including a large mile-wide F5 tornado, leaving many dead and wounded; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of our neighborhood and surrounding community rose from the ruins, demonstrated compassion and strength, and gave birth to one of the greatest medical centers the world has ever known; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 139 years since that tragic event, many more have lived here, worked here, endured floods, blizzards, and heatwaves here, overcome financial crises, world wars, and pandemics here – revealing the great strength and persistence of the Spirit of Lowertown; and

**WHEREAS**, modern day Lowertown continues to build and reach toward the greatness first envisioned in the 1850's, taking great pride in our nearly 100 businesses, 700+ current households, and 200+ new households currently under construction.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Kim Norton, Mayor of the City of Rochester, Minnesota, do hereby recognize the 165th anniversary of old Lower Town's founding and the 139 anniversary of old Lower Town's near complete destruction and then subsequent rebuilding, and proclaim the week of August 21st, 2022 as

and I invite all citizens and community members to join with the Lowertown Neighborhood in recalling our historic strength while boldly looking toward the future with great pride.

**Spirit of Lowertown Week**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the corporate seal of the City of Rochester to be affixed this 21st day of August, 2022.

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Kim Norton, Mayor