COALITION OF GREATER MN CITIES

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Thief River Falls Mayor Brian Holmer receives Excellence in Service Award from CGMC

ST. PAUL—Thief River Falls Mayor Brian Holmer was recognized by the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC) July 29 during the Coalition's summer conference in Alexandria for his excellence in service to Greater Minnesota.

The Excellence in Service Award is given annually to city leaders who demonstrate knowledge, leadership and active participation in CGMC program areas over the past year.

As a member of the Board of Directors since 2015 and current vice president of the organization, Holmer is instrumental in advancing CGMC's goals and priorities. He is actively involved in several CGMC program areas, particularly economic development and the environment. This session, he was a key leader in efforts to address the housing shortage that impacts many Greater Minnesota communities. He joined with Shane Zutz, a VP of human resources for Digi-Key, to pen a guest column that highlights the struggles businesses in their community face in recruiting and retaining employees due the lack of available housing. In addition, Holmer participated in several meetings with legislators on behalf of the CGMC to bring attention to the need for more state funding to help cities upgrade or repair their water and wastewater facilities.

"Mayor Holmer never turns down an opportunity to help. Whenever we call on him, he's ready to dive in and get to work," said Greg Zylka, mayor of Little Falls and president of the CGMC. "This year, he really stepped up to the plate to advocate for legislation that addresses Greater Minnesota's housing and water infrastructure needs. He is always striving to push our organization forward and works hard to advance CGMC's goals."

CGMC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization representing more than 100 cities outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Coalition educates legislators about issues important to Greater Minnesota.

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