



media release

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**Greater Mankato Growth Candidate Debates Begin Monday**

MANKATO, Minn. (September 24, 2010) – Greater Mankato Growth (GMG) will begin its series of candidate debates and forums on **Monday, September 27**, with a Nicollet County Commissioners District 1 Candidate Debate co-hosted by GMG and the St. Peter Chamber of Commerce from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at St. Peter High School Theater, 100 Lincoln Drive, St. Peter. On **Tuesday, September 28**, GMG will host a Blue Earth County Commissioners District 2 Candidate Debate from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the City Center Hotel, 101 East Main Street in Mankato.

“Throughout the election season GMG’s role is to serve as an information intermediary between the candidates and the voters on issues impacting not only business, but the overall vitality of the region at large,” said GMG President and CEO Jonathan Zierdt. “Our role is not to tell individuals how to vote, but rather, provide them with opportunities to engage with candidates and access information in order to make their own informed decisions.”

GMG will host a total of 11 debates and forums with area candidates, leading up to the general election on November 2. Complete information on these GMG hosted events, as well as details on other candidate events, is available on the “Forums, Debates and Events” page of GMG’s Election 2010 online information site [greatermankatoelections.com](http://greatermankatoelections.com).

On this page, voters are encouraged to submit questions that they would like GMG to ask the candidates at each forum or debate. “Our hope is that as many members of the businesses community as possible ask questions and turn out for these forums, so that candidates are able to get the full spectrum of ideas from throughout the marketplace,” said Zierdt.

In addition to information about candidate events, [greatermankatoelections.com](http://greatermankatoelections.com) has other useful information and resources, including candidates’ answers to important biographic and profile questions. This information was provided directly from candidates vying for area city, county and state seats.

**About Greater Mankato Growth**

Public Affairs is one of Greater Mankato Growth’s eight strategic areas of work to advance business for a stronger community. The seven other areas include existing business support, new business growth, business promotion, talent development, community marketing, visitor attraction & servicing and civic engagement.

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