

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Innovative Program Encourages Telework in Minnesota**

*eWorkPlace event at U of M on July 28*

**Minneapolis, MN** (July 27, 2009) – The University of Minnesota/Hubert H. Humphrey Institute, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) and the Citizens League, will host an event on Tuesday, July 28, to help ignite business participation in an innovative program that recently launched in the Twin Cities – **eWorkPlace**.

eWorkPlace is a state-sponsored program for metro-area employers that is funded by a state appropriation to Mn/DOT. Its primary purpose is to reduce congestion on roadways in and around the Twin Cities by encouraging employers to offer workers the option of teleworking (often referred to as telecommuting). The program goal is to recruit and retain at least 2,700 participants between June 2009 and June 2010.

The event will be hosted at the University of Minnesota and will feature speakers sharing insights about environmental and congestion impact, as well as eWorkPlace employer/employee benefits—including increased productivity, cost reductions and work-life balance.



### **eWorkPlace Breakfast**

**Tuesday, July 28, 2009**

**8:30 am —11:00 am**

**Hubert H. Humphrey Institute  
University of Minnesota**

**Cowles Auditorium and Atrium**

**Event speakers include:**

- **Khani Sahebjam** – Mr. Sahebjam currently serves as the Deputy Commissioner and Chief Engineer at Mn/DOT. For nearly 18 years, he has been instrumental in program delivery, bridges and structures, state aid and research administration.
- **Erin Kelly** – Dr. Kelly, associate professor at the University of Minnesota, studies changes in U.S. workplaces and the effects on employees, families and organizations. She is co-principal investigator of the Flexible Work and Well-Being Center.

(more)



- **William Schroeer** – Mr. Schroeer currently serves as the State Policy Director for Smart Growth America. He's spent 20 years designing and directing transportation and land use policy evaluations and examining costs, benefits, feasibility, economic and social impacts. During the 1990s, he was an Economist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- **Terry Carroll** – Mr. Carroll is Senior Vice President of Transformation at Fairview Health Services, an early adapter of and leader in the telework initiative. He has been instrumental in the Results Only Work Environment (ROWE)—that has been implemented in other leading Twin Cities' businesses.
- **Lee Anderson** – Mr. Anderson serves on the Board of Directors of the Citizens League, one of the nation's premiere citizen-based "good government" organizations. He is Manager of State and Local Government Relations for General Mills where he advocates the company's interests during the formation of public policy.
- **Adeel Lari** – Mr. Lari is the eWorkPlace Program Director in the State and Local Policy Program at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. He joined the University after more than 30 years with Mn/DOT where he led the development and implementation of innovative transportation initiatives in Minnesota.

Program officials will be available to share information about telework and how it enables employees to work from home or a remote location and connect to the office and clients through the Internet and other technology. Telework is a proven business strategy and has demonstrated multiple benefits to employers and employees alike. For more information about the benefits of eWorkPlace, visit our Telework Benefits page on [www.eworkplace-mn.com](http://www.eworkplace-mn.com).

An important part of the program's success will come from many free services from telework experts that will be offered to employers. Free consulting, training, tools, tips, advice and other program services are available for a limited time.

For more information on eWorkPlace, visit [www.eworkplace-mn.com](http://www.eworkplace-mn.com).

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