



Central Minnesota Builders Association

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release:

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STEVE GOTTWALT APPOINTED NEW GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CONSULTANT

(St. Cloud, MN – December 6, 2019) The Central Minnesota Builders Association (CMBA) has hired Steve Gottwalt as its new Government Affairs Consultant. Gottwalt steps into the part-time contract role this month, replacing Michelle Fischbach who recently left the position to run for Congress in Minnesota's 7th District. Jane DeAustin recently retired after holding the position for 17 years. Gottwalt will represent CMBA members before local, state and national government officials, the business community and the public, and monitor government affairs activities, keeping CMBA members informed about relevant issues.

Gottwalt served nine years on the St. Cloud City Council (1997-2006), including serving on the city's Planning Commission, the Area Planning Organization (APO) board, and chairing the St. Cloud Area Economic Development Partnership board. He also served six years representing much of the St. Cloud area in the Minnesota Legislature (2007-2012) as State Representative for District 15A/14A. Gottwalt has remained active in government affairs at the local, state and national levels, and continues to serve as part-time Executive Director of the Minnesota Association of County Health Plans (MACHP). Gottwalt lives in St. Cloud and is a member of the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Central Minnesota Builders Association (CMBA) was established in 1971, and represents over 400 members with over 8,400 employees. It is a local non-profit trade association striving to improve the Central Minnesota building industry by **advocating** for the industry at the local, state, and national levels; **educating** members about building industry best practices; and **engaging** members in activities that strengthen competitiveness, professionalism, and the public's confidence in the industry. Over the years, the association has grown to include builders, remodelers, sub-contractors, suppliers, and other professionals who support the building industry. CMBA is involved in monitoring state and local legislative, governmental and regulatory activities which impact the housing and construction industry, and coordinating CMBA's actions and responses.

CMBA's vision is to create an environment in which:

- All people have the opportunity to realize the American Dream of home ownership
- Builders have the freedom to operate as entrepreneurs in an open and competitive environment

- Housing and those who provide it are recognized as the strength of the nation.

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ABOUT CMBA: Central Minnesota Builders Association is a non-profit trade association celebrating over 45 years in the 7 county area, with over 400 builder and associate member companies representing 7,500 employees. CMBA is involved in all phases of the building industry. The CMBA strives to improve the Central Minnesota building industry by advocating for the industry at the local, state and national levels; educating our members about building industry best practices; and engaging our members in activities that strengthen competitiveness, professionalism, and the public's confidence in our industry. www.cmbaonline.org.