

**RESOLUTION 11-02  
CITY OF COLUMBUS  
COUNTY OF ANOKA  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING RUNNING ACES HARNESS PARK'S REQUEST TO  
PERMIT ELECTRONIC GAMING MACHINES AT ITS STATE LICENSED AND  
REGULATED GAMING FACILITY**

**WHEREAS**, Running Aces Harness Park is a multi-use entertainment destination that provides visitors with live horse racing, card room gaming, including poker and blackjack, live music and comedy entertainment, and meeting and dining options; and

**WHEREAS**, Running Aces Harness Park has been a good corporate citizen to the City of Columbus, the County of Anoka, the entire north metropolitan area and the State of Minnesota with more than \$3.4 million annually in property, sales and other taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, Running Aces Harness Park has been an asset to the state and regional economies by employing approximately 550 employees with an annual payroll of \$17 million; and

**WHEREAS**, Running Aces Harness Park and Canterbury Park are the only two state-licensed and regulated gaming facilities in Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, permitting Running Aces Harness Park and Canterbury Park to operate video and slot machines like those currently used at the state's 18 tribal casinos would generate significant tax revenue for Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, permitting slot machines at Running Aces Harness Park and Canterbury Park would generate more than \$400 million annually in economic activity in the state, create more than 500 additional jobs, and generate more than \$100 million annually to balance the state's budget and fund its priorities; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of Minnesota will maintain strong regulatory oversight of the state's two gaming facilities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Columbus supports Running Aces Harness Park's request that the Minnesota state legislature pass legislation to integrate electronic gaming machines into the existing gaming opportunities offered at Minnesota's two state licensed and state regulated race tracks; and

**FURTHERMORE**, that the City of Columbus encourages its legislative delegation to support efforts to permit electronic gaming machines at Minnesota's existing race tracks and card rooms. The City's support of the legislation is specifically conditioned upon the following:

- a. The legislation will include provision for payment of a share of net gaming revenues to the City in an amount of not less than one-half of one percent per year; and

- b. Running Aces Harness Park agrees to reimburse the City for its cost of monitoring the legislation for its impact on the City and its finances.

Passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Columbus, Minnesota, this 23rd day of February 2011.

By: 

David J. Povodny

Its: Mayor

ATTEST:



Elizabeth Mursko  
City Administrator