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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Holidazzle Schedule Updated To Account For Severe Weather

MINNEAPOLIS (December 17, 2016) — Come out and join us in Loring Park for Holidazzle today, Saturday, December 17 as we continue to celebrate the holiday season.

Holidazzle is open today from 11 am – 10 pm, with our Holidazzle Fireworks at 6:30 pm this evening. However, Holidazzle will be closed on Sunday, December 18 due to forecasted dangerous temperatures and wind chills as the safety of our guests, vendors and partners is our first concern.

Holidazzle does want to make sure the community has the opportunity to enjoy all the free activities that Holidazzle has to offer. Therefore, we will be extending our hours next Thursday, December 22 and Friday, December 23 and will be open from 12 pm – 10 pm. This will offer an opportunity for our community to continue enjoying the holiday season here with us and all the free activities for all ages that Holidazzle has to offer.

“Holidazzle will continue to provide free activities for the community, however safety of our visitors, vendors, and partners is our top priority,” said Leah Wong, Vice President of Events & Marketing, Minneapolis Downtown Council. “We want to make sure we are taking the right measures to ensure everyone’s safety during severe weather. We look forward to seeing you next week to celebrate the holiday season here in Minneapolis.”

In addition to Holidazzle, the Warming House for skating at Loring Park will also be closed Sunday, reopening during regularly scheduled hours on Monday.

“While we know Minnesotans are hearty and love to be active in the winter, we take the safety of our visitors, vendors and partners seriously,” Wong said. “After assessing the impending severe weather, we’re making changes to our schedule to ensure the safest experience for everyone.”

To plan your visit next week, check www.holidazzle.com and follow along on social media through [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) using the hashtag #Holidazzle. Holidazzle imagery can be found at www.holidazzle.com/media.

About Holidazzle:

The 2016 Holidazzle is managed and produced by the Minneapolis Downtown Council in partnership with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Holidazzle is an annual holiday tradition in Downtown Minneapolis that offers free programming and activities for all ages and ability while also highlighting local people, places and products that make our community unique. The 2016 Holidazzle is sponsored by CenterPoint Energy, Xcel Energy, U.S. Bank, PCL Construction, Fulton Beer, Sociable Cider Werks, Minneapolis Building & Construction Trades Council, Egan, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 292, Comcast Business, Minneapolis St. Paul Magazine, Metro Transit, Minneapolis Recycling and Premium Waters, Inc. dotcom.printing.inc., The

Holidazzle Welcome Team Partners include the Minneapolis Downtown Council, YouthLink, Minneapolis Community & Technical College, and Metro Transit.

About the Minneapolis Downtown Council:

Founded in 1955, and one of the most historic central business associations in the nation, the Minneapolis Downtown Council (MDC) is a membership-based entity that works to create an extraordinary downtown. The MDC's collaborative developments of *Intersections: The Downtown 2025 Plan* was designed to help downtown businesses, community leaders and citizens build on downtown assets and implement future goals. For more information, please visit DowntownMpls.com.

About the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board:

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board is an independent, semi-autonomous body responsible for the Minneapolis park system. With 179 park properties totaling 6,801 acres of land and water, the Park Board provides places and recreation opportunities for all people to gather and engage in activities that promote health, well-being, community and the environment. Its Grand Rounds Scenic Byway, neighborhood parks, recreation centers and diversified programming have made the park system an important component of what makes Minneapolis a great place to live, play and work. More than 21 million annual visits are made to the nationally acclaimed park system, which was named the number one park system in the nation in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 by The Trust for Public Land's ParkScore® Index.

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