

TOPICS AND PRESENTERS

[POST-ELECTION ANALYSIS: TODD RAPP](#)

[REACHING ACROSS THE PARTISAN AISLE TO BUILD NETWORKS OF SUPPORT – A BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE: SENATOR DAVE DURENBERGER AND LORI STURDEVANT](#)

POST-ELECTION ANALYSIS

[LINK](#)

TODD RAPP, RAPP STRATEGIES

- Democrats lost 2 U.S. Senate seats and 35-37 house seats but added over 300 legislative seats. Democrats flipped 7 governors.
- The results were typical for a midterm election where the sitting president has an approval rating below 50%.
- A survey yielded unusual results indicating that a quarter of Americans think the economy is doing well yet also think the country is going in the wrong direction. Many of these respondents live in the suburbs.
- The 2018 midterm elections saw the highest midterm voter turnout in MN history with 2,615,092 voters. The primary driver was younger voters.
- Tim Walz is the first governor from Greater MN in 32 years.
- MN has the only split legislature in the country.
- MN now has 4 major parties (Democratic Farmer Laborer, Republican Party of MN, Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party, Legal Marijuana Now Party).
- Political geography is changing: more populous counties vote more democratic.
- The entire metro area in 2018 voted democratic. The suburbs and the urban core controlled this election. Suburban and urban districts are voting more democratic, rural districts are voting more republican – a trend that will likely continue.
- Rural MN is likely to lose some seats in the redistricting.
- Places where population is growing faster than the state average will have more control after the legislative redistricting (Moorhead, Rochester, Bloomington, Brooklyn Park, Edina).
- Minnesota statewide political results reflect the intensifying national divisions, both geographic and ethnic.

REACHING ACROSS THE PARTISAN AISLE TO BUILD NETWORKS OF SUPPORT – A BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE

SENATOR DAVE DURENBERGER, LORI STURDEVANT, STAR TRIBUNE

- Senator Dave Durenberger and Lori Sturdevant wrote [*When Republicans Were Progressive*](#) to highlight changes in U.S. governance over the past decades. They would like to reclaim the word progressive for its original meaning: using governments to lift up the lives of average people, and to highlight the how governance has shifted away from bipartisan work and toward the orientation of party platform.
- It's hard to imagine passing bipartisan legislation today, because of a lack of cooperative leadership. When Senator Durenberger was in office, when campaigns came to an end, what mattered was governing. Now politics, winning, and maintaining power are prioritized. Obstruction of the opposite party's legislation has become more of a norm.
- Senators are supposed to reflect the uniqueness of their state rather than buying into a national policy, but things are different today; there is a bigger focus on national party alignment.
- With local government, however, people are closer to their elected officials.
- Recommended reforms to government and governance:
 - Rank-choice voting
 - End gerrymandering
 - Campaign finance reform
 - Senators and House Representatives returning to a lifestyle of moving their families to D.C. to live and work together, rather than leaving their families at home and commuting.
- The recent midterm election reflects a divided Minnesota. The work of the MN Mayors Together and the Regional Council of Mayors provides a way forward.
- Cities define the issues that define the region and the state. Collective action is critical to defining our future.
- Compromise has become a dirty word today. The most important solution is civility.

Discussion followed.

ATTENDEES

MAYORS

James Hovland	City of Edina (co-chair)
Molly Cummings	City of Hopkins (co-chair)
Kirt Briggs	City of Prior Lake
Marv Calvin	City of Willmar
Melvin Carter	City of St. Paul
Sean Dowse	City of Red Wing
Bill Droste	City of Rosemount
Jerry Faust	City of Saint Anthony
Mary Gaasch	City of Lauderdale
Mary Giuliani Stephens	City of Woodbury
Shep Harris	City of Golden Valley
Kathi Hemken	City of New Hope
Marvin Johnson	City of Independence
Peter Lindstrom	City of Falcon Heights
Chris Lund	City of Hamburg
Julie Maas-Kusske	City of Maple Plain
Mike Maguire	City of Eagan
Sandy Martin	City of Shoreview
Tim McNeil	City of Dayton
Ben Schierer	City of Fergus Falls
Nora Slawik	City of Maplewood
Nancy Tyra-Lukens	City of Eden Prairie
Ken Willcox	City of Wayzata
Janet Williams	City of Savage
Gene Winstead	City of Bloomington

GUESTS

John Adams, University of Minnesota; John Breitinger, Cushman & Wakefield; Mike Ericson, City of Northfield; Kevin Franzell, League of MN Cities; Debbie Goettel, Hennepin County; Judy Jandro, Bell Banks; Nick Koch, HGA Architects & Engineers; Sarah Krebsbach; American Technical Education Association; Tony Kuechle, Doran Companies; Brad Larson, City of Savage; Jay Lindgren, Dorsey & Whitney; Anne Mavity, MN Housing Partnership and City of St. Paul; Diane Norman, RSP; Ron Orlando, Comcast; Ellen Sahli, Family Housing Fund; Michelle Swanson, Xcel Energy; Mary Tingerthal, MN Housing; Jamie Verbrugger, City of Bloomington; Anika Ward, Blue Cross Blue Shield; Jonathan Weenhagen, Minneapolis Regional Chamber; ThaoMee Xiong, City of St. Paul

ULI MINNESOTA

Aubrey Albrecht, Caren Dewar, Rachel Lieberman

NEXT MEETING

Monday, December 10th, 2018

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Seattle Room at Dorsey & Whitney, 50 South 6th Street, Minneapolis, MN