

Caren Dewar

Executive Director

Urban Land Institute Minnesota

Ms. Dewar joined the Urban Land Institute Minnesota (ULI MN) in 2005 as its first Executive Director and along with two prominent mayors, founded the Regional Council of Mayors (RCM), a non-partisan platform focused on building and sustaining thriving communities. This dynamic partnership actively engages public and private sector leaders to foster collaboration, share knowledge and join in meaningful, strategic action focused on housing, the environment, transportation and job growth. Working with ten committees and 130 private/public leaders, Caren has forged multiple alliances to leverage and align regional impact. ULI MN produces 15 educational programs a year, Building a Foundation, Urban Plan and supports the Young Leaders Group.

In 2000, Caren was appointed to the Metropolitan Council, representing District 6. She chaired the Livable Communities Committee and the Housing & Land Use Advisory Committee and served on the Transportation Committee and Rail Transit Committee. She was appointed Deputy Regional Administrator in 2002. Dewar provided leadership in the provision of high-quality, coordinated planning, policy and program development to support regional growth. She served as a key member of the chair's Executive Management Team setting policy and coordinating legislative activity.

Dewar founded a consulting practice in 1996 to provide leadership and planning services, with a focus on project implementation, for a variety of complex, local and regional initiatives. She has led many multi-disciplinary teams in support of public/ private partnerships, bridging diverse stakeholders in pursuit of innovative development and redevelopment - integrating land use, transportation, jobs and the environment. Her background in community-based planning and economic development, real estate investment, and bricks and mortar project implementation, has led to successful completion of numerous 'headline' projects throughout the Twin Cities area.

Dewar currently serves on the Hubert H. Humphrey Deans Advisory Council, the Center for Transportation Studies Executive Committee and the Greater MSP Partnership Advisory Council.