March 2008 www.stpaul.gov/ward2

Ward 2 which includes the neighborhoods of West 7th Street (or Fort Road), the West Side, Summit Hill, Railroad Island, Lowertown, and the Downtown business district. The ward is shaped by its proximity to the Mississippi River. Harriet Island Regional Park, Lilydale Park, and the Mississippi National River Recreation Area are located on the banks of the river in Ward 2.

Dave was born in North Dakota, and received his degree in Architecture from North Dakota State University in 1973. He married his high school sweetheart, Sue, and they moved to St. Paul's historic Irvine Park neighborhood where they raised three children. Because of his training in architecture and his attachment to Irvine Park, historic preservation has been his strongest interest on the City Council. Ward 2 has over 350 properties listed on the National Historic Register, and many more that are eligible.

Thune became a neighborhood activist and organizer fighting the twin scourges of crime and government renewal bulldozers, serving several terms as President of the Fort Road Federation. His neighborhood activism also led to election to the City Council in 1990. He holds a strong belief in the ability, and responsibility, of neighbors to shape the course of their own built environment. St. Paul has a strong and active district council system, and as the city councilmember, Thune has followed a policy of seeking advice and counsel from the citizen participation district councils.

Dave is also a part-time musician, playing lead guitar with the Backstreet Boogie Band, and an artist. He owns the St. Paul Gallery on West 7th Street. Ward 2 boasts a vibrant wealth of artistic and cultural institutions, theatres, and music venues. The district's Lowertown also started the explosion of artist loft living in the city. Thune sponsored legislation creating St. Paul's Cultural Corridor downtown, and dedicating a portion of the city's ½ cent sales tax to matching capital investment in cultural and artistic institutions citywide.

Thune retired from the City Council in 1997, but returned for a second stint in 2004.

Contact Ward 2