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In just a few days, baseball returns to Minnesota for another season—the last one inside the Metrodome. With Opening Day at Target Field only a year away, ballpark construction remains on schedule and the excitement continues to build for outdoor baseball.

Even though 2009 has just begun, we have already seen some exciting developments. In February, the MBA, the Twins, and Target Corporation revealed designs for an expanded and enhanced [ballpark plaza](#), which will serve both as a wonderful gateway to the ballpark and as a dynamic new public gathering space in downtown Minneapolis.

This week, [artists Craig David and Al Price](#) were present at a public art community open house to unveil their plans for two major public art installations at the ballpark site. The projects, which will be complete by Opening Day, are an extended mural along the Ballpark's northeast exterior and a major sculpture to enhance the interior of the ballpark transit station's Vertical Circulation Building.

In 2009, the MBA is working to expand its public outreach to citizens throughout the state. Last month the MBA Board made the first stop on its [2009 MBA Greater Minnesota Tour](#), hosting a public open house and holding its regular board meeting at the Kahler Hotel in downtown Rochester. Additional stops are planned for Moorhead in June and for Duluth in July. We have also recently enhanced the MBA website to include panoramic photographs of the ballpark site, updated monthly to document progress in this last phase of construction. The website will also feature a narrated [video tour of the ballpark](#). In the coming months, watch for the grass to be installed on the playing field, seat installation to begin and the completion of the ballpark sun canopy.

As we look ahead to the final year of construction, the Ballpark Authority remains committed to its mission of ensuring that the public's investment results in a world-class facility that benefits the entire state. Thank you for your continued interest in the project. To read more about these developments, click the underlined words above. Sincerely, Steve Cramer, MBA Chair Dan Kenney, MBA Executive Director

