

(Text of Mayor Francis Slay's Proclamation)

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis is pleased to welcome everyone attending the "Pursuing a Vision of Excellence" celebration sponsored by the Community Affairs Office of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, today's celebration kicks off "Exploring Innovation in Community Development Week" and recognizes the role of innovation in shaping the community development industry and promotes the culture of innovation in communities, regions and states; and

**WHEREAS**, a highlight of this celebration is The Art of Living building, which offers a truly unique and innovative "incubation factory" atmosphere for small-business startups; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis salutes the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis for sponsoring this important event to showcase innovative community development strategies and foster long-term solutions to unmet community needs in our region and extends best wishes for a successful program.

Now, therefore, I, Francis G. Slay, Mayor of the City of St. Louis, do hereby proclaim April 14 through April 18, 2008, as:

**"EXPLORING INNOVATION IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK"  
IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS**

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the City of St. Louis, this 14th day of April, A.D. 2008.