WASHINGTON D.C. — Today, Congressman Walz released the following statement after meeting Thursday with Defense Secretary Robert Gates at the Pentagon to discuss the future of U.S. strategy in Afghanistan:

“I was pleased to hear that Secretary Gates and the Obama Administration are carefully considering the future of our strategy in Afghanistan. This debate is too important to rush and we owe it to our brave servicemen and women to make sure that they have a concrete mission and a specific plan. Our warriors deserve nothing less than our full evaluation and debate.”

Congressman Walz and several of his colleagues met with Secretary Gates at the Pentagon Thursday morning. Congressman Walz is hosting a town hall meeting on the war in Afghanistan this afternoon at Winona State University in Winona, MN.

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