



**DOWNTOWN
MINNEAPOLIS
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

September 16, 2019

Aaron Hanauer
City of Minneapolis CPED
250 South 4th Street, Room 300
Minneapolis, MN 55415

RE: Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative – Bimosedaa project located at 16 N. 4th Street

Dear Aaron:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association regarding Beacon Interfaith Collaborative's project at the former Rockler Fur building located 16 N. 4th Street. Representatives from Beacon have presented to the DMNA Land Use Committee on two occasions; May 7 and September 3. The DMNA provided a letter of support for their gap financing applications at the May meeting.

The DMNA understands the project will cater to members of the Red Lake Nation who are transitioning out of homelessness. The proposal includes 48 apartment units, along with supportive services. Beacon is working with Avivo as their service provider. Avivo will offer intensive services focused on jobs, education, health, and community connection to residents to help them consider what the next step might look like for them. Beacon is calling the development Bimosedaa, which is Ojibwe for "Let's Walk Together."

Beacon presented updated plans to the DMNA Land Use Committee at the September 3, meeting. Most of the discussion at this meeting centered on whether Beacon will allow residents to have pets. The committee requested that if they decide to allow pets that they include an onsite pet relief area. In addition, the Land Use Committee asked Beacon to carefully consider how they make improvements to the public realm, particularly if they allow pets in the building. They suggested using raised planters and / or fencing around any greenscape in the sidewalk. They also asked that Beacon be mindful of future street reconstruction projects as they solidify their landscaping plans.

The DMNA Land Use Committee recommended providing a letter of support for this project and the associated land use applications. If you have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact me at christie@thedmna.org or by phone at 320-583-4573.

Sincerely,

Christie Rock Hantge
DMNA Neighborhood Coordinator

CC: Council Member Steve Fletcher
Joe Tamburino, DMNA Board Chair
Kevin Frazell, DMNA Land Use Committee Chair
Kirk Morehead, Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative
Kevin Walker, Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative

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