

RESOLUTION

Supporting a Permanent Home for the Midtown Farmers' Market at 2225 E. Lake St March 2, 2009

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market has enjoyed the use of the school district property at 2225 East Lake St. for six years, but faces a transition as the district prepares to sell the property,

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market seeks a solution that benefits all stakeholders including Minneapolis Public Schools,

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market uses just a fraction of the 6-acre 2225 E. Lake St,

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market supports over 70 farmers and vendors, and brings all-local food and goods to 40,000 people each year,

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market has brought \$1 Million in small business opportunity to Lake St. over the last six years, leveraging thousands of volunteer hours and creating a more strongly-connected community,

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market has become an important public space in south Minneapolis, providing immediately-consumable food such as crepes, bakery items, and tamales with tables and seating, children's reading time, master gardener and community information tables, performance opportunities for local musicians, cultural festivals such as the La Feria Latino Family Health Fair, and cooking demonstrations,

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market brings health and sustainability to the Lake Street and Hiawatha Avenue area along with Hiawatha light rail transit, the Midtown YWCA health and fitness center, the Midtown Greenway, and the Green Institute,

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market was the first farmers' market in Minnesota to accept electronic food stamps and continues to improve access to healthy, sustainable food to south Minneapolis' diverse, mixed income neighborhoods and the greater metro,

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market grew out of extensive community planning efforts by the surrounding neighborhoods, and remains a cornerstone of the sustainable, transit-oriented plan for redevelopment shared by the Corcoran neighborhood and the City of Minneapolis,

WHEREAS, the Midtown Farmers' Market will enhance a larger site project with 40,000 customers, 70+ green jobs, and a place for families to gather, and helps make 2225 E. Lake St a light rail destination in Minneapolis,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Minneapolis, school district, and other partners work with the neighborhood to create a permanent home for the Midtown Farmers' Market at 2225 E. Lake St.

