



Latino Economic Development Center

Centro para el Desarrollo Económico Latino

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Dear Rep. Hassan:

As an organization that serves local, Latino small businesses across the Twin Cities, I ask that you support state investment in Lake Street's recovery.

The Lake Street corridor in Minneapolis sustained over \$500 million of dollars in damages after the civil unrest in 2020. The businesses we served on corridors that experienced severe damages have been working hard to rebuild and recover, but they face tremendous challenges.

Small businesses bring incredible economic and cultural value to our state – and our government has a role to play in their recovery. Over the last few years, we've seen tremendous value in having intermediary groups like the Lake Street Council that can provide business support, technical assistance, and economic redevelopment grants to our local businesses.

The historic budget surplus presents a unique opportunity to support this full recovery and make a generational impact on the future of Lake Street. Please support legislation that invests in small businesses and the Lake Street corridor.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Enrique Blanco
Latino Economic Development Center
Director of Operations

