

February 18, 2025

## Re: SF 907 - Moorhead Cultural Mall Appropriation

Dear Chair Hawj and Members of the Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee:

The City of Moorhead stands beside Fowzia Adde and the Immigrant Development Center in establishing a Cultural Mall in Moorhead. The Cultural Mall would enhance Moorhead's retail presence and provide opportunities for local entrepreneurs and consumers to access unique flavors from around the world through a variety of retail goods, prepared foods and services, as well as spaces for community gatherings and enrichment.

The Moorhead City Council recognizes the Cultural Mall project within its 2025 legislative priorities and our community cannot wait for this facility to open in our downtown. Ms. Adde has surrounded herself with strong partners, including an experienced developer that has constructed many significant projects within the City of Moorhead.

This project has a cultural component, but also economic and community development and tourism benefits. Mayor Carlson plans to testify on February 18 in order to share the City's enthusiasm for the Cultural Mall, and sincerely hope that the Legislature will support the project with arts and cultural heritage funding.

Sincerely,

Shelly Carlson

Sully Cartin

Mayor

Dan Mahli

City Manger

cc: Minnesota Senator Rob Kupec, District 4

Fowzia Adde, Immigrant Development Center