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COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOOD & DRINK GRANT EXTENSION REQUEST

Project: Cleveland Street Market
Project Address: 943 Cleveland Street Clearwater FL, 33756
Owner: 949 Cleveland Street, LLC

Date: November 14th 2024

Subject: Request for Additional Extension for Cleveland Street Market Café Due to Compounding Hurricane Impacts and Delayed Resource Availability

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to respectfully request an additional extension for the Cleveland Street Market Café project.

While Cleveland Street Market did not sustain direct physical damage from either Hurricane Helene or Hurricane Milton, the dual impact of these storms has significantly delayed our project's timeline due to resource shortages and infrastructure challenges.

Tenant Transition and Financial Constraints:

After securing a sushi and raw bar operator earlier this year, we unfortunately lost that tenant due to unforeseen financial constraints. However, we successfully found and secured a new tenant who is fully committed to launching their business in the café space. The new tenant has signed the lease, paid the deposit, and is eager to proceed.

Power Restoration Delays and Dual Hurricane Impact:

One of the biggest hurdles we faced was the disruption caused by both Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. Although Cleveland Street Market did not suffer structural damage, surrounding areas—particularly the beach districts—were severely affected. This caused significant delays in securing contractors and materials, as resources are appropriately reallocated to areas that required immediate recovery work.

One of the key delays we faced is electrical power to the café space, which is essential for the tenant to begin their preparations. Electrical work in the space has now been completed and we've been assigned a Duke Energy Designer. They provided us with a time of 2-10 weeks to have power on at the café.

Tenant's Revised Timeline:

Due to the delays caused by the back-to-back hurricanes and no power, our tenant's planned timeline has been significantly affected. They have now taken possession of the space as of November 2024 and estimate being fully operational by March 2025. The tenant remains highly committed to making this café a successful part of the Cleveland Street Market community, and we are confident that, once open, it will enhance the vibrancy of the area.

Community and Economic Impact:

The café will play an important role in revitalizing the Cleveland Street Market, drawing both residents and

tourists, and contributing positively to the local economy. As Clearwater continues its recovery from the hurricane impacts, this business will support the economic rebound and provide a much-needed boost to the market area.

Roy Harris, the new tenant for the Cleveland Street Market Café, will be launching the highly anticipated "Slow on the Go Café" in March 2025. This concept blends fast-paced convenience with a focus on quality and community, making it a perfect addition to the vibrant Cleveland Street Market. Mr. Harris brings over three decades of leadership, social entrepreneurship, and community development expertise to this endeavor.

As the founder and CEO of the USA4RSA Foundation, Mr. Harris has successfully managed impactful projects in both South Africa and the United States, including mental health facilities and educational initiatives that serve hundreds of individuals. His proven ability to operate community-focused enterprises and create inclusive, welcoming environments makes him an ideal tenant for this space.

The "Slow on the Go Café" will not only enhance the market's offerings but also contribute to revitalizing Cleveland Street Market by attracting residents and visitors alike. Mr. Harris's entrepreneurial vision and dedication to fostering vibrant communities align perfectly with the market's mission to support local economic growth and community connection. We are confident that his leadership will make this café a cornerstone of the market's success and appeal.

Given the unforeseen delays caused by the hurricanes, power restoration challenges, and tenant transition, we respectfully request an extension beyond the current deadline. This extension will allow our tenant to complete the necessary preparations and open the café by early 2025.

We sincerely appreciate the city's continued support and understanding as we navigate these challenges. Should you require any additional information or documentation, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at drosario@nmresidential.com

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,