HAZEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CORP.

P.O. Box 717 HAZEN, ND 58545-0717

PHONE - 701-748-6886 EMAIL - HCD@WESTRIV.COM FAX 701-728-2559 WEB – WWW.HAZENND.ORG

January 31, 2023

Dear Chairman Kannianen and Members of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee:

I'm writing this letter as the executive director of the Hazen Community Development organization in the City of Hazen. I'm writing in support of SB 2391. After reading through the amendments, I feel strongly that the proposed legislation will only strengthen the program in those cities that have elected to participate in this program.

Increasing the benefit term from 5 years up to 7.5 years for commercial rehabilitation projects that are at or above the 75% of the current true vale of the property would be of great benefit especially to those properties that require a significant amount of investment.

I view allowing a property/parcel to be eligible for benefits again, after thirty years have lapsed from the date of completion of the project a move in the right direction. After that amount of time, many properties are again in need of improvement.

Even though we had some original investors who took advantage of the RFO that was originally set up under our by-laws, I do not see this as a big drawing card moving forward. Therefore, I would be in favor of sunsetting this portion of that legislation.

Increasing the renewal from 5 years to 10 is certainly a change we would support. It seems like we just did one of these under the old guidelines and we're due to do it again. Too much redundancy in opinion.

Lastly, I believe the allowance of a second island is also a good amendment. The allowance of the first island is beneficial and would be only enhanced by allowing a second island to occur.

For all of the reasons noted above, I encourage a Do Pass Recommendation on SB 2391.

Respectfully Yours,

Buster Sangoush.

Buster Langowski, Ex. Director