

From: [Amanda Mae](#)
To: [HRAHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: Business Organization in the West Side
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Hi,

My name is Mandy. I was given your contact from our Council Member Rebecca Noecker.

I have been a small business owner for the last 7 years and have been grass root organizing for small/ local businesses in the West Side of St. Paul for the last 9 months.

There is a need and want for small business support. There was once an organization here on the West Side that offered support, resources and communication for our local businesses. It has been dissolved for sometime now and we are working on bringing back something of similar value.

Businesses have taken a hit the last couple years and we have been finding support in gathering and sharing resources for amongst ourselves this year.

As it is grass roots for businesses run by small businesses, the growth is very slow as we all have a lot on our plates .

In our recent meetings we have been able to create support and space for MnDot to share information on the upcoming major construction that will take place on Robert St where a lot of our small businesses are located.

We also organized a Small Business Saturday to drive shopping local in our neighborhood this year.

We can all agree that the economic vitality of the West Side could use a boost. We are not a registered organization yet but plan on working in that direction. If funding would be available, we have been working directly with our district council that would support though that process.

I am looking forward to hearing more about this opportunity.

Best,

Mandy Mae

Owner/Artist

Hair/Makeup/Eyelashes

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