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July 18, 2021

Alderman Michael Murphy
Chairman, Finance and Personnel Committee
Common Council
200 East Wells Street, Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Honorable Council Members:

Black Husky Brewing LLC urges the Common Council to adopt Council File Number 210547, Mayor Tom Barrett's first allocation of American Rescue Plan funding. The Stronger Summer Plan provides over \$93 million in needed funding for a range of critical programs as a first phase in the Mayor's Recovery and Resilience Plan. These resources will help Milwaukee continue a strong recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic through the summer and into fall.

We were recipients of the Restart Grants in 2020. Those grants were critical in us being able to keep our business operating and our staff employed as we worked through the pandemic under Milwaukee Health Department restrictions, which severely limited our business.

Even as we now see the pandemic wane, due to the disparity of vaccination rates in our area and surrounding areas, it is likely that there may be further restrictions given the new variant(s) and colder weather as people head indoors increasing the transmission exposure.

Currently business is improving but not yet to pre-pandemic levels and any reserves that we had built up over our 11 years have been depleted. This program will go a long way in assisting mom and pop businesses such as ours to stay viable and prepare for possible future restrictions.

Your support of the Stronger Summer plan will help Milwaukee emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic stronger and more equitable. We urge you again to adopt the plan when it is before the Council this month.

Sincerely,

Toni Eichinger
Co-Owner
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