



October 21, 2024
Manna Market/YouthWay Ministries
3301 92nd Ave NE
Blaine, MN 55449

As a City Councilmember and community leader in Spring Lake Park, I have had the privilege of supporting Manna Market and YouthWay Ministries. Under the dedicated leadership of Nancy and Forrest Gregory, these organizations have made an immense impact by helping those in need, not only in our community but throughout the metro area.

Manna Market has a long-standing history of providing food, care, and support to vulnerable individuals and families, reducing food waste and reducing our environmental impact by reducing CO₂ Emissions. Their programs have grown significantly, reflecting both the increasing need and the strong leadership and organizational skills of their team. The Gregorys have earned deep respect for running their operations with a high level of efficiency and effectiveness, which is why they continue to receive support from local churches and community leaders like myself.

As an elected official, I deeply value their ethical stewardship of the resources they receive. I am confident that they will make good use of the Federal Surplus property they are seeking with the same level of responsibility and integrity that has defined their work for many years.

In addition to providing food, Manna Market also ensures that their space is well-equipped to serve their mission. Through partnerships with various organizations, they have been able to expand their reach and impact. While it is unfortunate that the need for basic necessities like food continues to grow, we are fortunate to have compassionate leaders like the Gregorys, who run well-organized and effective programs to meet this challenge.

Manna Market and YouthWay Ministries are responsible partners who will responsibly re-use any asset they receive through the program. I fully support their efforts and trust that they will continue to be a vital asset to our community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 612-386-2496 or by email at ldircks@slpmn.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Dircks".

Lisa Dircks
Councilmember