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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Big River Pizza celebrates opening in Lowertown's Lofts at Farmers Market**

SAINT PAUL – After a successful run as a food truck vendor, Big River Pizza has opened their first brick and mortar location in the Lofts at Farmers Market building in Lowertown. The commercial space for the building is now fully leased. The restaurant joins others opening within the past 12 months in the neighborhood, near the new CHS Field.

“Big River Pizza is a great addition to this neighborhood,” Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman said. “It will no doubt bring even more liveliness to Lowertown, in addition to approximately 15 new jobs. I look forward to celebrating their grand opening next week.”

Big River Pizza began by serving wood-fired, artisan pizzas at local farmers markets and outdoor music and art festivals. The restaurant will continue its commitment to using locally-grown ingredients at its new location. The new location will also feature local craft brews on tap from Surly, Fulton, and Bad Weather Brewing.

“I’m very excited for Big River Pizza to be a part of this community, now as a permanent restaurant location in addition to our mobile catering service,” said Steve Lott, owner and chef of Big River Pizza.

A grand opening happy hour is set to take place on Wednesday, July 14 from 4:30 to 6 p.m., and will feature \$3 pints and slices of pizza. Mayor Chris Coleman will be in attendance to kick off the celebration at the restaurant, located at 280 5th Street East in Saint Paul’s Lowertown.

Regular operating hours for the restaurant will be Tuesday through Friday from 4 to 10 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., with lunch hours coming soon.

Other recent bar and restaurant openings in Saint Paul’s Lowertown neighborhood include Public Kitchen + Bar in summer of 2014, Saint Dinette late last month, and Ox Cart Ale House just last week.

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