



City of Cleveland

Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

Department of Economic Development
Terri Hamilton Brown, Interim Director
601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 210
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1070
(216) 664-2406

August 7, 2023

The Honorable Blaine A. Griffin
President – Cleveland City Council
601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 216
Cleveland, OH 44114

RE: Legislation for Introduction & Passage – August 16, 2023

Dear Council President Griffin:

I am writing to request your support for **introduction and passage** under suspension of legislation described below at the **City Council Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 16, 2023.** The legislation is as follows:

UDAG Grant to Manufacturing Works not to exceed \$500,000:

Authorizing the Director of Economic Development to enter into a grant agreement with Manufacturing Works, or its designee, in the amount of up to \$500,000 to assist with general operating expenses associated with the administration of the Cleveland Industrial Retention Initiative ("CIRI") for business technical and financial assistance programs.

This legislation will authorize the Director to assist Manufacturing Works with financing general operating expenses for 2023 associated with continuing the organization's provision of the Cleveland Industrial Retention Initiative program and its outreach work to help Cleveland manufacturing and industrial firms grow and thrive in the City.

The previous contract to Manufacturing Works expired on December 31, 2022. In order to provide continued outreach support to pay staff and continue to provide support services like Leadership Institute training that assists businesses with ownership/leadership transitions, Manufacturing Works requests that this funding not be held up until September and seeks approval for the funding as soon as possible.

I appreciate your support and understanding of our interest in moving this project forward. If you have any questions, please contact me at (216) 664-2204.

Sincerely,

Terri Hamilton Brown, Interim Director
Department of Economic Development

cc: All Members of Council
Patricia J. Britt, City Clerk, Clerk of Council
Ryan M. Puente, Chief of Government Affairs