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 JumpStart, Inc. not to exceed $443,000:**
> *Authorizing the Director of Economic Development to enter into a grant agreement with JumpStart Inc., or its designee, in the amount of up to $443,000 to assist with general operating expenses associated with technical and financial business assistance programs.*

This legislation will authorize the Director to assist JumpStart, Inc. with financing general operating expenses for 2023 associated with its Core City Small Business Impact program—targeting programming and outreach to Cleveland residents and businesses. The grant will also provide funding for expanded services including: Deep Dive workshops that support start-ups and a Latino/Hispanic Small Business loan fund.

The previous contract to JumpStart, Inc. expired on December 31, 2022. In order to provide continued support to pay staff and support small businesses with financing and technical support in the City of Cleveland, JumpStart Inc. 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