



City of Cleveland Memorandum

Frank D. Williams, Director

Department of Public Works

May 28, 2024

The Honorable Blaine A. Griffin, President
Cleveland City Council
601 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Re: Legislation for Introduction and Passage under Suspension of Rules on
June 3, 2024

Dear Council President Griffin:

I am writing to ask your support for Introduction and Passage under Suspension of the Rules on June 3, 2024, authorizing the Director of Public Works to enter into an agreement with the Cleveland Cavaliers, or its designee, to permit and accept improvements to Public Auditorium for the Cleveland Charge, a minor league professional basketball team affiliated with the NBA's G League and owned by the Cleveland Cavaliers, to conduct and host G League basketball games, and to lease areas in Public Auditorium, for a period not to exceed six years.

We are asking for this exception to allow the Charge time to design, build and complete extensive improvements to the Public Auditorium before the beginning of its 2024 – 2025 season. The Charge will make approximately \$3 million in improvements to the Public Auditorium and will also pay for labor used during each game. The Charge currently plays at the Wolstein Center but will need to quickly relocated do to the scheduled demolition of that facility. The City of Cleveland will be crediting up to \$1 million and the Charge will be responsible for paying the cost of rental and labor.

Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to let us know. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank D. Williams", written over a horizontal line.

Frank D. Williams, Director
Department of Public Works

FDW/mam
Enclosure

Cc: All Members of Council; Patricia J. Britt, City Clerk, Clerk of Council
Bradford J. Davey, Chief of Staff
Bonita G. Teeuwen, PE, Chief Operating Officer
Susie Claytor, Executive Commissioner of Public Auditorium
Nancy Lanzola, Legislative Liaison, Dept. of Law; Ursula O'Hannon, Dept. of Law
John Laird, Asst. Director of Public Works
M. Yanna Maxwell, Dept. of Public Works; Sarah Contos-Holden, Dept. of Public Works
An Equal Opportunity Employer

**Department of Public Works
Legislative Summary
2024
Cleveland Charge Agreement**

ORDINANCE NO:	TBD
LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE:	Authorizing the Director of Public Works to enter into an agreement with the Cleveland Cavaliers, or its designee, to permit and accept improvements to Public Auditorium for the Cleveland Charge, a minor league professional basketball team affiliated with the NBA's G League and owned by the Cleveland Cavaliers, to conduct and host G League basketball games, and to lease areas in Public Auditorium, for a period not to exceed six years.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:	<p>The agreement would allow the Charge to host league games at the Public Auditorium, have use of several Public Auditorium meeting rooms, and defer rental costs over the term of the agreement in exchange for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately \$3 million in architectural and design improvements to existing locker rooms, plumbing, electrical, and mechanical systems • Payment for City labor used in league game set up and tear down
CURRENT VENDOR:	N/A
FUNDING SOURCE:	N/A