

Department of Economic Development Thomas S. McNair, Director 601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 210 Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1070 (216) 664-2406

May 29, 2025

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

RE: Legislation for Passage – June 2, 2025 Regarding Woodhill Choice Economic Development Critical Community Improvement Project

Dear Council President Griffin:

I am writing to request your support for passage under suspension of legislation described below at the <u>City Council Meeting scheduled for Monday June 2, 2025.</u> The legislation is as follows:

Authorizing the Directors of Community Development and Economic Development to amend Ordinances 1253-2019 and 370-2024 to receive and accept funding from HUD and CMHA, implement Critical Community Improvement Projects related to Economic Development, and enter into various grant agreements with small businesses located in the Woodhill Choice Neighborhood.

This legislation is **critical** to fast-track the implementation of the Woodhill Choice Economic Development Critical Community Improvement Project. Funded by HUD, this initiative will deploy up to \$1.6 million in economic development grants to support small businesses in the Buckeye-Woodland neighborhood.

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,

Thomas S. McNair, 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