April 26, 2022

The Honorable David E. Price  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Transportation, and  
Housing and Urban Development, and  
Related Agencies  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation, and  
Housing and Urban Development, and  
Related Agencies  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Price and Ranking Member Diaz-Balart:

I write today in support of an important community project in my Congressional District. As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations legislation, please consider my request to provide $5,000,000 in funding for the redevelopment of the Findlay Playground, Grant Park, and the Over-the-Rhine Recreation Center as a community project funding request. The intended recipient is the Cincinnati City Center Development Corporation (3CDC), located at 1203 Walnut Street, 4th Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

Between 2020-2021, the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) received 3,026 calls for police service within 300 feet of Findlay Park. Over the same time period, 728 criminal charges and 468 arrests occurred within 300 feet of Findlay Park. In recent years, Findlay Park has been closed at various intervals by the Cincinnati Recreation Commission at the recommendation of the CPD due to the high number of shootings, violent offenses, and drug-related arrests. The closures have always been by police recommendation.

It is my understanding that the proposed Findlay Community Center project would revitalize these blighted properties, which would address the safety issues in the area through a reduction in crime and providing economic development benefits to the community. Additionally, an extensive initial community engagement phase established key project priorities of improving neighborhood safety and a need for positive activities for the children and families of the neighborhood.

At Findlay Playground, plans currently propose the construction of a new 55,000-square-foot state-of-the-art community center, with an array of indoor and outdoor amenities to support diverse programming including athletic fields and courts, fitness classrooms, and aquatic facilities, as well as multi-purpose community facilities. The proposal also provides rehabilitation to the Over-the-Rhine Rec Center to meet the needs of local community-focused organizations currently operating in outdated structures. It is my understanding that these new facilities would benefit the community by providing expanded medical services, increased meal service, and enhanced educational programming for both adults and children.
As you continue to assess appropriations requests, I ask that you give every consideration of this community project in my Congressional District which will increase public safety and economic development in Cincinnati, Ohio. Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

Steve Chabot (OH-01)
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
April 26, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for a community redevelopment project in Fiscal Year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Cincinnati City Center Development Corporation (3CDC), located at 1203 Walnut Street, 4th Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. The funding would be used to increase public safety and economic development in the neighborhoods surrounding Findlay Playground, Grant Park and the Over-The-Rhine Recreational Center.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Steve Chabot (OH-01)
MEMBER OF CONGRESS