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March 31, 2023

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development, and Related
Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Quigley
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development, and Related
Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member Quigley,

I am requesting funding for the Murtis Taylor Community Center Capital Investment Project in the fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Murtis Taylor Community Center, located at 13411 Union Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44120. The funding would be used to expand the Murtis Taylor Human Services System's Community Center capacity to serve children, adults, and seniors through addressing critical capital repair and renovation.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project supports capital investment into a multi-service community center that caters to youth and senior community services in an economically disadvantaged neighborhood. Cleveland had the highest poverty rate among large U.S. cities in 2019, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In 2019, more than 114,000 Clevelanders lived in poverty. Data for Cleveland children in poverty is even more striking at 37,700 children in poverty, or 46.1 percent of the child population. This project will support the repair and renovation of the facility's major systems that are needed to continue serving this disadvantaged community. The project is a good use of taxpayer dollars, as it supports an aging and inadequate facility that serves low-income residents throughout Cuyahoga County.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S. Code 5305(a)(4).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress