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From: Rick Kidder <rkidder@newbedfordchamber.com>

To: linda.morad <linda.morad@newbedford-ma.gov>

Sent: Fri, May 6, 2016 10:55 am

Subject: Arts and Culture Position Request from Mayor

Dear Members of the City Council:

I write to ask that the City Council support the request by the Mayor to forward a home rule petition to the State Legislature in favor of the City of New Bedford using funds from the hotel tax to create an Arts and Culture position in the City of New Bedford.

A great community is often identified by its commitment to arts and culture, including public art, programming, marketing and promotion. Indeed, businesses looking to relocate often measure the value of a community, in part, by its commitment to arts and culture. As one of the most arts-friendly communities in the United States, New Bedford can further show its commitment to being a new economy city by supporting this position.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rick Kidder
President & CEO
New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce