



City of New Bedford

Office of City Council

133 William Street • New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

(508) 979-1455 • Fax: 508-979-1451

Maria E. Giesta

Councillor Ward Two

November 17, 2022

Mayor Jonathan F. Mitchell
City of New Bedford
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mayor Mitchell:

I am writing in support of the Cape Verdean Association in New Bedford's (CVANB) application for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for vacant or abandoned property rehabilitation to continue the restoration of the former Strand Theater.

This long-vacant theater will be transformed into the Cape Verdean Cultural Community Center where residents and visitors can learn about the different cultures and people that continue to contribute to New Bedford's sense of place. The revitalization of this vacant space at the front of the Near North End will help to increase investment in the region and build a stronger and more equitable economy.

I hope you will join me in supporting this important project.

Sincerely,

Maria E. Giesta,
Councillor Ward Two

MEG: rrr

cc: File