



City of New Bedford

MASSACHUSETTS

Office of City Council

133 William Street · New Bedford · Massachusetts 02740

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March 14, 2023

Dear Congressman Keating:

We, the members of the New Bedford City Council, write this letter in full support of the YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts (YWCA) grant application to the U.S. House's Fiscal Year 2024 Community Project Funding program. This grant application if awarded, will allow the YWCA to move forward with the rehabilitation of a recently purchased historic property located at 549 County Street in New Bedford, which will operate as a permanent residential program for twelve low-income women. When completed, this facility will become the YWCA's third residential housing program for women in the City of New Bedford.

Since 1911, YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts has provided a broad scope of vital services to women, children, people of color and their families in New Bedford and the surrounding communities, including residential services for women in New Bedford for over twenty years. The waiting list for housing units is long and on a daily basis the YWCA receives inquiries from women for safe, affordable housing units. The County Street project will provide the YWCA with 12 additional units, increasing the housing program from 15 residents to 27 residents and increase the overall supply of affordable housing units in our community.


As elected representatives of the City of New Bedford, we respectfully request your favorable consideration of the YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts grant application proposal for funding through the Fiscal Year 2024 Community Project Funding program.


Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. Should you have questions or require further information regarding our support of this project funding please contact us directly.

Sincerely,



Derek Baptiste, Councillor Ward Four



Maria E. Giesta, Councillor Ward Two


Scott J. Lima, Councillor Ward Five


Ian Abreu, Councillor at Large


Naomi R.A. Carney, Councillor at Large



Linda M. Morad, Councillor at Large


Brad Markey, Councillor Ward One


Shawn Oliver, Councillor Ward Three


Ryan J. Pereira, Councillor Ward Six


Shane Burgo, Councillor at Large


Brian K. Gomes, Councillor at Large