

Gateway Board passes community benefit resolution; Reinforces commitment to diversity

CLEVELAND—May 1, 2014— The Board of Trustees of the Gateway Economic Development Corporation of Greater Cleveland (“Gateway”) have passed a resolution supporting inclusion in all of its contracting matters, including construction contracts for improvements to Progressive Field and Quicken Loans Arena.

Tim Offtermatt, Chairman of the Board for Gateway, explained that the organization is committed to innovative, integrated strategies that spur economic development and supports the Greater Cleveland Partnership Construction Diversity and Inclusion Committee’s effort to develop tools and guidelines to reach the goals.

“It’s imperative for community, government and business to work together to create vibrant economic opportunities here in Cleveland,” Offtermatt said. “We respect and support the community benefits framework put in place by the City of Cleveland and the Greater Cleveland Partnership, and believe these integrated planning processes will help continue to advance the economic growth in Gateway and throughout Cleveland.”

Regarding capital projects of \$500,000 or more, Gateway’s Board of Directors formally agreed to the principals of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Construction Employees Association, Hispanic Roundtable, Hard Hatted Women, the Urban League of Greater Cleveland, Greater Cleveland Partnership, the City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga Community College, the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and the Cleveland Buildings & Construction Trades.

“Gateway is committed to the diverse communities they serve, and supporting a formal community benefit agreement is just an extension of that commitment,” Cuyahoga County Councilman Pernel Jones, Jr., said. “As we continue to plan for major capital projects, the process will continue to reflect collaboration, further enhancing the tangible benefits of these investments in our community.”

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