



CITY OF NEW HAVEN

JUSTIN ELICKER, MAYOR

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July 20, 2022

Community Investment Fund Board
Connecticut State Capitol
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Community Investment Fund Board:

Please accept this letter as support for The Towers at Tower Lane preservation and redevelopment project. The Towers is a critical asset to the State of Connecticut and crucial to the lives and well-being of the underserved elderly population of Greater New Haven. Preserving The Tower's 328 affordable units is a smart investment for the State of Connecticut. The Towers enables low-income older adults to live independently longer, saving the state and the long-term care system millions of dollars.

The Towers has provided a range of benefits to the Hill neighborhood of New Haven. It has provided good jobs that pay a living wage and provide a path to prosperity for local residents. The Towers forthcoming Community Garden will only increase the connectivity among neighborhoods in Downtown New Haven and will add a wonderful destination between Union Station and the New Haven Green.

Community input and research has shown that a third tower is desired and needed to keep up with increasing demand. Building a new 20-30 story building with destination features like a grocery store, gym, banking services, black box theater and/or café, will provide upward of 100 permanent jobs and plenty of temporary jobs. This project makes sense for a multitude of reasons: it will ensure that the State of Connecticut continues to save the maximum amount of funds by keeping its older adults independent longer, it will provide future apartments that are desired and needed and will also provide a neighborhood with no current amenities or access to shops and commerce that it now calls for.

The Towers project will transform the Hill Section of New Haven, not only for itself, but for all the surrounding area as well. This is the time to bring apartments, commerce and jobs to a neighborhood that is ready and prime for this re-imagination. This project will provide much needed economic growth to Downtown New Haven and the State of Connecticut.

Respectfully,

Mayor Justin Elicker
City of New Haven

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