



November 1, 2018

Carolyn Grady

Via email: cgrady@ymcapgh.org

RE: The Historic Centre Avenue YMCA

Dear Carolyn and Team:

On behalf of the Hill District's Development Review Panel (DRP), we offer this letter of support to you based on the June 2018 submission for the Historic Centre Avenue YMCA development proposal.

The mission of the Hill CDC is to work in partnership with residents and stakeholders to create, promote, and implement strategies and programs that connect plans, policies, and people to drive compelling community development opportunities in the Greater Hill District. The Hill CDC is responsible for facilitating the implementation of the Greater Hill District Master Plan, specifically addressing any community concerns regarding redevelopment and economic opportunities in the area. The DRP is a partnership with the Hill House Association, Hill District Education Council (HDEC), Hill District Ministers Alliance (HDMA), and the Center that Cares that streamlines community level review while assuring transparency and sufficient community feedback.

The Historic Centre Avenue YMCA proposal scored a cumulative **89%** at the DRP and community review levels. **This score indicates that the plan sufficiently aligns with the Greater Hill District Master Plan. A few noteworthy comments we received from the community and DRP to consider as you move forward with the development are as follows:**

- Revitalization is a key to a healthy community. We are grateful for your **commitment to maintaining affordable housing** within this vulnerable population.
- We appreciate the strides you've made to take the DRP's comments into consideration.
- To that end, we are also **happy to see the number of board seats designated to Hill District residents increase from 2 of 10 to 3 of 11**. As one resident commented, "This project must allow for community engagement and community organizations to have a seat at the table; the community is a partner at every level." **As such, it is our hope that other appointments will consider community members.**
- Moving forward, we hope that you will **continue to strive to exceed the URA requirement of 25% MWDBE and achieve the Master Plan goal of 35% MWDBE participation.**

Your front door to the Hill District. | hilldistrict.org

Hill Community Development Corporation 2015 – 2017 Centre Ave, 2nd Floor, Pittsburgh PA 15219 P 412.765.1820 F 412.765.1829

In addition, we have **attached a list of Hill District based social service providers** for your consideration and, ideally, eventual use. Lastly, if you need **recommendations for the Wall of History**, Hill District residents have plenty!

We wish you the best in your development endeavors and look forward to supporting this development project. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marimba Milliones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "M" and a flourish at the end.

Marimba Milliones
President and CEO

Cc:

Robert Rubinstein, URA
Daniel Gilman, Mayor's Office
City Councilman Daniel Lavelle
State Representative Jake Wheatley
Aaron Gibson, YMCA
Lena Andrews, ACTION-Housing
Brian Hudson, PHFA
Michelle Cooper, McAuley Ministries
Andre Simon, Bridgeway Capital