



August 3, 2009

I-Jobs Board
Joseph Jones
Iowa Finance Authority
2015 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

Dear I-Jobs Board Members:

On behalf of the Cedar Rapids City Council, we express our gratitude for your commitment of time and expertise to the I-Jobs Board, and to the I-Jobs program, the Iowa Infrastructure Investment Initiative. The I-Jobs Program will have a positive impact on the Cedar Rapids community. We have identified projects that fit well with the I-Jobs program and criteria, and contribute to disaster recovery and the economic health of our community. Finally, we express our support for those projects submitted by the City of Cedar Rapids, as well as Linn County and several non-profit organizations in our community.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the I-Jobs Board for the allocations you designated to the Cedar Rapids and Linn County area on June 29, 2009. Those projects support the rebuilding of flood-damaged critical buildings, including the Cedar Rapids Public Library, the Public Works Building, the Paramount Theater, Linn County Options facility, the National Czech and Slovak Museum, the Human Services Facility, and the Palo Fire Station, as well as support our community's damaged steam system. That immediate support is critical to our community's recovery, and we thank you.

Upon announcement of the I-Jobs Competitive Grant program, the Cedar Rapids community spurred into action. The Recovery and Reinvestment Coordinating Team, a coalition of community leaders representing various sectors of the community, collected an initial list of nearly 80 projects representing City, County, and non-profit interests. This comprehensive list of projects, representing hundreds of millions of dollars of valuable projects needed for flood recovery, community reinvestment, and economic and job growth now serves as a tool for effectively communicating our needs to other grant and funding sources.

Armed with this comprehensive project list, the Cedar Rapids City Council and the Linn County Board of Supervisors met together twice in late June to discuss the I-Jobs grant criteria, and to select projects to prepare applications for the competitive grant program. As a result of that effort the City, County, and various non profit organizations submitted notices of intent to apply for 23 projects from our community.

It is our pleasure today to submit as a result of the Cedar Rapids City Council's affirmative vote, our vigorous support for nine project applications submitted by Cedar Rapids, three by Linn County, and five by non profits. Projects submitted by the City of Cedar Rapids were pared from those originally submitted by notice of intent to these nine, in order ranked by the City Council:

1. U. S. Cellular Center Improvements and Events Center Construction;
2. Cedar Rapids Public Library Main Facility;
3. Downtown Parking Structure;
4. Demolition and Remediation of the Quality Chef Foods site;
5. Multigenerational Community Life Center;
6. Anaerobic Biogas System Improvements;
7. 6th Street SW Reconstruction;
8. Acquisition of Flood-Blighted Downtown Properties;
9. Façade Improvement Incentive Program.

Additionally, these projects submitted by Linn County, are endorsed by the City Council (not in any ranked order):

Linn County Administrative Office – Rebuild and Energy Efficiency;
Juvenile Law Center & Courthouse;
Joint Communications Network.

And finally, these projects submitted by non profits, are endorsed by the City Council (not in any ranked order):

Restoration of CSPS Hall by Legion Arts;
African American Museum of Iowa;
From Flood to Flowers-Crafting a LEED Nature Center Headquarters in the
Beauty of Prairie Flowers by Indian Creek Nature Center;
JA World by Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa;
Regional Economic Commerce Center by the Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of
Commerce Foundation.

These 17 project applications reflect the complex needs of the Cedar Rapids community as it recovers from the devastation of the June 2008 flood. In addition to rebuilding disaster-related buildings and reinvesting in the flood-inundated central business district, projects are included that reinvest in neighborhoods and represent environmentally

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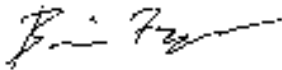
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sustainable redevelopment. These are the projects that will help transform our community and advance our vision.

The projects were selected to competitively meet and exceed the criteria set forth in the I-Jobs legislation, to preserve and create hundreds of jobs, bring economic impact to the area, and accomplish disaster rebuilding in a sustainable way. Additionally, many of the projects, as is reflected within their individual applications, will effectively leverage millions of dollars of funding from other sources, including Economic Development Administration and Environmental Protection Agency grant funds. Many of these projects also serve as a catalyst for additional private redevelopment of areas—including Downtown and the New Bohemia neighborhood, and also contribute to the recovery of the Cedar Rapids Arts and Culture community. We know that as Cedar Rapids recovers from the economic devastation that the disasters of 2008 brought, so does the State of Iowa.

It is with our sincere gratitude that we submit this letter of support and expression of community collaboration to you as you consider the awesome task ahead of you. We appreciate the deliberate and thoughtful consideration that we know you will give these applications, and those from across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Fagan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Fagan
Mayor Pro-tem