



City of Akron, Ohio

DANIEL HORRIGAN, MAYOR

May 11, 2016

RE: **Letters of Support Request**
Proposed Amendment to Consent Decree
Akron Waterways Renewed! (AWR)

Dear AWR Stakeholder:

As you may be aware, the United States formally lodged the proposed First Amendment to Consent Decree (“First Amendment”) with the United States District Court on May 2, 2016. If approved by the Court, the First Amendment will authorize the City’s Main Outfall Interceptor Sewer (MOI) and Water Pollution Control Station (WPCS) Modification Requests. Although the United States and the State of Ohio have approved the Modification Requests, the parties must also seek and obtain the Court’s approval.

In accordance with the United States Department of Justice regulations, the United States is inviting the public to comment on the First Amendment before requesting Court approval. There is a 30-day public comment period, which began May 10 and ends June 9. The City of Akron is soliciting letters of support for these two modifications from individuals and organizations represented by the Akron Waterways Renewed! (AWR)Stakeholder Group. I kindly ask that you strongly consider expressing your support of these alternative projects by providing a letter of support during this public comment period.

We ask that the letter of support be on your group's letterhead if you are submitting as an agency, and we suggest that the letter be individualized to best reflect your view and support of the alternative projects. The MOI and WPCS project details and benefits that you may want to include in your letter of support are provided in the enclosed document, and represent examples of the project benefits and feedback we have heard to date. The content of the letter is at your discretion, so please make your own decisions on what you wish to emphasize, using your preferred wording.

The following web address contains a copy of the United States’ public notice, which also includes instructions for submitting public comments:

<https://www.justice.gov/enrd/consent-decree/us-v-city-akron-ohio>

You can also find the information on the AWR website at:

<http://www.akronwaterwaysrenewed.com/>

Please submit your letter according to these instructions:

- Send a copy to our AWR Program Manager, Patrick Gsellman;
- Use the template provided for laying out your support letter;
- Use the proper address for submitting your letter (provided in template); and
- Use the reference “RE” *United States v. City of Akron, Ohio, et al., D.J. Ref. No. 90-5-1-1-3144/2* in the body of your letter, prior to the salutation.

Should your organization wish to pass a formal resolution, or craft a statement of support, please include those elements as part of your letter of support.

The City of Akron appreciates the interactive and productive discussions AWR Stakeholders have provided to date in support of the City’s Integrated Planning efforts, and your feedback is reflected through the community, environmental, and cost benefits these modified projects provide.

Once again, thank you for the help and support in assisting the City of Akron to reach this point in our regulatory negotiations.

You are encouraged to contact Patrick Gsellman, our Program Manager, directly at 330-375-2355 if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,



Daniel Horrigan
Mayor

Enclosures: MOI and WPCS Project Details and Benefits
Letter of Support Template