



CANTON Leisure Services
Creating Community
Through People, Parks, Places and Programs

Anne Marie Graham-Hudak
1150 S. Canton Center Rd.
Canton, MI 48188

April 23, 2023

RE: Michigan Municipal League Main Street Microgrant

To Whom it May Concern:

Canton Township and Wayne County have been working together for nearly one year utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to revitalize the Cherry Hill Village neighborhood in Canton Township. With Canton's match, this investment will refresh Cherry Hill Village, improve quality of life for residents, increase property values, grow the tax base, and spur small and medium-sized business development in Canton. Included in the Cherry Hill Village is the Historical Henry Ford property purchased by the Partnership for the Arts, a 501(c)(3) organization. This campus includes a refurbished dormitory currently used to house war veterans who need support and healing as they transition to civilian life, the Village Arts Factory, home to the Shaw Gathering Area and over a dozen studio artists and small businesses offering classes in fine arts, music, fitness and dance, as well as a third historic building which is currently being redesigned to become a community space for programming and events.

Canton Township is committed to fostering a vibrant and active Cherry Hill Village by increasing connectivity through incorporating paths and trailways throughout the area offering a walkable community for our residents. This enhancement will give people from all over a main thoroughway to experience beautiful parks, unique shops, a wide variety of restaurants, our one-of-a-kind Village Theater, the Village Arts Factory, and so much more, all while enhancing opportunities for our local businesses. Canton Township has entered into a 10-year agreement with the Partnership for the Arts to collaborate in providing events that support and foster the arts community and increase economic development by bringing these events, arts programming, and people into the Village core on a regular basis, which will in turn support local businesses.

The addition of a mural in the Shaw Gathering Area of the Village Arts Factory will be a significant focal point of the Village, bringing residents from all over to observe and appreciate the beauty of this magnificent historical building. The collaboration of the three Village Arts Factory vendors to create such a masterpiece will not only assist in building strong relationships between local small businesses but will ultimately create a destination point for the community to gather and visit. With Cherry Hill Village being designated as the "arts hub" of Canton, I couldn't think of a better location for this one-of-a-kind piece.

Thank you for your consideration. If you need additional information, please contact me at 734-394-5185.

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Graham-Hudak
Township Supervisor
Charter Township of Canton

Administrative Offices: 734/394-5360
Banquet and Conference Center: 734/394-5480
The BLOCK Youth & Teen Center: 734/398-5570
Canton Sports Center: 734/483-5600
Fellows Creek Golf Club: 734/728-1300
Park/Facilities Maintenance: 734/394-5310

DEPARTMENT OF LEISURE SERVICES
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Pheasant Run Golf Club: 734/397-6460
Recreation Division: 734/394-5460
Senior Adult Program: 734/394-5485
Summit on the Park: 734/394-5460
The Village Theater at Cherry Hill: 734/394-5300
Resources/Facilities Services: 734/394-5191