



City of Cleveland
Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

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Felton Thomas
Director, Cleveland Public Library
325 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114

Dear Director Thomas,

Monday was an exciting day for the City of Cleveland, as City Council passed legislation creating the Shore-to-Core-to-Shore TIF district. The TIF district will unlock catalytic public and private investments which will strengthen and grow our City.

I ran for Mayor on the slogan “Cleveland Can’t Wait,” and the passage of this TIF district is an example of the City taking proactive steps towards growth. As I have said many times, we can continue fighting over a dwindling share of tax revenues from a declining base of jobs and residents, or we can invest to grow the pie for everyone. My administration has chosen the latter.

I know you and your Board have expressed concern about the potential future impacts of the TIF district on the Cleveland Public Library. Please know that I value CPL tremendously and view you as a critical partner in my administration and our city’s success. Rest assured that my administration will do everything in its power to ensure the TIF district succeeds and brings the type of growth and prosperity to Cleveland that helps advance CPL’s mission. We believe the public infrastructure investments from the TIF district will bring billions of dollars of private investment, thousands of jobs, and billions of dollars of economic impact and additional tax revenue which will help the City and CPL do even more.

I look forward to continuing to partner and support CPL, from the upcoming ribbon cutting at the MLK Branch to future development in Lee Harvard, to collaborative work around youth and adult literacy in our City.

Sincerely,

Justin M. Bibb
Mayor | City of Cleveland