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March 21, 2024

Missy Stults
Sustainability and Innovations Director, City of Ann Arbor
301 E. Huron Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Dr. Stults,

On behalf of Forest Hills Cooperative, it is my pleasure to share this letter of support and commitment for the City of Ann Arbor's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant opportunity. This project represents an exciting opportunity for our community to engage in deep energy efficiency work that will help us save money, improve indoor air quality and health, and set the stage for broader neighborhood-based conversations about how we move towards more sustainable ways of heating and cooling our cooperative.

Forest Hills Cooperative is an affordable housing cooperative adjacent to the Bryant Community Center that provides 1, 2, and 3-bedroom homes for residents across a wide range of backgrounds. Our diverse, international community offers a dynamic mix of neighbors of all ages, cultures, and backgrounds. We are a vibrant community that is excited about the City's work on sustainability but also worried that we may not be able to afford the high upfront costs that come with becoming carbon neutral.

This is why we are excited to collaborate with the City as part of this grant and create an energy efficiency fund to help our Co-op members make investments in their units that improve health, safety, comfort, and reduce energy burden. I'm excited to serve on the board that oversees this fund and help ensure that resources are directed to those most in need in our community. And, I'm excited to work with the City on a slew of outreach initiatives in our neighborhood focused on what our community needs, wants, and aspires for in regarding to ushering in a more sustainable future. As such, I'm committed to working directly with the City to both create and administer an energy efficiency fund for the Forest Hills Cooperative community and to co-organizing a series of community engagement events centered around the future of sustainability in our Co-op.

As I'm sure you are aware, the magnitude of the City's proposed project is large, but the impact is vast. That is why we're delighted to be a part of this project. I look forward to working with the City, the Bryant Community Center, and other community stakeholders to show others throughout the region, State, and nation, what it looks like to equitably transition to clean, safe, healthy, and sustainable heating and cooling solutions ... and doing this in a way that directly centers the needs and aspirations of residents. That said, should you have any questions about our support for this project or the role Forest Hills Cooperative is prepared to play to ensure successful implementation, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Jennie Bach

Managing Agent

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