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PARTNERSHIP**

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Anne Olson

1113 Vine Street, Suite 215  
Houston, Texas 77002  
713.752.0314  
fax 713.223.3500  
buffalobayou.org

November 30, 2015

Mr. Andy Icken  
Chief Development Officer  
City of Houston  
P. O. Box 1562  
Houston, Texas 77251

Dear Andy:

On behalf of the Buffalo Bayou Partnership board of directors, I am writing to enthusiastically support the expansion of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #18. Please know Buffalo Bayou Partnership will be launching a master planning effort over the next year for the bayou's east sector which includes an area that is part of the proposed TIRZ expansion. The goals for this study are:

- To establish a strong vision for the east sector waterfront and surrounding neighborhoods
- To frame and evaluate a series of approaches for strategic investment by BBP and potential partners, including the Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation and TIRZ #18
- To identify a critical path for implementation of the plan

The enhancement of Buffalo Bayou's east sector will be accomplished through funding from a variety of private and public sources. The expansion of TIRZ #18 could provide critical funding for stimulating development of bayou fronting properties, create pedestrian and bicycle connectivity from the Fifth Ward neighborhood to the waterway, and construct infrastructure such as bridges, hike and bike trails, and a host of park amenities.

BBP has a long history of working with the Fifth Ward community. Recently, the two organizations sponsored a Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Livable Centers Study in collaboration with the Greater East End Management District. Our organization will continue to build a strong partnership with the Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation and TIRZ #18 to bring needed economic development, multi-family and affordable housing and infrastructure improvements to the area, as recommended in the Livable Centers Study and TIRZ expansion plan.

Once again, Buffalo Bayou Partnership supports the TIRZ #18 expansion and looks forward to assisting in the plan's implementation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anne Olson  
President

cc. Rev. Harvey Clemons, TIRZ #18  
Kathy Flanagan Payton, Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation