



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Natalie
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Price
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
n/a; community members indicating support of improvements to the community center are attached under question #9.
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
City of Royal Oak
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
203 S Troy Street, Royal Oak, MI 48067
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
Jack & Patti Salter Community Center, 1545 E Lincoln Ave, Royal Oak, MI 48067
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Natalie Price, 6th House District
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution. The City of Royal Oak is requesting funding in the amount of \$1.5 million for improvements to the Jack and Patty Salter Community Center which operates as a community service facility. Establishing the Salter Community Center as a Resilience Hub is part of a comprehensive plan in purpose and scope, focused on local capacity for preparedness, adaptation, mitigation and community resiliency through infrastructure improvements. The City of Royal Oak has enjoyed a long (40+ year) positive relationship

with Metro Detroit Youth Club (MDYC) which operates within the community center, providing many of the daily operational services and serving as a tremendous community partner.

Royal Oak utilizes the community center to fulfill its own mission to provide residents with a variety of year-round recreation opportunities responsive to the needs of all, that are enjoyable to our older adult and families activities and opportunities, and contribute to their physical and mental wellbeing. Some of the programs offered at the community center include academic mentoring, workforce development, fitness and sports leagues, art and culture and other enrichment activities.

The areas for targeted improvement include 1) Safe and equitable access with universal design elements, 2) Communication and Technology upgrades, 3) Electrical and lighting/Security system updates, 3) HVAC and Fire Safety system improvements, 4) Kitchen and storage facility enhancements.

A document outlining this proposal is attached under question 9.

**9. Attach documents here if needed:**

Attachments added to the end of this file.

**10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.**

1500000

**11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.**

["Local"]

**12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:**

Local unit government

**13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?**

Not applicable

**14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?**

Not applicable

**15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?**

Not applicable

**16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'**

n/a

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

2026/2027 Fiscal Year (July - June)

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes



March 18, 2024

Senator Gary Peters  
Hart Senate Office Building  
Suite 724  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Peters,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for the City of Royal Oak's grant application, which seeks to allocate \$2 million dollars for the renovation of the Jack & Patti Salter Community Center. As someone deeply involved in community development and investment, I understand the critical importance of revitalizing essential community assets like the Salter Community Center.

Established in 1958, the Jack & Patti Salter Community Center has served as a pillar of our community for over six decades. However, it is concerning to note that the most recent renovation of the center took place 22 years ago. Over time, wear and tear have inevitably taken their toll on the facility, impacting its functionality and safety. The proposed renovation presents a vital opportunity to breathe new life into this essential community hub. Not only will it ensure that the facility meets modern standards of safety and accessibility, but it will also enhance its capacity to serve the diverse needs of our community members effectively.

One aspect of the Salter Community Center that particularly resonates with me is its dedication to serving our senior citizens throughout the week. As Oakland County Treasurer and now as CEO of Community Unity Bank, I understand the importance of community investment and the positive impact it can have on the lives of our citizens. I have seen firsthand the importance of providing our seniors with a welcoming and supportive environment where they can engage in social activities, access essential services, and foster meaningful connections with their peers.

Furthermore, as the home to Metro Detroit Youth Clubs programming for youth aged 6-18 year-round, the center plays a crucial role in shaping the lives of our young citizens. With more than 2,000 youth members benefiting from these programs, it is evident that the center serves as a vital resource for our future generation.



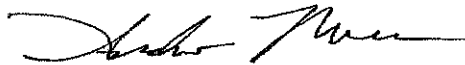
34040 WOODWARD AVENUE, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48009 | MAIN: 248-574-9100 | (888) 515-4CUB (4282)

[WWW.COMMUNITYUNITY.BANK](http://WWW.COMMUNITYUNITY.BANK)

Senator Peters, I urge you to lend your support to the City of Royal Oak's grant application for the renovation of the Jack & Patti Salter Community Center. Your advocacy and assistance in securing funding for this project will make a significant difference in the lives of countless individuals who rely on this facility for support and enrichment.

Thank you for considering this matter, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Meisner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Andrew Meisner  
CEO, Community Unity Bank



March 18, 2024

Senator Gary Peters  
Hart Senate Office Building  
Suite 724  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Peters,

I am writing to express my full support for the City of Royal Oak's grant application, which seeks to dedicate \$2 million dollars for the renovation of the Jack & Patti Salter Community Center. As the CEO and President of Ronnisch Construction Group, a company that has a long-standing commitment to excellence in construction services throughout the Midwest, I understand the importance of investing in vital community infrastructure like the Salter Community Center.

Established in 1958, the Jack & Patti Salter Community Center has been a cornerstone of our community for over six decades. However, it is concerning to note that the most recent renovation of the center took place 22 years ago. Over time, wear and tear have inevitably taken their toll on the facility, impacting its functionality and safety. The proposed renovation presents a critical opportunity to revitalize this essential community asset. Not only will it ensure that the facility meets modern standards of safety and accessibility, but it will also enhance its capacity to serve the diverse needs of our community members effectively.

As the Board Chair for Metro Detroit Youth Clubs, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that the center has on the lives of so many youth and their families. Metro Detroit Youth Clubs provides programming for youth aged 6-18 year-round, the Jack & Patti Salter Community Center plays a crucial role in shaping the lives of our young citizens. With more than 2,000 youth members benefiting from these programs, it is evident that the center serves as a vital resource for our future generation.

Senator Peters, I urge you to lend your support to the City of Royal Oak's grant application for the renovation of the Jack & Patti Salter Community Center. Your advocacy and assistance in securing funding for this project will make a significant difference in the lives of countless individuals who rely on this facility for support and enrichment.

As someone who understands the importance of quality construction and community investment, I believe that this renovation project is not only necessary but also a worthy investment in the future of our community. Thank you for considering this matter, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

*Bernie Ronnisch*

Bernie Ronnisch  
CEO and President, Ronnisch Construction Group  
Board Chair, Metro Detroit Youth Clubs

4327 Delemere Court | Royal Oak MI 48073  
248-549-1800

March 18, 2024

Senator Gary Peters  
Hart Senate Office Building  
Suite 724  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Peters,

I am writing to you today to express my enthusiastic support for the City of Royal Oak's grant application, which aims to allocate \$2 million dollars for the renovation of the Jack & Patti Salter Community Center. As a lifelong advocate for community welfare and a former elected official in Oakland County, I understand the profound impact that revitalizing essential community assets like the Salter Community Center can have on the well-being of our citizens.

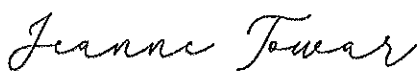
Established in 1958, the Jack & Patti Salter Community Center has been a cherished fixture in our community for over six decades. The proposed renovation presents a vital opportunity to breathe new life into this invaluable community hub. Not only will it ensure that the facility meets modern standards of safety and accessibility, but it will also enhance its capacity to serve the diverse needs of our community members effectively.

One aspect of the Salter Community Center that holds particular significance to me is its dedication to serving our senior citizens throughout the week. As a former publisher for esteemed publications such as the Birmingham Eccentric, Daily Tribune, and Crain's, I have had the privilege of witnessing the impact that programs like Tai Chi offered at the center can have on the health and well-being of our seniors.

Furthermore, as a lifetime trustee for Metro Detroit Youth Clubs, I am keenly aware of the vital role that the center plays in providing essential programming for youth ages 6-18 year-round. With more than 2,000 youth members benefiting from these programs, it is evident that the center serves as a beacon of hope and opportunity for our future generation.

As someone who has dedicated my life to championing the well-being of our community members, I wholeheartedly believe that investing in the renovation of the Salter Community Center is not only a wise decision but also a testament to our commitment to creating a thriving and inclusive community for all. Thank you for considering this matter, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any further information or assistance.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Towar  
2171 Kemp Road  
Bloomfield Hills, MI. 48302  
(248) 890-8370

The Royal Oak Salter Community Center Resilience Hub Capital Project will enhance community resilience while improving local quality of life. It is part of a comprehensive approach in purpose and scope, focusing on preparedness, adaptation, mitigation, and capacity through infrastructure improvements.

Resilience hubs are open both in times of emergency, but also during everyday "steady state" periods. This project leverages an established, trusted, and community-managed facility that functions as a neighborhood center, connecting residents to resources, building resilience-related skills, and cultivating relationships in the Royal Oak community.

The City of Royal Oak has enjoyed a long (40+ year) positive relationship with Metro Detroit Youth Club (MDYC, formerly the Boys & Girls Club) who operates the community center, providing many of the daily operational services. The city supports MDYC's mission "to empower youth to reach their full potential through safe, accessible, and inclusive experiences that open doors to a bright future, enabling every Club member to graduate from high school with a plan for college or career, contribute to their community and live a healthy life." Royal Oak utilizes the community center to fulfill its own mission to provide residents a variety of year-round recreation opportunities responsive to the needs of all, that are enjoyable to families and that contribute to the physical and mental well-being. Some of the programs offered at the community center include academic mentoring, college prep and workforce development, fitness and sports leagues, art and other enrichment activities. There are day programs offered for the older adults that include yoga, a walking club, and pickle ball, with plans to grow the programs if awarded funding.

Overall, the proposed capital elements of the project will contribute to a more effective delivery of services, better efficiency in the facility's operation, with capacity to provide clean air, cooling and heating, access to electricity and the internet during emergencies. The project focuses on six distinct areas for funding improvements;

1. Safe and Equitable Access with universal design elements included with additional building signage/facade update, and mitigation of barriers for people with disabilities or mobility challenges. Restroom facilities that meet the needs of all people ensuring proper sanitation and ADA compliance.
2. Communication & Technology support where an upgraded communication system with intercoms for emergency broadcast is possible along with an improved internal two-way - group communication system. Public Education and Information is a critical element in shaping the hub and services for community participation. Adding Wi-Fi capacity and charging stations are also included in the proposed project.
3. Electrical and Lighting/Security to be updated (interior and exterior) to LED with additional emergency lighting to be installed. Window and Partition replacements for efficiency and security.
4. HVAC, Fire, Security System upgrades required for efficiency, safety and accountability.
5. Kitchen and Storage Facilities - replace residential with commercial grade.
6. Planning and Design/Engineering Services