

Tricia Herrera
Board President



Very truly yours,

The Chamber Board wholeheartedly supports the City's efforts to repurpose this property. We appreciate your attempt to secure outside funding to help prepare the site to allow taxpayer monies to go much farther.

The City has proven its patience with the outdated facility and infrastructure, years past its useful life. A potential mixed-use restoration would be very consistent with the lifestyle needs of the citizens and businesses of Rochelle.

The reuse of this property is consistent with the City's ongoing efforts to enhance the Illinois Route 38 and State Highway 251 Corridor. The property's location within a Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) and Opportunity Zone will be a benefit for future developers and investors.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce, this letter is to lend our support to the City of Rochelle in its application for a Rebuild Illinois Shovel-Ready Grant to demolish and redevelop the iconic Hickory Grove Conference Center. In its prime, this property was a hotspot for regional entertainment, dining, and special events.

Dear City Manager Figenschuh:

Jeff Figenschuh
Office of the City Manager
City of Rochelle
420 N 6th Street
Rochelle, IL 61068

May 28, 2020