

February 9, 2024

Cindy Sheppard
Administrative Officer
City of St. Petersburg
175 Fifth St. N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Mrs. Sheppard,

I am writing to share my excitement and support for the Tampa Bay Rays stadium plans and the proposed redevelopment of the Historic Gas Plant District. I believe the project will serve as a catalyst for positive change for the surrounding community, leading to more opportunities for the youth and families we serve at Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Big Brothers Big Sisters has served the City of St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, and the entire Tampa Bay region for sixty years. We pride ourselves on developing lifelong, purposeful relationships between volunteer Bigs and Littles that ignite the power and promise of youth. We have a long history of service to children in St. Petersburg and have a strong interest in supporting projects that will benefit their development, as well as their growth. Without a doubt, I am certain that the Rays proposal will have a tremendous impact on the children we serve, as their stadium plans include robust community development and investments in the historic Gas Plant District that will benefit all residents of St. Petersburg.

I ask that you share this letter with the City Council members that represent the City of St. Petersburg, as well as with the Honorable Mayor Welch. I feel compelled to speak on behalf of the children and families that we serve about this project and to voice my strong support of the Tampa Bay Rays plan to redevelop the historic Gas Plant District. I believe that the proposed project truly has the community in mind and reflects a real desire to provide hope and opportunity for all community members.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and for all that you do for the residents of the City of St. Petersburg. We at Big Brothers Big Sisters are honored to serve and value our great partnership with St. Petersburg.

Big Thanks,



Chris Letsos