



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SUNCOAST

11/18/2022

Mr. Stuart Sternberg
1 Tropicana Dr.
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

RE: The Historic Gas Plant Site

Mr. Sternberg,

Thank you for your continued support of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast. From your baseball players instilling a love of reading with our youth by reading with them during our summer camps, to providing free dental care to our youth, to providing holiday gifts for our youth, to ongoing financial/volunteers/board support, and everything else in between, you have been a true partner. Boys & Girls Clubs of America is the official charity partner of Major League Baseball, and I often proudly share to our peer markets that have an MLB team the incredible ways that the Tampa Bay Rays have localized the national partnership.

The Tampa Bay Rays have made a long-lasting impact in our community, and we are excited for the future. On behalf of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast, we fully support the Hines and Tampa Bay Rays RFP proposal for the development of the of the Historic Gas Plant Site. It not only outlines a plan for a new ballpark, but even more importantly addresses the challenges our community faces. The Tampa Bay Rays have been leaders in the equity and inclusion space and this effort will advance economic equity.

Community feedback that led to the 23 Guiding Principles of the Development included that the *“development will provide a continuous equitable workforceand upon conclusion of the development and will include opportunities for apprenticeships, youth mentorships and training.”* The Rays have been supporters of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast’s youth workforce initiatives. We also stand ready to support the need for childcare facilities for residents and employees as outlined in the Guiding Principles.

Thank you for providing this opportunity to the community. I’m pleased to offer my recommendation to the Tampa Bay Rays as they seek to undertake the development of the Historic Gas Plant Site to demonstrate a positive impact for the community.

Respectfully,

Freddy Williams
President & CEO
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast

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