

March 29, 2024

St. Petersburg City Council Members:

We are writing to extend our wholehearted support for the proposed Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment project on behalf of the Mortenson | Beck | Envision team. As a collective of construction organizations committed to fostering community benefits and equitable growth, we believe this project presents a unique opportunity to drive positive change and inclusive economic development within St. Petersburg and across the greater Tampa Bay region for years to come.

A key aspect that resonates with our team is the project's commitment to empowering a diverse set of residents, job seekers and small businesses. The project's integration of a robust workforce development program – alongside a thoughtful supplier diversity strategy – will provide a host of growth opportunities for overlooked workers and businesses alike. When executed properly, a development project of this scale will promote sustained employment and economic well-being while cultivating a skilled workforce that bolsters local, small business capacity. Given our industry experience and participation in similar development endeavors, we strongly believe this project will serve as a catalyst for social mobility and economic opportunity within the community.

Moreover, we are excited by the project's potential to serve as a stimulus for continued investment, innovation, and creativity in the heart of St. Petersburg. A multi-faceted, sports-anchored, mixed-use development will attract more outside investment to the area – with the capacity to create a ripple effect of long-term prosperity throughout the region. This, coupled with commitments to provide affordable housing, space for cultural events, and community green space, positions the project as a driving force for sustainable benefits across St. Pete.

As members of the Mortenson | Beck | Envision leadership team, we stand ready to lend our expertise and support to ensure the successful realization of this project. We are confident that a well-planned and properly executed development will leave a lasting, positive impact on the St. Petersburg community. We wholeheartedly endorse the proposed development project and commend its dedication to promoting inclusive economic development and a targeted community benefits package. Thank you for considering our support, please reach out if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Logan Gerken  
VP General Manager | Mortenson



Ryan Toth  
Regional Director | Beck



Allen Greene II  
Managing Director | Envision