



June 30, 2023

Honorable Matt Bradford
Democratic House Leader
110 Main Capitol
PO Box 202070
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Sent Via Email

Dear Leader Bradford,

On behalf of Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG), I am writing to urge the passage of HB 1429, legislation that will increase funding for the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). PCRG is a non-profit, membership-based organization made up of community-based organizations and community development corporations located throughout southwestern Pennsylvania.

The NAP tax credit works by encouraging partnerships between the business community, government, and grassroots community development organizations to focus investment on underserved communities throughout Pennsylvania. This development tool already provides assistance for many communities improve their streets, retail districts and housing while retaining and attracting employers.

NAP funding bolsters community redevelopment and growth by leveraging resources and building technical capacity and infrastructure within communities. Many Pennsylvanian communities are experiencing hardships and challenges, and NAP funding can bridge the gap between businesses and community investment. These partnerships, made possible through this program, provide a path for the rebuilding of lost economies and improve the quality of life for the residents of Pennsylvania. PCRG and many of our member organizations utilize NAP funding to enhance economic activities in underserved and historically disinvestment communities. The following are testimonials from PCRG members who utilize NAP.

Hill Community Development Corporation: *The Hill CDC has been able to engage in extensive planning and redevelopment efforts that have resulted in the preservation and creation of new affordable and mixed income housing, business district and entrepreneurial support, as well as cultural programming that enlivens and ensures distinct destinations within our state. Such economic development attracts visitors, new enterprises and residents which strengthens our tax base. It is our belief that an increase will bring additional investment to the neediest parts of our state and ensures that corporations have an opportunity to invest in our neighborhoods in ways that they otherwise would not. NAP is truly a public-private benefit that ensures our tax dollars are maximized towards community revitalization. -Marimba Millionnes, Executive Director*

Sharpsburg Neighborhood Organization

*In Sharpsburg, Millvale, and Etna, three of Allegheny County's most flood-exposed and economically challenged municipalities, the Neighborhood Partnership Program through the NAP has supported priceless on-the-ground staff capacity, which has enabled local organizations to serve hundreds of local families and individuals. Through this program we have connected local people to thousands of pounds of free food, paid career training and education opportunities, free home weatherization and repair work, and begun work on a new community center. The NAP has given us the capacity to organize residents and build their capacity, teaching folks how to organize community events and projects, run for office, serve on a local commission or nonprofit board, and otherwise create positive impact locally. The NAP, like no other program available to PA communities, provides rare funding to support invaluable human capacity in communities that desperately need it. I strongly encourage our state officials to vote to increase the NAP cap so that more communities across the commonwealth can benefit from this critical funding source. -**Brittany Reno, Executive Director***

NAP programs have a proven track record of building sustainable tax bases and increasing tax revenues for both local municipalities and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The tax credit enhances PA and local sales tax revenue, enhances PA and local income tax revenue, and strengthens local real estate property tax revenue in targeted communities. The success of NAP is shown by the growing number of communities seeking to make use of this innovative and effective program.

I ask for your support in increasing funding for the NAP from \$36 million to \$72 million, so that more of Pennsylvania's communities will have access to all the resources they need to build better futures. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting me at 412-354-0642, or, via email at crosselot@pcrg.org.

Sincerely,



Chris Rosselot
Director of Policy
Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group

Cc: Senate Majority Leader, Hon. Kim Ward
Cc: Senate Minority Leader, Hon. Jay Costa
Cc: Finance Committee Chair, Hon. Steve Samuelson
Cc: Republican Finance Committee Chair, Hon. Keith Greiner