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Brian M. Zimmerman



May 26, 2010

Ms. Theresa Gang  
Executive Director  
Cleveland Rowing Foundation  
1948 Carter Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Dear Ms. Gang:

I recently became aware of an effort being undertaken by Cleveland Rowing Foundation (CRF) to preserve public access to the Cuyahoga River through a proposed Rivergate Park project. As Executive Director of Cleveland Metroparks, I write to convey support for the project's potential contribution toward the creation of a greenway throughout downtown Cleveland with opportunities for trail spurs that could connect downtown and inner city suburb citizens to the waterfront.

CRF's Rivergate Park project envisions outreach to citizens of the greater Cleveland metropolitan community that would provide to them public access to Cleveland's urban river for unique canoeing and kayaking experiences. This access, coupled with CRF training and programming, should complement the Park District's mission of conservation, education, and recreation as the mission relates to waterfront activities and regional resources.

I commend the numerous volunteers of CRF who have dedicated substantial efforts and energy to the Rivergate Park project. The success of the project likely would create a hub for recreational activity in Cleveland that would expand upon opportunities for citizens to engage in waterfront recreational opportunities and enjoy natural resources in a manner that may not otherwise be available to them.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Zimmerman  
Executive Director