



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

March 23, 2018

Honorable Governor Kay Ivey
State Capitol
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Governor Ivey,

On behalf of the City of Birmingham, we are grateful for the time, effort and consideration you and your team have given to Birmingham's Opportunity Zone proposal. We are confident that the zones you have designated in Birmingham will contain projects that would yield a return for investors, produce value for Birmingham residents and deliver on the promise of creating opportunity for the small businesses, entrepreneurs and institutions that are vital to a thriving community and state.

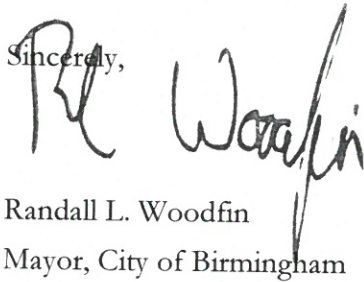
However, upon further exploration of these tracts, we believe that switching two of Birmingham's selected tracts with two that were not recommended would produce the optimal outcomes for our city and your purposes. Therefore, I submit this letter to request your consideration of an amendment to Birmingham's eligible census tracts submitted as Opportunity Zones.

Our model was constructed through identification of community and economic assets, and after reviewing the designated census tracts, we would like to submit two changes. First, we would like to ask you to substitute the designated census tract 01073003200 in exchange for census tract 01073003300. Although both census tracts are in the Ensley neighborhood, the latter accommodates the Commercial Business District, whereas the former does not. Secondly, we would like to ask you to substitute the designated census tract 01073011209 in exchange for census tract 01073002000. Currently, the neighborhood of Eastlake has only half of its Commercial Business District in a designated Opportunity Zone tract. This substitution would allow for the full Commercial Business District to benefit from an Opportunity Zone fund.

We appreciate that you are only able to designate 158 census tracts statewide and thank you and your team for the Opportunity Zone designations Jefferson County has received. We are submitting this amendment to you because we firmly believe that the business districts have more investable

opportunities and can therefore benefit more from the Opportunity Zone designation than the more residential areas of Ensley and Eastlake.

We sincerely appreciate your thoughtful consideration of the proposed amendment. If you or members of your administration have any questions, please reach out to me directly or contact Dr. Josh Carpenter, Director of Economic Development. His contact information is appended below my signature.

Sincerely,

Randall L. Woodfin
Mayor, City of Birmingham

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CC: Ken Boswell, ADECA Director

Baker Allen, Economic Policy Advisor