

Department of City Development City Plan Commission Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation Rocky Marcoux Commissioner rmarco@milwaukee.gov

Martha L. Brown Deputy Commissioner mbrown@milwaukee.gov

November 10, 2016

To the Honorable Members of the Community and Economic Development Committee City of Milwaukee

Dear Committee Members:

File No. 160894 relates to the establishment of a Neighborhood Improvement District (NID) No. 7 (Harambee) and approving its Initial Operating Plan, in the 6th Aldermanic District.

Section 66.1110 of the Wisconsin State Statutes allows owners of real property, at least some of which is used for residential purposes, within the districts to develop, manage and promote the district, and to establish an assessment method to fund these activities.

The City Plan Commission held a public hearing regarding this item at its November 7, 2016 meeting. At that time, several residents stated their support for and opposition to the NID. Those in favor stated that resources are needed to help residents repair their homes and allow them to stay within them. Several neighbors stated that particularly the senior citizens who live in the neighborhood need this type of assistance, and often do not have the means to repair their homes because they are on fixed incomes. Those opposed stated that they cannot afford to pay the assessment that would be placed on their tax bills. There was concern that, if improvements were made to the neighborhood, assessed values and taxes would go up, or their neighborhood would become gentrified. Two commissioners expressed concern that, while this NID can be a benefit to the neighborhood, the concerns that were brought up are worthy of additional discussion. At its November 7th meeting, the City Plan Commission recommended approval of the establishment of NID No. 7 and its 2017 operating plan.

Sincerely,

Rocky Marcoux Executive Secretary City Plan Commission of Milwaukee

cc: Ald. Coggs

