

December 6, 2021

Cleveland City Council
601 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114

Dear City of Cleveland Council Leaders, Members and Representative-Elect Deborah Gray,

The undersigned write to express our deep support for City Council legislation 1038-2021.

As Shaker Square merchants and tenants, we ask City Council to approve the investment in this important community asset. Shaker Square urgently needs active property management and immediate capital improvements. We deserve to have property owners and managers – not a court appointed receiver - that will make us a priority.

Every day we wait means instability and uncertainty. Every day we wait allows the continued deterioration of Shaker Square that will diminish the number of patrons interested in coming to the Square and negatively impact the bottom line of our businesses just as we are coming out of COVID-19. And if left unabated, necessary goods and services and other desired amenities for the Buckeye, Shaker Square, Larchmere and Woodland Hills neighborhoods could be lost.

We need significant investment and improvement to Shaker Square for our businesses to grow and thrive. Adjacent property owners need a strong Shaker Square be a catalyst for their investment decisions. For these reasons and many more, I support Cleveland City Council acting now to approve the plan proposed by Cleveland Neighborhood Progress and Burten Bell Carr Development.

Please support our businesses, the jobs we provide and this important institution. Please act today, Monday, December 6, 2021, to ensure the critical needs of Shaker Square can be addressed. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

Akin Affrica, Creator
The Cleveland Breakfast Club
and The Vegan Club
13228 Shaker Square

David Saltzman, Owner
Dave’s Market
13130 Shaker Square

Hallie Bram Kogelschatz, CEO
Shark & Minnow
13214 Shaker Square

Chanelle Harris, Owner
Chanelle’s Treatz
13204 Shaker Square

Tracy Fowler, Owner
Fashions by Fowler
13119 Shaker Square

Courtney Laves-Mearini, Director
Cleveland City Dance
13108 Shaker Square

Aliscia Martin, Owner
Accessories So Necessary
13206 Shaker Square

Clarissa Foster,
Managing Member
Master Mind Your Business
13110 Shaker Square, C201

Jill Evans, Owner
Wil Durbin, Board Member
Goldenrod Montessori
13100 Shaker Square

George Ponti, Owner
Balaton Restaurant
13133 Shaker Square

Along with adjacent property owners

Amanda Mayan, CEO
MAN Holdings LLC
11201 Shaker Blvd, Suite 203

Joe Shafran, Chairman and CEO
Paran Management Company
2720 Van Aken Blvd, Suite 200