



June 21, 2017

Loretta C. Scott, President
Rochester City Council
30 Church Street, Room 301-A
Rochester, NY 14614

Dear Councilwoman Scott:

I am writing in strong support of the Cobbs Hill Village modernization plan. I believe it will provide safe, updated facilities so that older adults in the City can age in their community.

As you know, Lifespan is a not-for-profit aging service provider. We provide information, assistance, guidance and an array of over 30 programs and services to help older adults remain independent and in the community. Our mission includes connecting individuals to appropriate community-based and medical services throughout the area and throughout the aging services network.

We are well aware of the tremendous need for affordable housing. We track call data every year and look for trends so we can assist older adults and family caregivers. For over a decade, **affordable housing** has made the top five list of needs. Most years, it was the primary reason that older adults called us.

The vast majority of people want to stay in their community but, for older residents in the City of Rochester, it is a challenge to find appropriate and affordable housing. You know all this data - Rochester has an old housing stock. Most of the homes do not have a "universal design." Many houses have one bathroom on the second floor and multiple steps to enter the home. A design that is not conducive to aging in place.

I strongly support the project and would be happy to provide any data that we have to support the need. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann Marie Cook".

Ann Marie Cook
President/CEO

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