



February 21, 2023

The Honorable David Vaughan
 SC State Representative, District 27
 Blatt Building, Room 326B
 Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Representative Vaughan:

Thank you for taking the time out of your hectic schedule to meet with us regarding the needs of the City of Simpsonville. As you are aware, we have three projects that are critical to the future of our community:

- 1) Downtown traffic realignment, revitalization and streetscape
- 2) Renovation of the gymnasium space at the Simpsonville Arts Center to create an event space to enhance tourism
- 3) Covered seating for the CCNB Amphitheatre at Heritage Park to book nationally recognized artists, resulting in greater attendance at concerts, particularly for visitors from outside of our region

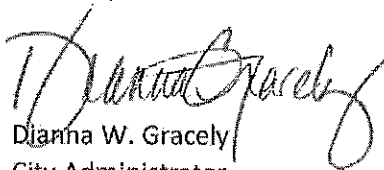
All three projects have one common denominator: economic development. They will make our community more attractive for tourism and investment in new businesses, while also strengthening the quality of life for our residents. The economic impact from these projects will foster generational stability for our local economy. The table below details the projects, the City's financial investment, and what we are asking the State of South Carolina to contribute.

Project Name	Purpose	Total Cost	City or Other Funding Committed	State Funding Requested
Downtown Traffic Realignment, Revitalization & Streetscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve traffic flow • Create unique public spaces • Stimulate private investment • Improve stormwater 	\$22 million	\$14 million City \$2 million C-Funds	\$6 million
Gymnasium renovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve historic gymnasium • Create event space for tourism 	\$2 million	\$1 million City	\$1 million
Improved Seating at CCNB Amphitheatre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seating Improvements for enhanced guest experience • Covered seating • ADA Compliance 	\$5 million	\$2 million City	\$3 million

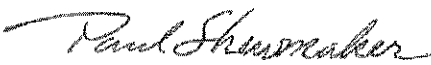
This letter is meant to provide a synopsis of our requests. We have detailed cost estimates and drawings to support the requests if needed. Also, please note that the City is utilizing capital projects fund balance and has issued bond debt to pay for the projects. We are in need of State assistance due to the rapidly accelerating cost escalations as we work toward ground breaking on these projects. Simply put, the projects were well planned, and the City intended to self-fund; however, inflation, labor costs, and materials shortages dramatically increased the cost to complete the projects. The total project costs indicated in the table above includes the escalated costs. Without State assistance, the City will have to scale back on the scope of the projects, or delay the work indefinitely. These projects collectively total \$29 million dollars. We are requesting that the State of South Carolina allocate \$10 million dollars (roughly 34%) from its FY24 budget to help us achieve our goals.

Thank you again for your time and consideration. We appreciate your advocacy. We would be happy to make presentations or provide additional information as needed.

Sincerely,



Dianna W. Gracely
City Administrator



Paul Shewmaker
Mayor