



Martin J. Sweeney

Cuyahoga County Council District 3

Committee Chair: Council Operations, Intergovernmental Relations & Public Transportation

Committee Vice Chair: Health, Human Services & Aging

Committee Member: Human Resources, Appointments & Equity

Committee Member: Public Works, Procurement & Contracting

EXHIBIT

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November 18, 2024

The Honorable Michelle D. Earley
The Honorable Diane M. Palos
The Honorable Anthony J. Russo
The Honorable Brendan J. Sheehan
Cuyahoga County Justice Center
1200 Ontario Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Dear Judge Earley, Judge Palos, Judge Russo, and Judge Sheehan,

Earlier today I received an emailed copy of the November 15th letter you received from the County Executive and County Council President. This was the first time I saw the correspondence and I feel compelled to clarify the response is not representative of County Council as a whole.

I was unaware the letter was being sent and its contents were not shared with me. It is my understanding it wasn't shared with my colleagues either. I am somewhat flabbergasted and annoyed this occurred and apologize that I even need to write this letter. I feel it is critically important County Council governs by majority, and I will be speaking to my colleagues regarding the response.

Regardless of legal requirements outlined in O.R.C. 153.36, the process of building a new jail and courthouse should be done in a collaborative and transparent manner. It is critical we get this work right and I consider each of you an essential stakeholder in the planning of these massive capital investments. These projects will impact each of you far more than the County Council. Your insights, support, and partnership are vital to their success.

I look forward to continued discussion with you and your colleagues on the Bench. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 216-390-7229 for further discussion.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Sweeney
Councilman, District 3