

October 17, 2023

Jamie Fisher Norwich Township Administrator 5181 Northwest Parkway Hilliard, Ohio 43206

Dear Administrator Fisher,

Thank you for your letter dated September 28th regarding the annexation request of parcels 200-00050, 200-000203, 200-000554 and 201-000002. The annexation acceptance neither permits a proposed development to occur, nor guarantees a rezoning application to be approved. When an annexation is accepted into the City of Columbus, it is automatically assigned an R (rural) zoning category and changes to the site will require a rezoning by the property owner which will include review of the project by our city departments and opportunities for public comment through that process.

In June of 2022, the City of Columbus announced the Columbus Housing Strategy which guides our investments, defines our priorities and informs our decision making. Central Ohio is growing because of the tremendous opportunities our region offers and our high quality of life. People and families continue to move into Columbus, but we have not been building the adequate housing infrastructure to support that growth. As a result, the region's housing affordability is being lost. Therefore, the foundation of the Columbus Housing Strategy is to build more housing.

We have committed to meet the needs of our community and ensure that there is housing available for all our families, those who live here now, and those who will join us in the coming years. In addition to ensuring that we have enough housing we are also committed to preserve the existing affordability in our community and keep people housed, to invest in new affordable housing for our working families and to include all families in the economic growth of the region.

This is a critical time for our region and we look forward to working with our Central Ohio neighbors to be the first region in the nation to both grow economically and maintain our affordability.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Stevens

Director

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Division of Economic Development

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Cc: Shannon Hardin Shayla Favor