



14 April 2005

Detroit City Council
Coleman A. Young Municipal Center - Room 1340
2 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, MI 48226

Re: Support for the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, Detroit RiverWalk, and Acknowledgement of the Conservancy's Tremendous Public Outreach Efforts

Honorable City Council:

Cityscape Detroit strongly supports the efforts of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy to create a riverfront walkway from the Ambassador to MacArthur Bridges. Creating pedestrian access to the waterfront has been a dream of Detroit's civic leaders and urban planners for over fifty years. This project will support economic revitalization activities far beyond the river's edge.

For more than three years, Cityscape Detroit has provided notice to our membership and the general public at-large about the various public outreach efforts that the conservancy has done to engage the metropolitan Detroit community for comment, buy-in, and their support relative both the East and West RiverWalks. Several of their community meetings and presentations have been highlighted in our Cityscape Detroit E-News, and we have provided constructive feedback regarding the proposed designs to the conservancy members and their designers.

Cityscape Detroit is an organization that advocates for improving Detroit's quality of life through exceptional architecture, urban planning, urban design, and historic preservation. We are confident that the Detroit RiverWalk will propel the city forward in all of these key areas.

We strongly urge your Honorable Body to approve the proposed RiverWalk project so that final design development documents and actual construction may commence before the end of this calendar year. The positive ripples of this project will be felt across the entire region, and Detroit cannot afford to postpone these affects even one more day.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur F. Mullen, AICP
Advocacy Committee Chair