



ORANGE COUNTY MAYOR

TERESA JACOBS

P.O. Box 1393, 201 SOUTH ROSALIND AVENUE, ORLANDO, FL 32802-1393
PHONE: 407-836-7370 • FAX: 407-836-7360 • Mayor@ocfl.net

June 2, 2015

The Honorable Buddy Dyer
Mayor, City of Orlando
P.O. Box 4990
Orlando, FL 32802-4990

Dear Mayor Dyer:

October 22, 2013 marked a historic day for our community when the amendment to the Community Venues Agreement was approved to add funding for a Major League Soccer (MLS) Stadium, which paved the way for an MLS franchise to be awarded to the Orlando City Soccer Club (OCSC). This past Friday marked another historic day for our community with the announcement that OCSC has decided to privately fund the entire cost of the new soccer stadium.

Although we all knew that MLS would be successful in Orlando, the level of support and the size of the fan base thus far has exceeded all of our expectations. From selling out the Citrus Bowl for their inaugural game to being the team with the second highest attendance in the league, soccer in Orlando by any measure has been a huge success. In light of this phenomenal success, I was pleased to see the OCSC ownership team not only withdraw their request for additional public funding, but commit to fund 100% of the cost of the stadium.

As you know, in 2007 the City and County formed an unprecedented partnership when the Community Venues Agreement was approved to construct three new facilities in downtown Orlando. With the opening of the new Amway Center in 2010, the first phase of the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts (DPC) in 2014, and the newly renovated Citrus Bowl in 2014, we have raised the profile of our community by adding world class facilities for our entire region to enjoy and the rest of the world to envy.

There is, however, one piece of unfinished business from the 2007 Community Venues vision: the completion of the second and final phase of DPC. In the original Community Venues Agreement, the City and County in partnership committed upwards of half a billion dollars to these projects. As you will recall, in 2014 Orange County committed to an

The Honorable Mayor Dyer
June 2, 2015
Page 2

additional \$25 million challenge grant. It is my understanding that there is still a funding shortfall for the final phase of DPC construction to build a 1,700 seat multi-form theater. This funding shortfall exists despite DPC's unparalleled private philanthropy efforts raising approximately \$129 million to-date.

Although I am confident that Mr. Jim Pugh and the DPC Board will try their best to raise additional funding from the private sector, it is my hope that the City and County can step up and help bridge the financing gap by partnering on a 50/50 basis and applying a portion of the money previously earmarked for the construction of the soccer stadium.

DPC has received national and international recognition for the Walt Disney and the Jim and Alexis theaters. These theaters have brought world-class entertainment to Orlando for the enjoyment of our citizens. It has also put us on the map as a major arts and cultural community – a once aspirational dream. Completing the second phase of the performing arts center will again elevate our community and complete the shared vision that was approved in 2007.

Let's work together to finish this venue!

Sincerely,



Teresa Jacobs

- c: Board of County Commissioners
The Honorable Martha Haynie, Orange County Comptroller
Ajit Lalchandani, County Administrator
Jim Pugh, Chairman, Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts Board of Directors
Kathy Ramsberger, President, Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts