



**GREATER RIVERSIDE
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE**
The Chamber...building a stronger local economy.

Development Committee: 2-22-18
Item no.: 1

February 21, 2018

Councilmember Mike Gardner
Riverside City Council, Ward 1
3900 Main St 7th Fl
Riverside, CA 92522

RE: Support for Development of Hilton Hotel at Former Downtown Fire Station No.1

Dear Councilmember Gardner,

On behalf of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce Downtown Business Council, I am writing to express our support for the development of the Hilton Hotel at the former Downtown Fire Station No.1. We understand and appreciate your efforts towards building a strong local economy as well as encouraging new business developments, and this project represents a significant step in achieving these goals.

Hospitality availability in the downtown area is a growing subject matter and the new Hilton Hotel would provide opportunities for corporate and tourist accommodations year-round. The Hilton Hotel would also serve as the corridor to the Riverside Arts District made clear by large signage and a fitting location across the Riverside Art Museum on Mission Inn Avenue. Furthermore, the hotel will be designed to maximize hotel accommodations and avoid potential conflicts with conference sites and meeting spaces in the area.

This proposal provides another opportunity the City can utilize to enhance the *City of Arts and Innovation's* brand message. The hotel would not only complement the architecture styles of other recent developments in the vicinity, but also provide 161 rooms in a seven story installation, a bakery café, restaurant, and an availability of 203 parking spaces, eight of which will be complimentary for staff at Fire Station No.1. The parking structure will be a three story building adjacent to the hotel with primary entrance off Mission Inn Avenue.

We continue to believe in the potential the City of Riverside has through new developments in the downtown area. This proposal will complement the vision the City has and provides opportunities in hospitality, a growing local arts culture, dining, corporate and tourist accommodations, and architecture aesthetics.

For these reasons, we wholly support the development of the Hilton Hotel at Former Downtown Fire Station No.1. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Cindy Roth
President/CEO

CR/js

CC: Councilmember Chris Mac Arthur, Ward 5
Councilmember Jim Perry, Ward 6