

marcc “...to forgo the luxury of separate ways when a common path can be found...”

**Metropolitan
Area
Religious
Coalition of
Cincinnati**

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Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Association of Unity Churches

Baptist Ministers Conference
of Cincinnati and Vicinity

Cincinnati Conference
(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

Cincinnati Islamic Center

Disciples of Christ – SW Ohio

Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio

Greek Orthodox Church of
Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas

Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance

JCRC of The Jewish Federation

Miami Association (American Baptists)

Ohio River Valley District
(United Methodist Church)

Presbytery of Cincinnati

Religious Society of Friends

Southwest Ohio-Northeast Kentucky Division
(The Salvation Army)

Unitarian Universalist Council
of Greater Cincinnati

United Church of Christ

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June 22, 2009

RE: Fay Apartments Renovation Funding

Dear Members of City Council,

MARCC, a coalition of 17 denominations of Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, Jews and Greek Orthodox, strongly encourages City Council to support the \$3.2 million federal dollars given to the city for the purpose of affordable housing projects - specifically for the renovation of the Fay Apartments. The proposal before you today is for a further reduction to 703 units - of which 36 units will be handicapped accessible. This reduction lowers density and improves the quality of life for residents. Other changes in the plan:

- improve safety through the installation of a gatehouse to control traffic, adds security guards, and strengthens unit entrances;
- conserve energy and reduce cost through installation of green building components and weatherization;
- provide new playground areas for children and an education and career building program for youth through Blue Print for Success and on site Community Action Agency program;
- commit to “inclusion” by hiring a significant number of minority contractors to complete the work.

Furthermore, this proposal is in alignment with the affordable housing goals outlined in the City County Consolidated Plan for Housing and Economic Development. Homelessness/Affordable Housing and Justice Reform are two major social concerns MARCC continues to roll up its sleeves, work and speak out to help those struggling for housing and inclusion in employment. Today, one of our sacred texts calls out to all of us as a reminder on this issue “unless the Lord builds the house we labor in vain”. By City Council joining with the religious community, and other community organizations to support the residents of Fay Apartments and the Plan all of us continue to sustain our commitment to affordable housing and inclusion and together we labor for social justice and better our community.

Sincerely,

Adam Hall
President

Margaret A. Fox
Executive Director