

March 03, 2025

Mayor Eddie Melton Office of the Mayor of the City of Gary 401 Broadway Gary, IN 46402

Re:

Letter of Support - City of Gary & Hard Rock Northern Indiana Proposal for

Lake County Convention Center

Dear Mayor Melton:

On behalf of myself, CEO Humane Indiana, and the entire organization, we provide this letter of support for the proposal submitted by the City of Gary and Hard Rock Northern Indiana in response to the RFP/RFQ issued by the Lake County Board of Commissioners for a Lake County Convention Center.

Humane Indiana supports the Proposal, as we believe that the City is the best home for a Lake County Convention Center to benefit the entire region. It is our position that the strong partnership between the City and Hard Rock presents the best opportunity for Lake County to become home to a well-run convention center that will bring about opportunities for <u>all</u> surrounding municipalities, Lake County businesses, residents, and organizations like ours.

Humane Indiana has long been a supporter of Gary Indiana residents regarding the well-being of companion pets and their owners. Being able to utilize this convention center for our own events will allow Humane Indiana to continue this important work.

Our hope is that, in selecting the winner of the RFP/RFQ, the Board of Commissioners will consider our support of this Proposal. The Commissioners may feel free to contact me with any related questions.

Sincerely,

Brian A, Fitzpatrick CEO Humane Indiana

