



June 7, 2018

To: Oak Park Village Board of Trustees  
From: John Lynch, Executive Director, OPEDC  
Re: Letter of Support – Turano Bakery

The Oak Park Economic Development Corporation (OPEDC) is providing this letter in support of Turano Baking Company's Planned Development application for a new corporate headquarters building located at 6500 Roosevelt Road.

OPEDC has worked closely with Turano for a number of years on this proposal and fully supports the project as presented. The development plan, including the vacation of Scoville Avenue, is appropriate for the commercial district, which was described in the Roosevelt Road Corridor plan as an "industrial subarea" and is currently populated by a variety of uses including commercial office. In addition, we believe that the variances being requested are necessary to ensure that the building functions efficiently for the owner/user and will not be detrimental to either residential or commercial neighbors. Most of the requested variances are necessary to maximize on-site parking, alleviating concerns of spillover onto coveted commercial and residential parking areas nearby.

Furthermore, this development enables Turano to retain approximately 100 office jobs on Roosevelt Road – an important employment base that supports other businesses in the area. Should this project not be approved, we believe there is a strong chance that the headquarters will relocate to another municipality, most likely one along the I-88 business corridor.

Overall, OPEDC believes that Turano Baking Company's proposal is in keeping with the Village's economic development objectives for Roosevelt Road and that the requested approvals are justified and appropriate based on the development site and proposed plan. Once complete, this development will be an encouraging sign to investors considering other long-underutilized property along the corridor.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

John Lynch  
Executive Director  
OPEDC

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