



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

July 8, 2024

US Senator Sherrod Brown
503 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

US Senator Tim Scott
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Senators Brown and Scott:

The City of Springfield, Ohio is facing a significant housing crisis in our community. Many factors have played in to where we are today, but without significant support at the Federal level, I believe, that the situation and the need for housing in our community will become much worse.

The City of Springfield and its partners have been proactively working towards solutions for this crisis since a Housing Consortium made up of both public and private sector leaders formed in 2018. This led to two macro-level studies focused on addressing the housing situation prepared by the Greater Ohio Policy Center on behalf of Springfield. This identified the challenges that Springfield's Housing Market faced, while also identifying key initiatives, policies, and programs that our community could implement to address the situation.

Many of the recommendations have been adopted and put into practice, and we have seen positive results. But most recently, Springfield has seen a surge in population through immigration that has significantly impacted our ability as a community to produce enough housing opportunities for all. Springfield's Haitian population has increased to 15,000 – 20,000 over the last four years in a community of just under 60,000 previous residents, putting a significant strain on our resources and ability to provide ample housing for all of our residents. Despite 2000 additional housing units set to come online over the next three to five years, this is still not enough.

Again, without further support at the Federal level, communities like Springfield are set up to fail in being able to meet the housing needs of its residents.

Sincerely,

City Manager

CC: US Senator JD Vance