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September 12, 2025

HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

RE: Response to request for ADA, Universal Design, and Bird Safety Mitigation Details
– Zoning Amendment for 560 & 580 Civic Center Drive

In response to the memo from Pro-Tem Tate dated July 11, 2025, requesting details about the ADA Compliance, Universal Design, and Bird Safety Mitigation Plans, the development team submitted the following explanation:

ADA Compliance & Universal Design

The Skybridge Connector is being designed to fully comply with all applicable ADA standards and accessibility codes inclusive of the following:

- **ACCESSIBILITY CODE:** 2009 DETROIT ACCESSIBILITY CODE + 2010 ADA STANDARDS FOR ACCESSIBLE DESIGN
- **BUILDING CODE:** 2019 DETROIT CITY BUILDING CODE (DCBC) / 2021 MICHIGAN BUILDING CODE (MBC)
- **LIFE SAFETY CODE:** 2012 DETROIT LIFE SAFETY CODE
- **ELEVATOR CODE:** 2016 MICHIGAN ELEVATOR AND ESCALATOR CODE

From the outset, our approach to this project has integrated universal design principles (e.g., barrier-free access, intuitive wayfinding, tactile and visual cues, generous circulation space, and multi-modal vertical access) to ensure equitable access for all users, regardless of age or ability. All pedestrian connections, vertical circulation elements, and entry points will be designed to provide barrier-free access, in compliance with required slopes, clearances, signage, and tactile indicators. As the project advances through Design Development and Construction Documentation, development of these principles will continue to be implemented and coordinated across all project team disciplines.

Bird Safety Mitigation

The design team is proactively incorporating bird safety strategies into the envelope development. Glazing treatments under evaluation include acid-etched patterns, ceramic frit, UV, and other visual markers that adhere to industry best practices, and follow the spacing guideline recommended by the American Bird Conservancy. These measures aim

to significantly reduce collision risks while preserving both performance and visual transparency. As the project progresses through Design Development and into Construction Documentation, our team will continue to evaluate and integrate Bird Safety Mitigation options that will provide optimal durability, effectiveness, and integration with the overall building design.

Please contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Marcell R. Todd, Jr." in a cursive script.

Marcell R. Todd, Jr., Director
Jamie J. Murphy, City Planner

cc: Alexa Bush, Director, PDD
Edwina, PDD
Malik Washington, City Council Liaison, Mayor's Office
David Bell, Director, BSEED
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Conrad Mallett, Corporation Counsel
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