

SAMPLE LETTER OF SUPPORT

June 8, 2016

Dr. Timothy Parsons, Director
Division of Historical Resources
R.A. Gray Building, 4th Floor
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Mr. Parsons,

On behalf of the Gainesville City Commission, I am pleased to officially extend the city's support to the Planning and Development Services Department, also known as the Department of Doing, as they pursue a grant to rehabilitate the historic Thomas Center's B building.

Originally constructed in 1928, the Thomas Center B has been under city ownership since 1974, and currently houses city offices. Given its historical significance, its current condition, and the high volume of citizen traffic to the facility, the Thomas Center B has been identified as an initial project for efforts related to Citizen Centered Gainesville. We believe that the rehabilitation of this facility is an excellent example of our aims to improve the citizen experience and interface with their local government, while at the same time maintaining the integrity and character of this important community asset.

Further, the Commission has approved funding to begin work to the physical improvements of the Thomas Center B. We anticipate that construction will commence this summer. Receiving this grant would allow city staff to increase the scope of improvements beyond the lobby and entryway and enhance the building's usability for our citizens. It thus fitting that we support continued improvements to the building and efforts to elevate it as one of Gainesville's historic icons.

Recognizing the Thomas Center as an asset to the Gainesville community, the City Commission has voted to support the Thomas Center B project and the associated grant application. We look forward to the continued celebration of this Gainesville landmark and the history it preserves.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lauren Poe