



August 21, 2007

City of Racine
c/o Mr. Brian O'Connell, Director of City Development
730 Washington Avenue
Racine, WI 53403

Dear Brian:

As you know, downtown Racine will be undergoing a major road construction project in 2008 and 2009. The project on 6th Street will include the replacement of utilities and infrastructure in 2008 and curb and gutter, roadway and sidewalks in 2009. The project will be similar to what Main Street experienced during 2003 and 2004.

While we believe the completion of this project will bring a remarkable transformation to downtown, we also know that the construction will cause significant hardships on the existing businesses. Some Main Street businesses were unable to survive the disruption of road construction. Currently, DRC is working on several initiatives to try and assist the businesses on 6th Street during this time.

After the completion of the Main Street project, a significant number of businesses began utilizing the façade improvement program to improve their storefronts. Unfortunately, these renovations further disrupted the pedestrian traffic on Main Street. With your assistance, we would like to encourage the 6th Street business owners to use the disruption of the road construction to improve their facades during 2008 and 2009.

Many of the businesses on 6th Street are already struggling and have limited resources. We certainly anticipate this condition to worsen until the construction is complete. We would respectfully request that the City of Racine increase the façade grant amount to \$15,000 during 2008 and 2009 for business on 6th Street and those on Wisconsin between 6th Street and 7th Street. This added incentive will greatly enhance the business owners' potential for façade renovations during that time.]

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Devin Sutherland", written over a horizontal line.

Devin Sutherland
Executive Director

Downtown Racine Corporation

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