

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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TONY KNOBBE, Chairman  
KEN BECK, Vice-Chair  
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JOHN MAXWELL

October 31, 2019

Mayor Marty O'Boyle and Eldridge City Council Members  
Eldridge City Hall  
305 North Third Street  
Eldridge, Iowa 52748

RE: City of Eldridge's proposed Amendment #4 to the City's Unified Urban Renewal Area Plan to add the Y facility project to the plan and use TIF income as an economic development incentive for unspecified projects.

Dear Mayor O'Boyle and Council Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendment #4 to the City of Eldridge's Unified Urban Renewal Plan. The Scott County Board of Supervisors has reviewed the materials submitted by City Administrator John Dowd.

On four previous occasions, March, 2000, May, 2012, October, 2016 and June, 2017 when the City has been required to give the Board an Opportunity to Consult on amendments to the City's Unified Urban Renewal Area (URA) and the proposed URA plan, as amended, the Scott County Board of Supervisors has stated that it encourages the use of tax increment financing to be limited to redeveloping and revitalizing blighted areas with a history of declining property values or for attracting new or expanded industrial development. The Board has consistently supported the use of tax increment financing as an incentive for the retention and creation of primary jobs. The Board has also always recommended that all tax increment financing be for the minimum dollar amount to make any project feasible while also being for the shortest possible duration.

In this case, the Board does support the use of TIF as an economic development incentive for projects to encourage new businesses that create primary jobs or if determined to be necessary, in order to retain industrial employers in the Quad Cities or to allow them to expand in the City of Eldridge. The Board also appreciates that the City proposes to retire any bonds it issues for the Y facility, a capital project, with funding generated from the City's property tax levy and sales tax revenue.

The Board of Supervisors encourages all cities in Scott County to limit their use of TIF dollars for reversing blight or as an incentive for industrial development that has direct benefits to the local economy. The Board discourages the use of TIF funds for capital improvements for city infrastructure that should be borne by the residents of the city and not supported with revenue generated by the County's property tax levy. While the Board of Supervisors recognizes the City of Eldridge has no legal obligation to comply with our recommendation, we hope in the spirit of intergovernmental cooperation the City Council would seriously consider this request.

Sincerely,

Tony Knobbe, Chairman  
Scott County Board of Supervisors

cc: Scott County Board of Supervisors and Mahesh Sharma  
North Scott School District Board  
Joe Stutting, North Scott School District Superintendent  
John Dowd, Eldridge City Administrator