**ILHAN OMAR** MEMBER OF CONGRESS **5TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA** 

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2305

COMMITTEE ON **EDUCATION AND LABOR** 

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AFRICA, GLOBAL HEALTH, AND GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND GLOBAL CORPORATE SOCIAL IMPACT

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$2,000,000 in funding for North Commons in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board 2117 West River Rd N, Minneapolis, MN 55411

The funding would be used to create a new and exciting recreation and arts building at North Commons Park that will serve the entire northside.

This project is a priority because it will give the North Minneapolis—an area with lower than average wealth and higher than average numbers of BIPOC residents—a facility on par with wealthier, whiter areas in the region. Minneapolis and its first ring suburbs compete with the outer suburban ring for youth activities, community gathering spaces, and high-quality sports venues. Without excellent facilities, regional and state residents have no reason to come to Minneapolis's vibrant north side, and therefore the north side never sees economic benefits associated with regional sports tournaments and other major draws. The funds flow out of the north side--never in. North side Minneapolis kids must travel long distances for tournaments and never get to host their own.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress