

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 25, 2008

Sandy K. Baruah  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development  
Economic Development Administration  
Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Baruah:

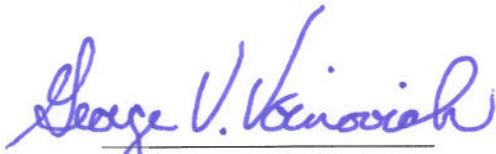
Thank you for meeting with us to discuss the economic situation in southwest Ohio resulting from the recent announcements from General Motors and DHL Express U.S. As we mentioned during our meeting, this region will require significant economic assistance to overcome the many challenges that it faces. Consequently, we are writing in support of the City of Moraine's application for an Economic Adjustment Grant to combat the economic redevelopment challenges faced by the city and region due to the substantial loss of automotive manufacturing jobs.

With General Motors announced closing of its Moraine facility, total automotive manufacturing job losses the city is projected to lose will reach 8,000 by 2010. In addition, Montgomery County's unemployment rate has been significantly higher than the national average for the last two years. These unique challenges, combined with the Moraine area's declining business base, necessitate EDA assistance to ensure successful economic redevelopment of the region.

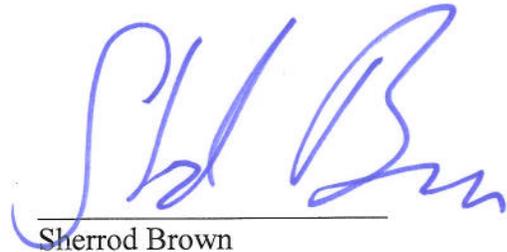
If awarded, these funds will be used to develop an economic recovery plan for the region to increase local business opportunities, build stronger business development strategies, and improve collaboration for economic stability. This economic recovery plan will be overseen by a taskforce comprised of local and regional partners committed to engaging stakeholders in business retention and redevelopment of the Moraine-area.

Please give serious consideration to the City of Moraine's application for funding. I ask that you keep my office informed about the progress of this proposal and decisions made in the award process. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Lauri Hettinger with Senator Voinovich at 202-224-7682 or Chris Slevin with Senator Brown at 202-224-2315.

Sincerely,



George V. Voinovich  
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator