

Via Electronic Mail

October XX, 2025

January 5, 2008

Title [Name of Representative or Senator]
House of Representatives [OR] U.S. Senate
Office Address
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Representative Terrence Smolanka:

As the coordinator of Pleasant Rock Community Programming, I am writing to express my strongest concern over the proposed state funding cuts for the Outdoors Activities Center (OAC). Closing the Center would have several negative consequences for the youth of the city and the city itself. It would give our youth one less place they can go to relax, learn sports, and learn about the outdoors in a safe, healthy environment.

For my coalition, the closure of the center would have other, more direct consequences as well. Currently, our School Coalition runs a series of athletic and educational programs from the center, including daily soccer, cross-country, and lacrosse programs, as well as 36 week-long educational opportunities for students of all ages. Every public school student passes through the center at least once per year, and we educate over 300 students on an annual basis. No other buildings or public spaces are nearly as well suited to meet both of these requirements, as is the OAC.

In addition, the Center hosts a variety of activities that are skill-building, artistic, or just plain fun for young people. Their ability to participate in these activities is vital to helping them acquire the self-esteem and skills needed to stay in school, build a sense of community, and prepare for meaningful work.

You have always been sensitive to the needs of our young people, and have been quick to recognize that they are the future of our community. I urge you to vote against this new proposal to cut the funding for the Outdoors Activities Center. Surely cuts can be made that will be, in the end, less costly to all of us than threatening the well-being of our children and community.

If I can help in any way to defeat this proposal, let me know. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Irma M. Stalwart
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