



Office of General Counsel
Education Center 2651 Burnet Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45219
Phone: 513-363-0114 Fax: 513-363-0055 hoyingd@cps-k12.org

March 9, 2018

SENT VIA EMAIL (ddenton@kmklaw.com)
D. Brock Denton
Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL
One East Fourth Street
Suite 1400
Cincinnati OH 45202

Re: FC Cincinnati Proposal – Follow Up

Dear Mr. Denton:

On March 7, the Board of Education requested FC Cincinnati's response to two questions related to its proposal to construct a Major League Soccer stadium in the West End. The Board was very disappointed with FC Cincinnati's response.

First, FC Cincinnati disclaims any responsibility to make Cincinnati Public Schools whole for its share of property taxes payable on a newly constructed stadium. You advised that a structured deal is contemplated that would exempt FC Cincinnati from paying property taxes. The Club proposes instead to make payments in lieu of taxes based on the current value of the West End parcels. FC Cincinnati's proposed payment of \$70,000 per year represents only a fraction of the property taxes that would be payable on a newly constructed stadium without a tax exemption or abatement.

Second, FC Cincinnati's contemplated agreement with the City is not a substitute for a Community Benefits Agreement with the community groups representing the West End. In the Board's view, a Community Benefits Agreement should be negotiated with the community leaders who live in that neighborhood.

The Board of Education was willing to consider swapping parcels with FC Cincinnati and moving its existing Stargel Stadium to a newly constructed facility across the street. Without a more satisfactory response to the two issues above, however, the Board will not proceed with considering this matter further.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel J. Hoying".

Daniel J. Hoying
General Counsel