



SALLIE ALCORN
Houston City Council Member
At-Large, Position 5

September 21, 2021

Jorge Ayala
Regional Director
Economic Development Administration
903 San Jacinto, Suite 206
Austin, TX 7801

RE: Uptown Houston District Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Grant Application

Dear Mr. Ayala,

I write in support of the Uptown Houston District's application for funding to revitalize the Gerald D. Hines Waterwall Park. Uptown has often been referred to as Houston's "second downtown," and is a primary economic driver for the Houston region. Outside of business-related travel, Uptown is a tourist destination for Houston visitors drawn to its shopping and entertainment opportunities. A key attraction for both local and non-local visitors is the Gerald D. Hines Waterwall Park, which has served as the backdrop of many proposals, photos, and memories over the past forty years.

Waterwall Park has never seen significant reinvestment and requires functionality and sustainability upgrades. Uptown Houston District plans to use funds awarded to this project to add an outdoor dining space, update lighting and signage, and expand accessibility for pedestrians, transit riders, and people with disabilities. I believe these improvements will be greatly beneficial in attracting future visitors to both the park and Uptown Houston District, increasing business in an area that was hit hard by the pandemic.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter and am available for any further questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sallie Alcorn". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sallie Alcorn