

## **BACKGROUNDER**

Supportive Statements

"I am excited that Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority and LISC are launching the home improvement program for residents living in Delray or close to the Gordie Howe International Bridge. This partnership with a well-known, reputable community organization to implement what is truly a badly needed community program will have a long-lasting impact for our residents. The people who will be neighbors to the new international crossing deserve to have a strong quality of life, and that starts with their own home. Making sure that these neighbors have a sound roof over their heads, an HVAC system in good working order to ensure comfort and air quality, and windows and insulation against sound transmission is so important. Delray and Southwest Detroit residents have advocated for community benefits for many years, and this home improvement program is yet one more solid step forward. I am grateful for the strong partnership that exists to ensure we have a bridge with strong benefits for the surrounding community."

- Senator Stephanie Chang, Michigan State Senate, 1st District

"Residents in Delray have weathered the impacts of disinvestment and pollution for decades. Yet they remained resilient and committed to their neighborhood and stayed in their homes, maintaining them to the best of their ability. Residents fought for support to complete critical home repairs so they could live in safe homes. Now, under the community benefits plan for the Gordie Howe International Bridge, Delray residents will have the opportunity to access funds to do just that -- and improve their quality of life. I am grateful for the community and WDBA and Bridging North America's co-development of this program to respond to residents' needs and ensure that the families that want to stay in Delray can live in their homes with dignity."

Council Member Raquel Castaneda-Lopez, Detroit City Council, District 6

"A Home Repair Program has been a top priority for Delray residents and our Community Benefits Coalition since we began. Roof repairs, furnaces, and air filtration are critical to health and quality of life. We are so grateful to WDBA and BNA for delivering this program that will bring relief for Delray families."

- Simone Sagovac, Project Director, Southwest Detroit Community Benefits Coalition