



**Senator Nina Turner**  
25th District

**Ohio Senate**  
Statehouse  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone 614-466-4583  
Fax 614-644-6164  
senatorturner@maild.sen.state.oh.us

July 18, 2011

Mr. Joseph Ficalora, President  
New York Community Bank  
615 Merrick Avenue  
Westbury, NY 11590

Dear Mr. Ficalora:

I am writing to lend my voice to the existing chorus in support of those asking you to re-open the Ohio Savings Bank – Larchmere Branch at 2618 North Moreland. As the State Senator representing this area, I can attest that this branch is an integral thread in the fabric of this historic and vibrant community. Its loss has dealt a heartbreaking blow to the many residents and merchants who call this area home. The intensity and tenacity of the people of this community and the passion they have displayed to maintain a full-service bank should provide you the confirmation of this community's desire for your consideration of re-opening this branch.

The Larchmere Branch and more specifically its convenient location presents unique opportunities by providing beneficial services to an underrepresented community all the while creating an encouraging environment for economic development. This branch is easily assessable to many residents – including senior citizens – who so often utilize the local transportation system; providing them the opportunity to have the services of a full-service bank near their homes or transit stops. A re-opening will help eliminate the burdensomeness of travel as well as return the approximately \$22 million in community deposits, investments and lending opportunities. With your consideration, the re-opening of the Larchmere Branch could again have a tremendous impact and carry substantial benefits to this community.

Moreover, the Ohio Savings Bank has been a fixture on the Square for many years and an indispensable facet of life for the thousands of local residents. As the second planned shopping center in the United States, Shaker Square is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a treasured destination for countless individuals and their families all over the Greater Cleveland area, including my own. It is imperative that this bank retake its place in this community.



Again, I urge you to re-open this branch in the interest of the surrounding community and its many residents. If you may have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, I would welcome the opportunity to speak with you.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nina Turner', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**NINA TURNER**  
STATE SENATOR  
25<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT

cc: Mayor Frank G. Jackson, City of Cleveland  
Mayor Earl M. Leiken, City of Shaker Heights  
Cleveland City Council  
Shaker Heights City Council  
Ms. Joyce Braverman, Director of Planning, City of Shaker Heights  
Ms. Tania Menesse, Director of Economic Development, City of Shaker Heights  
Mr. Daryl Rush, Director of Community Development, City of Cleveland  
Mr. Rose Zitiello, Esq., Manager of Bank Relations, City of Cleveland  
Mr. Chris Warren, Chief of Regional Development, City of Cleveland  
Mr. Peter Rubin, President and CEO, The Coral Company  
Ms. Jenelle Dame, Ohio Fair Lending Coalition  
Mr. Charles Bromley, Ohio Fair Lending Coalition