CITY OF KENT, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

October 16, 2026

The Honorable Brian M. Chavez
Ohio Senator, District 30
1 Capitol Square
Ground Floor 034, Senate Building
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Senator Chavez:

The City of Kent is forwarding a copy of an August 6, 2026 letter of support the City of Kent Mayor and Council sent to District 72 Ohio State Representative Heidi Workman. The letter expresses the City's strong support for enactment of House Bill 303, which will establish Ohio's first pilot programming for small-scale, community-based energy power sources.

The City of Kent currently has a 17-acre brownfield site that due to ongoing environmental concerns, has remained vacant, but could be redeveloped as a solar array to assist the City with offsetting its energy needs if House Bill 303 were to be enacted.

In your role as Chairperson of the Ohio Senate Energy Committee, the City of Kent would appreciate your consideration of the enclosed letter of support as the Energy Committee considers passage of House Bill 303 this November.

On behalf of the City of Kent, I want to thank you for your consideration of the enclosed and all the work you do for the State of Ohio.

Sincerely,

Bridget Susel
Community Development Director

Enclosure

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www.KentOhio.gov

CITY OF KENT, OHIO

August 6, 2026

The Honorable Heidi Workman
Ohio State Representative, District 72
77 South High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Representative Workman:

The City of Kent is writing to express its strong support for enacting House Bill (HB) 303 to establish Ohio's first pilot programming in support of small-scale, community-based energy power sources including solar, natural gas, and other emerging energy technologies.

Passage of HB 303 will significantly further Kent's efforts to move forward with the installation of a proposed solar array on a 17-acre brownfield site. Under current Ohio regulations and available programming options, the proposed project is not financially viable if residents and commercial entities in the area cannot sign up as users at the new energy facility. The primary objective of HB 303 is to develop community-based energy facilities. The inclusion of a provision in the proposed bill that encourages such projects be developed on brownfield sites further supports Kent's plan to redevelop a local brownfield property and provide those in the community with a new local and sustainable energy source option.

As Ohio works to address rising electricity demand and increasing pressure on energy prices, it is imperative that Ohio's policymakers approve legislation that supports innovative programming to expand power source options throughout Ohio. HB 303 will create real opportunities for communities to develop small-scale local energy facilities that will result in greater consumer choice, encourage the redevelopment of more brownfield sites, and promote economic development by enabling improved energy grid reliability and speed which are necessary for attracting new businesses and keeping Ohio competitive in an ever-evolving economy.

Thank you for all you do for the City of Kent and your consideration of HB 303. Your support of this critical legislation will continue the great work you do for District 72.

Sincerely,

Jack Amrhein
Honorable Mayor

On behalf of the Members of Kent City Council

Melissa Celko	Eric Dreger	Robin Turner	Chris Hook	Heidi Schaffer Bish	Jeff Clapper	Benjamin Tipton	Tracy Wallach	Sarah Wesley
Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Ward 6	At Large	At Large	At Large