

Houston City Council Member At-Large, Position 5

April 11, 2023

USEPA Headquarters William Jefferson Clinton Building 1200 Pensylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Burney and Mr. Burrell,

I write to support of SEWA Internationals' application for the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement Program. I support this grant's efforts to fund projects to advance environmental equality in underserved communities and believe SEWA's project is a great candidate.

The goal of this program is to bring together stakeholders and resources to advance the federal government's efforts to address environmental and energy justice as well as health outcome disparities while assisting vulnerable communities. SEWA's project proposal will fit the purpose of engaging, educating, and empowering the community to understand the local environment, public health issues, and identify ways to address these issues at the local level.

SEWA has found a great partner with the Alief Super Neighborhood Council, a group that has been actively planting trees along esplanades for 20 years. During my tenure in city council, I have spent many Saturday mornings joining volunteers in this effort. The Alief Super Neighborhood Council has confirmed support for this project with a Memorandum of Understanding, a step forward in the group's long range goal to promote and implement linear forests it the Alief community.

If awarded, I plan to work with SEWA in supporting community engagement efforts by promoting the program and events though my social media platforms and providing feedback and guidance on the program and its progress.

Warm regards,

Sallie Olm

Sallie Alcorn