

Federal Housing Finance Agency 400 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20024

October 13, 2022

RE: FHLBank System at 100: Focusing on the Future

Fairfield Federal Savings and Loan Association is a federally-chartered, mutual thrift located in Lancaster, Ohio with assets of \$288M. We were founded in 1895 as a traditional thrift and have continued that same mission and business model in our community for over 127 years. We offer savings and primarily home loans to residents of Fairfield County, Ohio and counties contiguous to Fairfield.

The Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati has been a great resource to help us better serve our community. Because we do not sell our home loans into the secondary market, the FHLB's mortgage matched advances have helped us to offset some of the interest rate risk inherent in the fixed-rate home loan products. The overnight advances have been a good resource for liquidity management and the FHLB has provided our safekeeping services for decades.

In addition to providing solid, reliable financial services, the FHLB has also impacted our local community through its many programs. We have helped to assist many local residents make homeownership possible through the Welcome Home down-payment grants. The FHLB has provided several significant investments in Lancaster and Fairfield County through its AHP. Fairfield Federal has enjoyed a competitive return on the stock investment required for membership and I have personally enjoyed the many opportunities for financial seminars and education provided by the FHLB.

Its regional structure has enabled the FHLB of Cincinnati to focus on needs specific to Fairfield Federal and our local community. The FHLB staff is familiar to us and always accessible which facilitates and enhances our relationship with them and makes doing business easy.

In conclusion, the FHLB has provided and continues to provide critical financial services in an efficient manner allowing us to focus on meeting the needs of our local community. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Mary K. Smder

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Mary K. Snider President & CEO

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