



C/O Lakewood Outdoor Basketball Committee  
1098 Forest Cliff  
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

January 3, 2011

Attn: Michael P. Summers  
12650 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Dear Mayor Summers,

On behalf of the Lakewood Outdoor Basketball Committee (LOBC), we would like to extend our congratulations on your recent appointment as Mayor of Lakewood.

As you know, LOBC has been working hard to expand the variety of free outdoor recreational opportunities offered to the youth of Lakewood. We feel strongly that through the return of outdoor basketball hoops, we will encourage physical fitness, recreational spontaneity, and help reduce youth dependency on technology.

In September of 2010, after nearly a five year hiatus, outdoor basketball hoops returned to Lakewood. Located on the underused tennis courts at Kaufmann Park, the neighborhood kids were the first to discover the new hoops. The two side-by-side hoops were positively received by teenage athletes. LOBC staffed the court during its peak hours. This ensured adherence to the court's rules. One of our goals was to empower the teenage athletes to positively police these courts. As the weeks passed, we observed the youth as they took ownership and pride in the new court. This resulted in respect for the property, rules, and players.

It is our belief as the popularity of these two hoops continues to grow, so will the number of participants. This past fall, as the days shortened and the weather cooled, we continued to see 20 to 30 young adolescents meet up for games of pick-up basketball at the newly installed hoops.

LOBC graciously requests the support of the City of Lakewood, The Lakewood City Council, Neighborhood Police Officers, and the Office of the Mayor to assist our expansion efforts as we seek to add two more outdoor basketball court locations within the City of Lakewood over the course of the next sixth months.

With the absence of a recreation center in the City of Lakewood, LOBC will also continue lobbying the Lakewood City School District and Lakewood's faith based church community to offer free open gym time.

We look forward to meeting with you in the very near future to plot our course of direction to help make Lakewood a healthy and attractive city for both new and current residents.

Best Regards,

Lakewood Outdoor Basketball Committee