Dear Ward 14 residents,

It’s 2023, and I’m into my second year of my second term as your councilwoman. It’s been an eventful year, with the city, our residents and neighborhoods coming out of the pandemic.

The holiday season that just passed is always my favorite part of the year and I am proud of so many organizations for stepping up to provide happy holidays to so many residents. Their leadership is kind and thoughtful and meets residents with what they need. The combination of church leaders, and residents who care create a beautiful tapestry for our community.

Over these last two years the Ward 14 Council office has watched as others have taken a leadership role on some of the community events that my Council Office used to handle, specifically: Christmas toy giveaways and voting awareness Caravana. While I’ve missed the joy that comes with toy giveaways, there have been amazing organizations step up to improve the holiday season for residents in-need. Scranton Road Ministries, Julia De Burgos, Second District Community Relations Committee, the Pivot Center for the Arts, the Salvation Army, and the Community Relations Board Hispanic Liaisons. I want to thank all of you for your help and local leadership.

This New Year means new goals, and my office continues to advocate strenuously to make Clark-Fulton a place where residents can age in place.

This New Year means new goals, and my office continues to advocate strenuously to make Clark-Fulton a place where residents can age in place. This community has seen huge gains in housing value but also huge growth in the cost of local rent. So I continue to urge residents to save up and buy a house. A monthly mortgage of $1,000 buys a lot more house than a house or apartment that rents for $1,000 a month. The Spanish American Committee, helps all local Cleveland’s residents, Hispanic or not. Private management companies will continue to buy up available housing, so act fast, work on your credit score, and save money for those down payments because buying a house is the best way to stay in this community!

Clark-Fulton is growing in value and has seen many new investments and developments. While I will continue to work for improvements in all my neighborhoods, I am focusing more attention this year on the Stockyards neighborhood. The Ward 14 Council Office is working to fund a new park in the area as well as target commercial storefronts for improvements. (I hope to enlist the other two council members who also represent portions of the Stockyards, to make a bigger impact.)

There are too many busted windows

Continued on page 2

Kias and Hyundais Stolen at Record Numbers

There has been a massive surge of thefts across the country that has also struck Cleveland and Cuyahoga County in recent months.

The number of insured Kias and Hyundais stolen in Cuyahoga County jumped more than 233% from October to December, when 656 cars were stolen in the county, according to the county prosecutor’s office. Cleveland alone saw 459 thefts of Kias and Hyundais stolen in Cuyahoga County in recent months.

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The thefts took off after a viral TikTok challenge showed an easy way to these steal cars. This primarily applies to Hyundais made between 2016-2021 and Kias made between 2011-2021, which do not have push-button starts and use a traditional turn-key ignition. In most cases, the thieves do significant damage to the steering columns of the cars. Hyundais have previously said in previous statements that key anti-theft measures have been standard in all of its models since 2022. Kia said it plans to roll out a software update to address the issues later this year. Owners of these cars are being advised to use devices such as “the Club” and other similar anti-theft devices.

Councilwoman Jasmin Santana’s Legislative Highlights

As chair of the Workforce, Education and Training & Youth Development Committee, some important legislation has come through and passed that I want to make residents aware of:

- Resident Jobs: Supporting an effort for city residents who want and are available for work to be matched with agencies, including Seeds of Literacy and Ohio Means Jobs Cleveland-Cuyahoga County, to help prepare and find appropriate work.

- Family Supports at School: Supported an effort to ensure that the family support specialists at Cleveland Metropolitan School District buildings through the Say Yes program is funded.

- Comebacker Campaign: Cleveland is now helping to Support the Ohio College Comeback that Cuyahoga County, the Ohio Department of Higher Education, and the Higher Education Compact of Cleveland are already working together to address the financial barriers that residents who have some college but have dropped out, to return to finish their degree. Comebackers typically face issues related to student-debt that have caused them to leave.

- Violence Prevention Plan (still being debated at Committee): adding additional funding to enhance a violence prevention plan that already has received $2 million grant from the US Department of Justice.

Kias and Hyundais Made Between 2016-2021, Hyundais Made Between 2016-2021

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Glick Center Dedication and Community Day

A dedication ceremony was held on October 8 for the MetroHealth Glick Center – an innovative hospital on the forefront of health care located in the Clark-Fulton neighborhood. Afterward, the hospital hosted a community festival in the adjacent park, which is now just 3 acres.

The Glick Center, which opened in November, is 12 acres, making it the first hospital in a park in the United States.

On January 3, the Cleveland Department of Community Relations held a drive-thru giveaway at Buhrer School to celebrate Reyes Magos (Three Kings Day). Hundreds of families received gifts. Councilwoman Santana commends all those involved in acknowledging this Hispanic community tradition with a great cause.

New Community Learning Center Opens at CPL Fulton Branch

On October 14, 2022, Councilwoman Santana joined leaders from the Cleveland Public Library, Verizon, and JumpStart for the opening of the second Verizon Community Learning Center, located in CPL’s Fulton Branch, 3345 Fulton Road. The Verizon Community Learning Centers are being opened in four cities across America, with the two centers here in Cleveland being the first to open nationally. The launch here provides Cleveland with the opportunity to demonstrate what learning could look like nationwide, primarily in the areas of STEM education, professional development, small business growth and development, and digital literacy.

Message Continued

and abandoned looking properties, in all our neighborhoods, and we need to help responsible owners. I pledge to hold the property owners’ responsible. Abandoned and crumbling buildings affects residents mental health.

I am asking for help reporting these blighted properties. If you live near a home or business that is falling apart please report it to our office at 216-664-4238, the City of Cleveland Health Department Website, or report it to the Housing Team at Metro West CDC 216-961-9073.

The City Health Department investigates garbage and trash complaints and other unsanitary conditions, as well as stagnant water (a big concern in the summer when mosquitoes can breed in it). Residents can also call 3-1-1. The city plans to beef up the breed in it. Residents can also call 3-1-1. The city plans to beef up the

Improving a community takes so much dedication and I am grateful for all of the people and organizations that show up with me!

Best,

Jasmin Santana
Councilwoman, Ward 14
Chair – Workforce, Education, Training & Youth Development
Majority Whip – City Council Leadership
The 2023 budget hearings for the City of Cleveland began February 14th.

Every year in February and March, Cleveland City Council must thoroughly review and deliberate the Mayor’s budget before it is accepted and implemented, as well as the federal Community Development Block Grant Program funding, which supports community development activities.

The budget determines everything about the city, from how much road salt is bought to how many employees are on staff to pick up garbage. Each department comes before the council to discuss how many employees are budgeted for 2023, the cost, as well as the programs and services they will be providing with the funding. Council can amend the budget, including adding or reducing funding for certain departments or programs.

You can review the 2023 Mayor’s Estimate budget at clevelandohio.gov.

Budget hearings will be broadcast via YouTube (youtube.com/user/ClevelandCityCouncil), TV20 (Spectrum Cable - Cleveland Channel ’1020), and livestreamed on tv20cleveland.com/watch-now.

Please note, due to President’s Day holiday, there will be no hearing on February 20th.

To find listings of upcoming council and committee meetings visit: clevelandcitycouncil.org/resources/events