**Media Release**

**05-08-2023 Contact: Karen Walters, Executive Director**

 **Peninsula Foundation**

**karen@peninsulahistory.org**

 **330-760-0403**

**Peninsula Foundation Issues RFP for Development Partners**

The Peninsula Foundation is seeking proposals from potential partners for development of seven of its properties located in the heart of the Village of Peninsula. Four of the seven properties are located in the center of the Village’s “downtown” commercial district, and three are located at the intersection of Riverview Rd. and Route 303.

Each of the offered properties presents unique development challenges and opportunities, and respondents to the RFP may present proposals for one or more of the seven properties offered. The Foundation is seeking partners whose development proposals respect the unique historic character of the Village, contribute to the Foundation’s and Village’s financial stability, and provide needed quality commercial services to Peninsula, Boston Township and their visitors.

Proposals for a property may take one of several forms, ranging from a simple landlord/tenant relationship, to sale of a property to a party for an agreed-upon price and contingent development plan. Options in-between, including an equity partner relationship, tenant build-out with a long-term lease, or other partnership arrangements will be considered. These proposals should respond to the Foundation’s need to leverage partner funding for capital expenses in buildings requiring rehabilitation or in new site development.

The Peninsula Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve the heritage, maintain the character and promote the vitality of Peninsula, Boston Township, and the Cuyahoga Valley by engaging the community through arts and educational programming and historic preservation. The Foundation owns over 20 properties in the Village of Peninsula, including commercial, residential, and two iconic historic properties which the Foundation has recently rehabilitated, the GAR Hall and Bronson Church. The seven offered properties are currently either vacant or hold promise for more productive use.

The Village of Peninsula, in addition to being a charming and unspoiled residential community, is home to three special assets which bring hundreds of thousands of annual visitors to Peninsula and help define the unique character of the community: 1) The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, with its tremendously active Peninsula Station in the heart of the Village, 2) Cuyahoga Valley National Park, with the hugely popular Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath traversing the heart of the Village, and 3) The Cuyahoga River, which is fast-developing as a mecca for kayakers and canoeists. Coupled with two very popular restaurants, bike rental shops, a national park gift shop, other small commercial establishments, and highly regarded GAR Hall concerts, Peninsula and Boston Township have become magnets for tourism.

Deadline for submission of responses to the RFP is June 30, 2023. Tours of offered properties will be on May 22nd and June 5th or by special appointment. The RFP may be obtained through Karen Walters, Executive Director, Peninsula Foundation; go to **karen@peninsulahistory.org**