



## In Pursuit of Justice, Equality and Understanding

August 11, 2009

Ms. Lee Ann Fisher, Librarian  
Decatur Public Library  
130 N. Water St.  
Decatur, Illinois 62523

Dear Ms. Fisher:

I am writing to ask you and the Decatur Public Library Board to consider a request that would allow Dove and the Decatur Public Library to cooperate on a project that has great benefit for Decatur & Macon County.

In 1984 Dove began a partnership with Skeffington Distributing Company (Skeff) and Decatur Public Schools (District 61) designed to promote recycling of aluminum cans.

The project encouraged the community to recycle, provided Anheuser Busch the recycled cans for their production, and provided funds for a not-for-profit organization.

The site at 101 W. Cerro Gordo across the street from the Kiel building owned by District 61 provided a location for can collection. American Recycling Company (ARC) and Skeff provide the scales and can crusher to crush the cans and shoot them into a semi-trailer. When the trailer is full, ARC sends an empty trailer and takes the full one to St. Louis to be processed. Dove provides the labor by using Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) volunteers and customers are paid so much per pound for the processed cans. That money has been used to provide funding for the RSVP program (more than 500 active individuals, volunteering at more than 90 area not for profit agencies), to match the federal and state funds received to provide services to persons 55 and older. Skeff provided the money up-front to purchase the cans from the community and after the full trailer was delivered to St. Louis, reimbursed Dove their portion.

A conservative estimate is that more than 2.5 million pounds of cans have been recycled and that has provided more than \$500,000 in funds to support the work of RSVP.

District 61 has asked that the recycling operation be re-located to provide more parking for district activities. Skeff is willing to continue supporting the project as they have in the past.

We need a site in the downtown area, zoned M-1 with a conditional permit or M-2. It needs to be visible to the community. It needs to accommodate a production area of at least 100feet by 100 feet and will accommodate a tractor-trailer being able to remove a full trailer and replace it

Dove, Inc. • 788 E. Clay • Decatur, IL 62521 • 217.428.6616

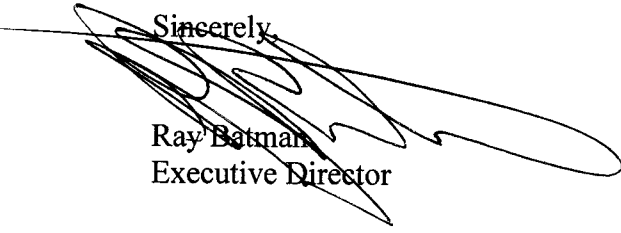
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with an empty one. The site would need access to electricity to run the can crusher and a 20 x 20 storage building with water and bathroom facilities to accommodate the volunteer workers.

Dove, working with Blank, Wesselink, Cook & Associates, has developed a preliminary site plan that would use the east end of the Decatur Public Library parking lot at the corner of Prairie St. and Martin Luther King.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this proposal and look forward to providing any other needed information that might be requested.

Sincerely,



Ray Batman  
Executive Director