

St. Augustine Campus for Boys • (716) 836-5188
Hastings Ave. near Bailey & Kensington

St. Monica Campus for Girls (716) 852-6854 Wright Ave. off East Delavan near Eggert

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org cc: comments@dfs.ny.gov

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

April 7, 2021

Subject: M&T Bank merger with People's United

Dear Mr. Hurwitz:

Since September 2004, the NativityMiguel Middle School of Buffalo has been providing our students with the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty through education. We are an intentionally small, faith-based middle school in the center of one of the poorest cities in the United States. We transform the lives of underserved students in a secure, nurturing environment on single-gender campuses: the St. Monica Campus for girls and the St. Augustine Campus for boys. Working in partnership with our students' families, we deliver a uniquely effective education that includes an extended school day and school year, dedicated and caring teachers, personal mentoring, and continuing support through high school graduation.

To have the greatest impact, we target low-income students who come from inner-city neighborhoods, are performing below grade-level in school, and are willing to embrace an extended school day and year to work toward the goal of high school and college graduation. We ask each family to contribute to the cost of their child's education through tuition payments, which because of their financial situations, covers only about 5% of our operating costs each year. Despite disadvantaged backgrounds, a majority of our graduates earn entry into the region's best private high schools. They go on to regional and national colleges and universities, with growing number earning advanced degrees.

To promote equitable access to opportunities that best meet the individual needs of our students, we rely on the generosity of the community as donors and volunteers. M&T Bank and its employees have been among our strongest and most consistent supporters for over 14 years. I have been employed at NativityMiguel since 2005 and am personally familiar with the many ways in which M&T Bank has made a difference to our students and the school. We estimate that over the years, approximately 200 M&T

employees from various departments have contributed at least 5,000 hours of volunteer service. This includes:

- Back-to-School cleaning of both our school buildings from top to bottom each August through
  the United Way Day of Caring. We would not be able to have our buildings as clean and fresh
  for the new school year without their help.
- A group of women who originally volunteered for the Day of Caring started a Saturday Series for our St. Monica students.
- A very dedicated group of tutors work with our 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Spring and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Fall to prepare them to take the Catholic Schools High School exams. Because of their efforts, 100% of the students take the exam; this leads to significant financial aid that allows the students to continue onto a college preparatory high school.
- M&T employees stated the NativityMiguel Junior Board, a networking and leadership board that introduces young professionals to our mission.
- Through a Student Recruitment Committee, M&T employees helped us take a project management approach to our admissions process.
- In addition to sponsorship of our yearly Scholars Awards Banquet, M&T employees have taken key leadership roles in the smooth functioning of our largest fundraiser of the year.
- The M&T Charitable Fund also supports our extended day program.
- M&T employees hold significant leadership roles on our Board of Trustees and have helped us bring a focused business-like approach to board as well as to school proceedings and procedures.

In addition to the significant contributions of M&T volunteers, we are also grateful for the assistance that has been provided by our Business Relationship Managers. Our accounts are held at the Kensington Branch located in one of the toughest neighborhoods in Buffalo. With the help of the branch manager and business relationship managers, we have able to make short term investments through M&T Securities, open a credit card account and apply for two PPP loans. While seemingly small matters in the overall scheme of things, the professional assistance we have received has helped us to stabilize our finances and increase our financial sustainability.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support the merger with People's United. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at (716) 836-5188 or nlanger@nativitymiguelbuffalo.org.

Sincerely,

Nancy M. Langer

nancy Langer

President

cc: Katie O'Connor, WNY Regional CRA Officer koconnor1@mtb.com

#### SPECTRUM YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President **Bank Applications Function** Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417 Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

April 9, 2021

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To whom it may concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

Spectrum Youth & Family Services is based in Burlington and recently celebrated our 50th anniversary. Our mission is to provide housing and support to homeless and at-risk youth.

For more than 178 years, People's United has focused on the fundamental principles of providing expertise to its customers, partnering with communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. Our organization has been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support and/or investment.

People's United Bank has been a tremendous support to Spectrum for many years. We are regular recipients of charitable donations from the bank. Many of its employees have volunteered as mentors to our youth. And there is always a team of employees from People's who participate in the annual Spectrum Sleep Out, sleeping outside one night in March in solidarity with homeless youth, a fundraiser that only two weeks ago raised over \$400,000 for us.

People's United plays an extremely valuable role in this community. It has helped Spectrum in so many ways and I know other nonprofit leaders feel the same way.

M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. I believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and an exciting opportunity for our communities.

Feel free to contact me at <a href="mailto:mredmond@spectrumvt.org">mredmond@spectrumvt.org</a>; 802-343-5605; or by mail at 31 Elmwood Avenue, Burlington, VT, 05401.

Sincerely,

Mark Redmond



April 8, 2021

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

sent via email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Re: M&T Bank Merger with People's United

Dear Mr. Hurwitz:

Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society offers its support for the merger of M&T Bank with People's United. SJCS has partnered with M&T Bank over the past nearly ten years. M&T Bank has supported our community through mortgages and other banking services for our Black and Latino community of the City of Camden, New Jersey. In addition, M&T Bank has invested in our community through volunteer hours and board service, community events, neighborhood investments, and grants to our organization to support our counseling program, operating needs, and quick COVID pivots.

Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society is a community-based non-profit organization dedicated to neighborhood revitalization, affordable housing development, and family wealth creation. SJCS is located in Camden, NJ, a marginalized municipality that is struggling to support the lives of its Black and Latino community members. We have created over 1,000 homes, both homeownership and rental, for our low-income families and are dedicated to creating a neighborhood of opportunity. SJCS is a HUD certified counseling agency and works hard to assist our families to invest in themselves while also investing in Camden through homeownership.

M&T Bank has played a substantial role in this mission offering excellent mortgage products to assist our families in pursuing the purchase of a home affordable to them. In addition to assisting us with low interest rates, achievable credit scores, and downpayment assistance, M&T Bank has ensured that their loan officers are bi-lingual and easily accessible for our clients. The combination of good products and diverse staff has led to M&T Bank being a leader in the South Jersey market for us.



M&T Bank has invested in Camden's revitalization through the NJ Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit program, offering capital for neighborhood improvements including housing, infrastructure, park beautification, commercial façade improvements, and a small repair program. M&T Bank has also supported our work through a Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program application for the small repair program offering grants to existing low- and moderate-income homeowners to undertake health and safety repairs to remain in their houses and protect their largest investment, their homes.

I support M&T Bank's merger with People United. M&T Bank's programs have improved our local communities and it is an asset to bring this commitment to community building, racial equity and inclusion, and diversity of staff and products to other constituencies.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>phogan@sjcscamden.org</u> or 856-966-8117 if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Pilar Hogan Closkey, PE, PP, AICP

Har Hogen Clookery

**Executive Director** 

cc: Office of the General Counsel

New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

via email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

## The Richman Group Affordable Housing Corporation

777 West Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830(P) 203-869-0900

Office of the General Counsel

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

Services

New York State Department of Financial

One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

April 9, 2021

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To whom it may concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

The Richman Group is the nation's premier sponsor of affordable housing tax credit funds. On behalf of our institutional investor clients, Richman has invested almost \$13 billion to acquire over 1,600 units of affordable housing properties throughout the U.S. and its territories.

For more than 178 years, People's United Bank has focused on the fundamental principles of providing expertise to its customers, partnering with communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. As a result of People's United Bank's community support and investment in Richman's funds, many low-income individuals have been able to obtain safe, secure affordable housing.

People's United Bank has been a consistent investor in Richman's affordable housing tax credit funds. People's United Bank, along with other investors in our funds have provided the equity necessary to create over 4,00 affordable units in 31 properties. Our relationship spans over many years and People's United Bank has always demonstrated support for the communities in which they serve.

We fully support the M&T merger with People's United Bank.

M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. I believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and the opportunity for the communities they serve.

If I can provide any additional information regarding our working relationship with People's Unite, please do not hesitate to contact me.

President

cc: Timothy B. Hodges, First Vice President, Government Relations and Community Development Peoples United Bank

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President **Bank Applications Function** Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

New York State Department of Financial Services

One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

Office of the General Counsel

4/15/2021

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To whom it may concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

My name is Nicole McLaughlin, and I am the Executive Director of Plummer Youth Promise. Founded in 1855, Plummer serves young people, youth who are in or at risk of entering the foster care or juvenile justice systems. Our vision is that every young person has a family unconditionally committed to nurture, protect, and guide them to successful adulthood. Our mission is to set a standard of excellence that improves outcomes for young people in or at risk of entering state care by deeply engaging youth, families, and the systems that impact them to develop permanent family relationships, skills, and community connections. The Plummer Promise is to ensure every youth has access to "permanency" someone unconditionally committed to nurture, protect, and guide them to successful adulthood.

For more than 178 years, People's United has focused on the fundamental principles of providing expertise to its customers, partnering with communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. Our organization has been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support and/or investment.

the course of nine years, the People's United Community Foundation of Massachusetts has donated more than \$65,000 to Plummer in the effort to help youth, regardless of their age or circumstance, find their forever family. PUCF has also given significantly to our OnPoint program, which is operated in collaboration with the Salem Police Community Impact Unit and Essex County Juvenile Probation. The primary goal of the program is to keep youth from entering juvenile detention or foster care.

We feel incredibly fortunate to have PUCF as our partner. They have proven to be loyal, committed, and understanding of our mission and supportive of the challenges we face. Most recently, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, PUCF gave an unrestricted gift in order to help us respond to crises and spend flexibly to meet the needs of our youth.

We are proud to support M&T's merge with People's United Bank.

M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. I believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and

charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and an exciting opportunity for our communities.

Please do not hesitate to reach out by email (<a href="mailto:nmclaughlin@plummeryouthpromise.org">nmclaughlin@plummeryouthpromise.org</a>) or phone 978-744-1099, x 114.

Sincerely,

Nicole McLaughlin Executive Director

Necare McLaughin



## Community Development Corporation

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

April 15, 2021

Subject: M&T Bank merger with People's United

To Whom It May Concern:

NCS Community Development Corporation is a not-for-profit organization that aims to foster safe, decent, and affordable home ownership conditions in the City of Rochester. Our organization encourages home-ownership by assisting first-time homebuyers with the purchase of their first home via counseling and grants, and current homeowner-occupants with major repairs through grants and subsidies. These grants and subsidies are what helps us provide safe, healthy and affordable housing for all members of our community. I have been with this organization for over 24 years where I over-saw the grants and subsidies; my current role is Executive Director.

Our current contract with M & T has allowed our organization to make substantial repairs via AHP subsidies to the homes of eleven families; these repairs have helped these families safely stay in their homes as well as reduce their energy use thus resulting in lower utility bills. M & T has also assisted over 30 of our first-time home-buyers with grants available for closing cost and down payment assistance; without this assistance many families would not have been able to purchase their homes.

We are glad to say that we strongly support the merger of M & T Bank and People's United; we believe this merge will serve to further enhance, strengthen and make our communities a better place to live.

If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at your convenience, I can be reached at 585.254.8090 ext. 6.

Sincerely,

Linda Longalez
Linda Gonzalez
Executive Director



Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President
Bank Applications Function
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
33 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10045-0001
Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

April 15, 2021

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To whom it may concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

For more than 178 years, People's United has focused on the fundamental principles of providing expertise to its customers, partnering with communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. Our organization has been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support.

People's United Bank has supported our organization, the Boys & Girls Club of Burlington, since it acquired the Chittenden Bank in 2008. In all of my 13 years at the Boys & Girls Club, one of my greatest pleasures has been working with the people from People's United Bank. The Bank has been the title sponsor of our largest fundraising event, an event that helps to support our summer camp and celebrates the educational achievement of our young people. For the past four years, the Bank has also provided a generous scholarship that has been an essential part of helping our Club members to access higher education. Bank leadership has also played leadership roles, as volunteers, at our organization. They are some of the most smart, compassionate and community minded people I've had the pleasure of knowing. Also, their volunteerism is at all levels of employment. I've had the pleasure of working side by side with them as a volunteer myself at the Vermont City Marathon, they've played critical roles in our event committees and have consistently come to the Club to cook a holiday dinner for 200 Club members. I find them inspiring and t's been an enormous pleasure of being able to work with them.

M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. I believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and an exciting opportunity for our communities.

Please feel free to connect with me if you would like further insight or if you have any questions. My email address is <a href="mailto:tbenosky@bandgclub.org">tbenosky@bandgclub.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Tanya I. Benosky

Executive Director, Boys & Girls Club of Burlington, Inc.



21 Custom House Street Boston, MA 02110 Tel: (617) 850-1000 Fax: (617) 850-1100

Guilliaem Aertsen Chairman

Joseph L. Flatley President and CEO

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President
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Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street New York, NY 10004-1417

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

April 16, 2021

SUBJECT: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of M&T Bank's proposed merger with People's United Bank, based on our experience working with People's United Bank.

Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation (MHIC) is a thirty-year-old non-profit community development financial institution (CDFI) that has raised over \$3 billion, primarily from financial institutions, to invest in affordable housing and community development serving lower-income families and communities. With that capital MHIC has been able to finance over 23,000 units of affordable housing and six million square feet of commercial and community space. MHIC has a particular focus on providing financing that would not otherwise be available, providing capital to the most challenging projects and communities.

Over the last few decades, we have witnessed People's United's focus on building partnerships to meet the needs of the communities in its market. MHIC is proud to have partnered with People's United Bank on many important initiatives made possible by investments made by People's United. Through these partnerships, People's United Bank has invested altogether \$74,921,023 with MHIC in support of those initiatives. This includes \$70.8 million invested in housing supported by Low Income Housing Tax Credits and \$2.8 million in New Markets Tax Credit projects. In addition, People's United invested in our innovative Healthy Neighborhoods Equity Fund. These investments required flexibility and creativity on the part of People's United based on their understanding of important community needs. In addition to their financial investments, the People's United colleagues have donated their time and subject matter expertise through their active participation on our Investment Committee.

As an example of that commitment, People's United made a \$6,358,553 million investment to support a non-profit sponsor preserve 101 affordable residential units, 11 market rate units, and 15,725 feet of commercial space leased to mission-based organizations at Billings Forge Apartments in Hartford, CT. The development also included an enhanced focus on health outcomes with a community garden and year-round farmer's market, improving resident and the community's access to healthy food.

We are supportive of the M&T merger with People's United based on their commitment to strengthening their ability to invest in partnerships, such as the one with MHIC, designed to serve lower-income households and community. We have confidence in this commitment based on both banks' history of support for and investment in its communities.

If you would like any additional information, please feel free to contact me (email: flatley@mhic.com).

President & CEO



Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President
Bank Applications Function
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
33 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10045-0001
comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services

One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

April 15, 2021

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To whom it may concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

The Cardinal Shehan Center is a youth center which serves children K-12 grades in Bridgeport, CT. In fact, we are located several city blocks from the headquarters of People's United Bank. Our mission is enriching lives through learning. We serve over 4,000 children annually through a robust After School & Saturday Program, Tutoring Program, Summer Day Camp, Job Training Program, Aquatics Program and Basketball Programs, that aid in developing the lives of young people to become productive citizens in their communities. I have worked at the Center for 16 years with the last three years serving as the Center's Executive Director. I also serve as the Executive Director for the McGivney Community Center also located in Bridgeport.

For more than 178 years, People's United has focused on the fundamental principles of providing expertise to its customers, partnering with communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. Our organization has been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support and/or investment.

The partnership that we have with People's United Bank is invaluable. We have been partners with the Bank for over 55 years. The Bank has provided volunteers to assist us in numerous projects with our job training program (interviewing role playing, resume writing and financial literacy sessions) for high school students. Employees volunteer with our Haunted House build project- which helped to transform our lower level, where over 1,000 children and their families tour to ensure a safe and fun experience during Halloween (pre-Covid). They've assisted with beautification projects; and employees helped designed our logo saving us thousandths of dollars. The Bank consistently provides board expertise by selecting an employee designee to serve on our Board of Directors. The Bank has provided annual philanthropic charitable funding to fund our youth development Leadership Program for 6-8<sup>th</sup> grades students for several years with measurable impact. People's United Bank provides for our banking needs. Our checking

accounts, savings accounts, and line of credits for both the Cardinal Shehan Center and the McGivney Community Center reside with People's United Bank.

The Community loves People's United Bank and their friendly and knowledgeable employees. There is a rich legacy with People's United Bank. Personally, my family including my two daughters who are in their mid-20's and out of college, have had their People's United Bank accounts since they were babies. They have been enticed by other banks to move their funds and they prefer the wonderful service they get from People's United Bank. The Bank's role in the community is invaluable from providing the various important financial products and services to playing a vital role in helping non-profits. The Bank's philanthropic arm, People's United Community Foundation has created impact and transformation change in the region the Bank services.

While I do support the merger, I do hope that M& T Bank is philanthropic as People's United Bank.

M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. I do believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and an exciting opportunity for our communities.

I can be reached at lgibbons@shehancenter.org should you need to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Gibbons Executive Director Cardinal Shehan Center 1494 Main Street

Bridgeport, CT 06604

## Caetano, Ruth

From: NY Banksup Applications Comments Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 6:09 PM

To: Whidbee, Robin; Caetano, Ruth; Brannon, Lisa; Hosein, Nadira

**Subject:** FW: Support of People's and M&T Merger **Attachments:** Support Letter -People's United.docx

From: Bernadine Venditto

Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 6:07:17 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

To: NY Banksup Applications Comments

**Subject:** [External] Support of People's and M&T Merger

NONCONFIDENTIAL // EXTERNAL

#### PLEASE NOTE: This email is not from a Federal Reserve address.

Do not click on suspicious links. Do not give out personal or bank information to unknown senders.

Dear Mr. Hurwitz,

Attached is a letter in support of People's and M&T merger.

Sincerely,

#### Bernadine Venditto | President

### **Junior Achievement of Greater Fairfield County**

835 Main Street | Bridgeport, CT 06604 203.382.0180, x13; bvenditto@jagfc.org

203.243.8936 - cell

Website | Our Purpose | Annual Report 2019-2020









Junior Achievement | *Inspiring Tomorrows*™

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President **Bank Applications Function** Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

[Date]

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To whom it may concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

Office of the General Counsel

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

Services

New York State Department of Financial

One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

[Please include some background information on your organization, role within the organization, organizational purpose/mission, etc.]

For more than 178 years, People's United has focused on the fundamental principles of providing expertise to its customers, partnering with communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. Our organization has been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support and/or investment.

[Please highlight the relationship including length of partnership with People's United Bank as well as the types of projects the Bank has supported and/or nature of support: AHP, Loan, Volunteer, Charitable, Investment, other Banking needs, etc.]

[Please comment on your experience working with the Bank; how the Bank's support has helped your organization; and the Bank's role in the community.]

[Please indicate support for the M&T merger with People's United]

M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. I believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and an exciting opportunity for our communities.

[Please include contact information for any follow-up.]

Sincerely,

[Your Name and Signature]



JOSEPH A. MACARI MANAGING MEMBER

April 15, 2021

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President
Bank Applications Function
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
33 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10045-0001
Email:

Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To Whom It May Concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our firm's experience with People's United Bank.

Founded in 1998, Hudson Housing Capital ("Hudson") is a financial services company committed to promoting and fostering the development of attractive affordable housing apartments nationwide through the placement of equity capital in low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) developments. We work with both developers of affordable housing as well as the investors that provide equity capital for these investments, including People's United Bank.

Since inception, Hudson has placed over \$6.5 billion of equity in over 600 affordable housing properties with total development costs of \$13.7 billion. We have sponsored investments in properties designed primarily for families and seniors, but we have also sponsored numerous properties that provide housing for homeless individuals and veterans, and many that also provide supportive services for residents.

Hudson has collaborated with People's United Bank over the past several years and we have partnered together on two separate transactions. The first collaboration involved a \$26.8 million total investment in a 122-unit, fourteen-story new construction apartment building to provide housing for senior citizens in the Bronx, NY. This property, Clark

Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank April 15, 2021 Page 2

Place, was developed in by Volunteers of America, one of the nation's largest non-profit developers of affordable housing.

Hudson partnered with People's United Bank on a second transaction, a \$15.8 million total investment in a 94-unit, five-story new construction apartment building to provide housing for senior citizens in Wyandanch, NY. This property, Wyandanch Rising, is currently being developed by Albanese Development Corp. ("Albanese") and Selfhelp Realty Group ("Selfhelp"). Albanese is a prominent full-service real estate development firm based in Long Island, and Selfhelp is a non-profit (founded in 1936) dedicated to providing services and housing to seniors throughout New York City and Long Island.

People's United Bank's investment in these transactions with Hudson – as well as its many other investments with others – demonstrates its commitment to affordable housing and senior citizens in the communities where the bank operates.

We believe M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. I believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and an exciting opportunity for our communities.

Sincerely,



Est. 1988

President Luis Vazquez LIHCC

Secretary Pilar Delgado

Treasurer John Osorno Bethpage Federal Credit Union

Legal Counsel Frank Valverde Rivkin Radler LLP

#### **Board Members**

Elizabeth Custodio People's United Bank

Xiomara Leto TD Bank April 15, 2021

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President
Bank Applications Functions
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
33 Liberty Street
New York, New York 10045-0001
Email: Comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Dear Mr. Hurwitz,

In the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank. I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

The Long Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit 501(c)(6) organization that serves both Nassau and Suffolk counties, promoting Hispanic owned business/entrepreneurs and young professionals. We exist to elevate the Hispanic community on Long Island by educating our members (Hispanic natives along with non-Hispanics) through our various seminars, workshops, and providing them networking opportunities.

Through the years, People's United Bank has been a faithful and a constant community partner. We have had the opportunity to have Elizabeth Custodio volunteer to serve on our board for many years. Her support and organization principles have aligned with the mission of our organization and her leadership has been an asset for our chamber. We have been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support which has enabled us to promote educational programs to improve the financial well-being of our community members.

We are happy to endorse the merger and your well-established commitment to our community which has left a legacy for volunteerism and charitable giving.

Sincerely,

Luis A. Vazquez

Luis A. Vazquez, President

Long Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce



Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

April 15, 2021

Subject: M&T Bank - People's United Bank Merger

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the proposed merger of M&T Bank with People's United Bank. My organization, Coastal Enterprises Inc. (CEI), has collaborated with People's United Bank for many years and we have experienced firsthand the Bank's commitment to community development in Maine and New England.

CEI is a community development financial institution headquartered in Brunswick, Maine. Our mission is to grow good jobs, environmentally sustainable enterprises, and more broadly shared prosperity in Maine by integrating financing, business and industry expertise, and policy solutions. We work closely with the small businesses we finance and advise to address operational, workforce, and environmental challenges, while deepening our impact in key industries, such as farming, aquaculture, and food manufacturing, that can contribute to building a more inclusive and environmentally sustainable economy. We also provide financial counseling and training for individuals and families, recognizing that building assets and managing debt, as well as a good job, are key ingredients for family financial security.

CEI is a nonprofit organization that works primarily statewide in Maine. Over the past 25 years we have also established several subsidiaries that provide New Markets Tax Credit, venture capital, community solar and Opportunity Zone financing regionally and nationally.

The CEI family of enterprises has been fortunate to have received support in the form of grants and investments from People's United Bank and we are grateful for the strong relationship we have developed with our People's United colleagues, who have been valuable sources of advice and guidance. The following are several examples:

 People's United Bank has invested a total of \$2.325 million in our five subsidiary-owned venture capital funds. The Bank's investment has contributed towards CVI's investments in growthoriented companies that have created and retained 4,600 jobs (2,700 net new jobs) in rural



towns and small gateway cities in Maine and other New England states. The majority of these jobs were filled by people with low and moderate incomes.

- Art Casavant, People's United Bank's First Vice President, Community Development and CRA
  Officer has served on the CEI Ventures, Inc. Investment Advisory Board for many years. Both CEI
  and CEI Ventures' executive teams regularly reach out to Art for advice and guidance on CRA
  regulatory matters and value his deep expertise on the banking sector, regional community
  development banking trends and the experience of other People's United Bank CDFI partners.
- People's United Bank has provided regular small grant support for CEI's housing counselling and financial capability programs. These programs have helped many people with low incomes purchase homes, avoid foreclosure and/or remediate their credit scores over that period, enabling them to preserve or build wealth.
- Finally, CEI is a longtime member of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition. We are
  pleased that M&T Bank and People's United Bank personnel are engaging with NCRC as they
  articulate a community benefits plan as part of their merger process. We look forward to
  participating in that planning process.

We believe that the merger of M&T and People's United has the strong potential to strengthen the banks' ability to serve their customers and our communities. With the development of an ambitious community benefits agreement, the combined resources of the two organizations should provide long term value to Maine, our organization, and the communities the banks serve.

I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have about CEI's collaborations with People's United Bank and can be reached at Betsy.Biemann@ceimaine.org.

Sincerely,

Betsy Biemann

CEO, Coastal Enterprises Inc.



Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

April 13, 2021

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To whom it may concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, we would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

Evernorth is a non-profit organization that specializes in the syndication and development of affordable housing and community development. Evernorth works primarily in the three northern New England states of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. In 2020, Housing Vermont and Northern New England Housing Investment Fund merged to form Evernorth. The separate organizations have been operating in northern New England since the mid-1990's and we have been able to source over \$1B in equity to create over 13,000 units of affordable housing.

For more than 178 years, People's United has focused on the fundamental principles of providing expertise to its customers, partnering with communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. Our organization has been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support and/or investment.

We consider People's United Bank to be one of our strongest, long-standing investment partners. Over time they have invested slightly over \$157M with Evernorth, this equates to roughly 5,000 units of much needed affordable housing. More than the investment dollars, it is the Bank's willingness to consistently invest with us that is so important to the creation and preservation of affordable housing. We operate in a relatively shallow investor market where affordable housing projects can struggle to find tax credit equity; People's United Bank has consistently been responsive to this need by partnering with us. People's United Bank actively participates in affordable housing initiatives in other ways such as sponsoring FHLB AHP applications and working with local CDFI organizations that provide debt at very reasonable terms to properties that need a flexible debt product. As an organization we have also benefitted from having Bank personnel serve on our Board of directors.

Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. We believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and an exciting opportunity for our communities. We support the merger of M&T and People's United Bank. In particular, we see the merger as a way People's United Bank can continue, if not increase, its positive impact on the low-income people and communities in northern New England through continued investment in affordable housing.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further our relationship with People's United Bank and Evernorth's support of the merger, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

William E. Shanahan

Co-President



April 15, 2021

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001 Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street New York, NY 10004-1417

Subject: M&T Bank merger with People's United

Dear Mr. Hurwitz and Office of the General Counsel:

The Urban League of Rochester is pleased to provide this letter of support for M&T Bank in its current attempt to acquire People's United Financial of Bridgeport, Connecticut. M&T Bank has partnered with the Urban League of Rochester for more than twenty years to support a variety of Urban League program supports and services.

The mission of the Urban League is to enable African-Americans, Latinos, the poor and other disadvantaged to secure economic self-reliance, parity and power, and civil rights. Throughout our 56-year history, we have focused on working with the hardest-to-reach urban poor and collaborating with the public, nonprofit, and private sectors to provide innovative and culturally enriched programs.

M&T Bank actively collaborates with the Urban League of Rochester. Over the years, M&T has provided board leadership, support for Black Scholars programs, and most recently supported our first ever Interrupt Racism Summit with a team of M&T employees in attendance. As CEO of the League, I am proud to serve as a member of M&T Bank's Director Advisory Council.

M&T Bank continues to demonstrate its dedication and passion to serve the needs of the Rochester community. I highly recommend M&T Bank to acquire People's United Financial of Bridgeport, Connecticut. I applaud M&T for its passion and commitment to its community and I strongly support this acquisition, as I believe it will be a win-win for the greater communities served.

If there is any additional information that I may provide as to M&T Bank's qualifications and merits, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at <a href="mailto:shawkins@ulr.org">shawkins@ulr.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Dr. Seanelle Hawkins President & CEO Urban League of Rochester shawkins@ulr.org

585 325-6530 ext. 3003

## Empowering Communities. Changing Lives.

265 North Clinton Avenue Rochester, N.Y. 14605-1857

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President & Chief Executive Officer DR. SEANELLE HAWKINS

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## THE UPSTATE MINORITY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE

OUR MISSION: HARNESSING THE ECONOMIC POWER OF THE MINORITY COMMUNITY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE REGION.

April 15, 2021

Me'Shae Brooks-Rolling

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Pathfinder Bank

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Vice-President

Regional Director, NYS Upstate Workers' Compensation

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Executive Director
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**Hasan Stephens** 

Founder & Executive Director Good Life Philanthropic Youth Foundation Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street

New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Office of the General Counsel
New York State Department of Financial Services
One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417
Email: comments@dfs.nv.gov

Subject: M&T Bank merger with People's United

To Whom It May Concern:

The Upstate Minority Economic Alliance is pleased to support M&T Bank's merger-acquisition with People's United. M&T Bank is a valuable Supporter-Sponsor of UMEA's initiatives.

Founded in 2015, UMEA is the only Minority Chamber of commerce in the 16 county upstate New York region. Our mission is harnessing the economic power of the minority community for the benefit of the Upstate and Central New York region. Our vision is to create greater regional prosperity through enhanced minority economic opportunity.

Should you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Me'Shae Brooks-Rolling, Executive Director, at (315) 314-8074 or execdirector@upstatemea.com.

Sincerely,

A)

Me'Shae Rolling Executive Director

115 WEST FAYETTE STREET | SYRACUSE, NY 13202 | 315.470.1975 WWW.UPSTATEMEA.COM | INFO@UPSTATEMEA.COM

Alex Castro President/CEO 400 East Avenue Rochester, NY 14607 Ph: 585.340.3377

Fax: 585.340.3335 acastro@pathstone.org Connecting You to Opportunities

PathStone

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April 15, 2021

Ivan J. Hurwitz, *Vice President*Bank Applications Function
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
33 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10045-0001
Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417 Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

## RE: M&T Bank Merger with People's United

To Whom It May Concern:

PathStone Corporation is a visionary, diverse organization empowering individuals, families, and communities to attain economic and social resources for building better lives. Our service area spans Indiana, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Vermont, and Virginia. Those services range from community development, education and health, housing services, and to workforce development. Our mission is to build family and individual self-sufficiency by strengthening farmworker, rural, and urban communities. PathStone promotes social justice through programs and advocacy.

Our New York (Upstate & Downstate) Housing Counseling offices have had a partnership with M&T Bank for more than 20 years. Our partnership includes program support, event sponsorships, M&T volunteers at events and workshops, partner with the First Home Club, American Dream and AHP programs. M&T has also supported PathStone affiliate programs over the years including The Housing Council at PathStone and Wilson Commencement Park.

M&T Bank has played a very important role in the communities we serve by understanding the needs and aligning with our mission. The partnership has been a very rewarding experience and without M&T's financial support and programs we would not have been able to expand many services or serve as many clients to reach their goal of asset building and self-sufficiency.

We absolutely support the M&T Bank merger with People's United. Please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Alex Castro

President and CEO

PathStone





April 15, 2021

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To whom it may concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

I am President of Red Stone Equity Partners LLC ("Red Stone Equity"), a leading real estate investment management firm specializing in the syndication of federal and state tax credits to facilitate the development of affordable rental housing and renewable energy projects. The 75-person firm was founded 2007 and has sponsored more than 80 investment funds, with these funds having raised and invested more than \$6,500,000,000 of equity capital to finance the construction and/or rehabilitation of more than 50,000 units of high-quality affordable rental housing across 500+ properties located in 44 different states.

For 178 years, People's United has focused on the fundamental principles of providing expertise to its customers, partnering with communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. Our organization has been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support and investment.

As President of Red Stone Equity, I have worked directly with People's United on two separate Low Income Housing Tax Credit ("LIHTC") investments totaling \$10,000,000. The first of these investments was a \$5,000,000 investment in a 2017-vintage Red Stone Equity-sponsored LIHTC fund; the second of these investments was a \$5,000,000 investment in a 2019-vintage Red Stone Equity-sponsored LIHTC fund. Both of the aforementioned investments were key to our fundraising process and—without them—we would not have been able to finance several much-needed affordable housing development projects in the State of Connecticut.

M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. I believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and an exciting opportunity for our communities.

I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of People's United Bank and its proposed merger with M&T Bank. If you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (212) 225-8300 or <a href="mailto:ryan.sfreddo@rsequity.com">ryan.sfreddo@rsequity.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Ryan P. Sfreddo President





Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

April 15, 2021

Subject: M&T Bank merger with People's United

Dear Mr. Hurwitz:

My name is Gina Beam and I have been the executive director of Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity (NAHFH) for the past three years. NAHFH is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International with the mission to bring people together to build home, communities and hope. Our vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. NAHFH began building new homes and completing home-rehab projects in Niagara County, New York in 1993. Today, we are focusing our build sites in Niagara Falls, New York, and we will be breaking ground on our 30<sup>th</sup> new home in May 2021.

During my tenure with Niagara Area Habitat, it has been my pleasure to work with M&T Bank in several ways. Habitat relies heavily on volunteers to build homes in order to keep the costs of construction as low as possible. We are very thankful to have had countless M&T Bank employees volunteer on our home construction sites. Through this work, M&T Bank employees have asked how they could further help Niagara Area Habitat in Niagara County. To that end, we now have an M&T Bank employee on our Board of Directors as well as several employees serving on vital committees such as our Fund Development and Special Events Committee and our Family Services Committee. These committees and the work they do are an integral part of NAHFH fulfilling its mission in our community.

NAHFH has also been fortunate to receive a grant from M&T Bank which provided funding to pay for the cost to build and maintain a website which has made Niagara Area Habitat more accessible to our community. In addition, NAHFH works with M&T Bank to provide our Habitat Partner Families with affordable mortgages.

In my experience, M&T Bank has been a strong ally and advocate for Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity and positive community development and change in Niagara Falls, New York. From my perspective, M&T Bank has made the betterment of communities an essential priority and has empowered their

employees to help in their own neighborhoods to find proactive solutions to affordable homeownership and thoughtful community development.

Once again, I highly support M&T Bank's merger with People's United.

If you would like to speak to me in person, or have any additional questions, please feel free to reach me at: 716.265.9010, extension 1, or by email at: gbeam@niagarahabitat.org.

Sincerely,

Gina L. Beam

**Executive Director** 





Federal Reserve Bank of New York Attention: Bank Applications Officer 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

April 12, 2021

Subject: M&T Bank merger with People's United

To whom it may concern:

The YMCA of York and York County is pleased to present this letter of support for M&T in support of the merger with People's United. The YMCA and M&T, and its predecessors, goes back nearly a century in its relationship. The York association was founded in 1855 and has continued to serve the community for the YMCA cause and mission over the past 166 years.

Beyond our historical operational support for basic banking services, M&T has always been and continues to be a key stakeholder and supporter of the YMCA mission in meeting community needs. M&T has sponsored AHP for the organization, provide loans to our community development work, manage numerous beneficiary trusts on behalf of the YMCA and has traditionally placed a senior management representative on our board of directors. They are integral to our work and cause.

The YMCA of York and York County is in support for the merger with People's United.

If you should need any additional information, my email is <u>lrichardson@yorkcoymca.org</u> and my office direct line is 717-812-0119 ext. 301.

Larry M. Richardson

President/CEO

YMCA of York County

90 N. Newberry Street . York, Pennsylvania 17401

Phone: 717/812-0119 fax: 717/845-7286





333 Sherman Ave. New Haven, CT 06511

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001 Email: <a href="mailto:comments.applications@ny.frb.org">comments.applications@ny.frb.org</a>
Office of the General Counsel
New York State Department of Financial Services
One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417
Email: <a href="mailto:comments@dfs.ny.gov">comments@dfs.ny.gov</a>

April 16, 2021

Subject: Support of M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

To Whom It May Concern:

In support of the efforts of M&T Bank in its proposed merger with People's United Bank, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on our organization's experience with People's United Bank.

Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven (NHS) has worked closely with People's United Bank (and its predecessor banks, People's Bank and National Savings Bank) for more than 40 years. As a community-based organization working in New Haven's most challenging underserved neighborhoods, we have partnered with People's United Bank on a number of affordable homeownership development projects, including a number of successful Affordable Housing Projects (AHPs) with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston. In the 1990s, when New Haven's low-income communities of color were plagued by disinvestment and abandonment, People's United Bank helped us to acquire foreclosed houses so that we could redevelop them for homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income first-time homebuyers. In addition, representatives from People's United Bank have served on our organization's board of directors with distinction for many years.

For more than 178 years, People's United has focused on the fundamental principles of providing expertise to its customers, partnering with communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. Our organization has been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support and/or investment.

During times when NHS has faced challenges working in a difficult economic environment, members of the People's United Bank team have worked with us to devise creative solutions to the problems we have faced so that we could be successful in our affordable housing endeavors. It is our belief that the merger of M&T Bank with People's United Bank will add depth to our local banking environment and will provide us with a more robust partner in all of our affordable homeownership initiatives. Access to the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York



Phone: 203.562.0598 Fax: 203.772.2876 www.NHSofNewHaven.org On social media @NHSofNewHaven

is just one example of this. The knowledge that we will still be working with the same people on our projects is both comforting and reassuring.

M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. I believe that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to its communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to our organization and an exciting opportunity for our communities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

James A. Paley. Ph.D. Executive Director





## CENTRE COUNTY YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU

325 W. Aaron Drive, State College, Pennsylvania 16803 814-237-5731 / Fax 814-237-2228 / www.ccysb.com

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

April 15, 2021

Subject: M&T Bank merger with People's United

Dear Mr. Hurwitz:

I am writing to you from the Centre County Youth Service Bureau (YSB), a not-for-profit social service organization that has been serving kids and families in Central PA since 1968. The purpose of our agency is to help ensure that children, youth, and families have every opportunity to reach their full potential through their participation in a continuum of community-based, family-based, and residential services. I joined YSB as an employee in 2003 and assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer in 2019. Throughout my 17 years of service, I have seen this mission come to life, through the support of community partners like M&T Bank.

Over the years, YSB has had the privilege of working closely with M&T bank as both a customer and as a recipient of M&T's charitable giving. As a customer, we have our main checking account as well as several household accounts (for our residential/group home services) at M&T, we have had several mortgages through M&T, as well as a line of credit. Additionally, we applied for and received a Paycheck Protection Program loan through M&T, which has since been forgiven. As a recipient of M&T's charitable giving, we have been extremely fortunate. Our current donor database goes back to 1997, and shows M&T contributing to various fundraising events, meeting specific programming funding requests through their Charitable Foundation, and generously participating in the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program. The total amount of donations received from 1997 to the present exceeds \$265,000. In addition, M&T employees have volunteered with our agency, and served on our board of directors.







## CENTRE COUNTY YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU

325 W. Aaron Drive, State College, Pennsylvania 16803 814-237-5731 / Fax 814-237-2228 / www.ccysb.com

We are extremely grateful for the services and consistent financial support that we have received from M&T Bank and M&T Charitable Foundation over the years. M&T has proven to be a dedicated partner in the community, helping us to meet our development goal of raising nearly \$600,000 annually to meet the needs of local kids and families. Whether it is through our Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring program, our afterschool youth centers where kids can find a safe supervised environment and a hot meal in the evenings, or our teen shelter and independent living program, our community partners are a critical component in making sure that all kids are safe, and able to grow and thrive.

I would like to offer my support for the merger of M&T Bank with People's United. If I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me at our main office by calling 814-237-5731, or via email at cbishop@ccysb.com.

Sincerely,

Christine M. Bishop

Youth Service Bureau







# CITY OF BUFFALO OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

### Byron W. Brown Mayor

April 7, 2021

Mr. Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001 Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

Ms. Linda Lacewell, Superintendent New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417 Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

Re: Merger Application by M&T Bank with People's United Bank

Dear Vice President Hurwitz and Superintendent Lacewell:

I am writing to express my support for the merger between M&T Bank and People's United Bank. Buffalo is New York State's second largest city and home to a community banking sector that employs a significant segment of our population. Over the four terms that I have been Mayor, M&T Bank has played a critical role in the redevelopment of our City's downtown and the expansion of affordable housing opportunities. Their approach to community banking has made financial services not only more accessible to Black residents, as well as to other members of communities of color, but has also generated a greater awareness for why those types of services are important and needed by residents who lack financial literacy and can therefore be easily exploited. That commitment to equitable prosperity and opportunity generation has made them a true partner in Buffalo's resurgence and I am confident that this approach will continue.

While there have been a variety of initiatives that M&T has spearheaded with my Administration, two particular projects stand out. Their investment in the development of a techhub that will become the anchor tenant in our business district's newly renovated tallest building, Seneca One, will bring over 1,000 jobs to Buffalo's downtown at a critical moment in our economic revitalization. This will not only create a critical mass of people that will spur additional development but also help stabilize our commercial real estate market and generate greater interest in downtown investment in this next phase of our post-pandemic economic recovery.

The second initiative is their investment of \$1 million for the creation of a revolving loan fund that will help low-income landlords undertake necessary repairs to their rental units which will

help improve the safety and quality of homes they can provide to their tenants. Many of the landlords this program will assist are renting to low-income families and want to provide quality housing for their tenants at an affordable price. The landlords' lack of access to capital is often the only obstacle between their desire to offer quality housing to their tenants and their ability to do so. This CRA investment by M&T, in partnership with other financial institutions and non-profit partners, will finally help provide these landlords with the critical capital they need at an affordable rate. In addition to improving the health outcomes for thousands of residents, this effort will also expand my Administration's ability to achieve its affordable housing and neighborhood stabilization goals.

I am confident that the merger with People's United will help M&T expand their already significant commitment to Buffalo and its residents. I have been assured that the community-driven approach—that has been central to both entities' core values—will not only continue but also expand as a result of this merger and I am looking forward to furthering the City's engagement with M&T in the coming years.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments and if you require additional information or wish to follow-up with my office for any reason, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely, Storon

Byron W. Brown

Mayor



April 13, 2021

Federal Reserve Bank of New York Attention: Bank Applications Officer 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045

Re: M&T Bank merger with People's United

Dear Sir or Madam,

This letter is to indicate Ifetayo Cultural Arts Academy's support for M&T Bank's acquisition/merger with People's United Bank. We are certain that the merger will enable M&T to sustain and increase its valuable contributions to the low-moderate income communities in their expanded service footprint. Certainly, we also expect additional resources will flow to NYC's low and moderate and communities of color as result of the approved acquisition.

M&T Bank has been a longtime and deeply trusted partner of Ifetayo Cultural Arts Academy ("Ifetayo"). Ifetayo is a trailblazing institution led by and created for people of African descent in historically underserved Brooklyn communities where access to opportunity, education, arts and culture, and a social safety net are limited at best. With a track record that spans over thirty years, Ifetayo's mission is to empower youth and families of African descent to achieve high levels of educational, professional and artistic excellence. We envision a world where every child of African descent is valued and thrives. Toward this end, ICAA offers African-centered multi-disciplinary arts instruction, cultural education, and wrap-around support for the whole family.

M&T Bank, and their community development staff have been wholistically involved with Ifetayo for over twenty-two years. The relationship spans thought partnership, board service, grant support, volunteerism, marketing dollars and a line of credit to Ifetayo. Equally as important as extending the line of credit, was their flexibility when we struggled to meet some of our payment obligations. M&T staff assisted us with renegotiating the terms of the line of credit. This was invaluable to the organization at a very challenging time.

I want to also highlight M&T Bank's approach to grant making in the New York City metro area as one that should be replicated more widely. They have provided both meaningful amount of funds but also very flexible grants-something a community-based community arts & culture organization, serving the Pan-African community in some of Brooklyn's lowest income communities is in need of. M&T and its community development unit are not only one our most generous and enduring contributors, but they are committed to improving the lives of the community we serve. M&T deserves sizable credit that such extraordinary and talented people represent them as agents of positive change in our community.

Again, we wholeheartedly support M&T Bank's acquisition of Peoples United Bank. Communities all over New England will be benefit from their responsive, strategic and community sensitive CRA programming.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information.

Stay Well,

Cc: Steven Flax, Administrative VP; Jonathan Vazcones, Vice President



## Community Development Corporation

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President Bank Applications Function Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045-0001Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org Office of the General Counsel New York State Department of Financial Services One State Street, New York, NY 10004-1417

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

April 15, 2021

Subject: M&T Bank merger with People's United

To Whom It May Concern:

NCS Community Development Corporation is a not-for-profit organization that aims to foster safe, decent, and affordable home ownership conditions in the City of Rochester. Our organization encourages home-ownership by assisting first-time homebuyers with the purchase of their first home via counseling and grants, and current homeowner-occupants with major repairs through grants and subsidies. These grants and subsidies are what helps us provide safe, healthy and affordable housing for all members of our community. I have been with this organization for over 24 years where I over-saw the grants and subsidies; my current role is Executive Director.

Our current contract with M & T has allowed our organization to make substantial repairs via AHP subsidies to the homes of eleven families; these repairs have helped these families safely stay in their homes as well as reduce their energy use thus resulting in lower utility bills. M & T has also assisted over 30 of our first-time home-buyers with grants available for closing cost and down payment assistance; without this assistance many families would not have been able to purchase their homes.

We are glad to say that we strongly support the merger of M & T Bank and People's United; we believe this merge will serve to further enhance, strengthen and make our communities a better place to live.

If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at your convenience, I can be reached at 585.254.8090 ext. 6.

Sincerely,

Linda Longalez
Linda Gonzalez
Executive Director

Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President
Bank Applications Function
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
33 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10045-0001

Email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org

April 15, 2021

Subject: M&T Bank merger with People's United Bank

Dear Friends:

I am writing as a personal customer of People's United Bank and the longtime former director and CFO of John Graham Housing and Services (JGHS) where I served until earlier this month, helping to provide homeless Vermonters with shelter, housing and services. I would like to take this opportunity to comment on my experience with People's United Bank as they pursue a proposed merger with M&T Bank.

Office of the General Counsel

Email: comments@dfs.ny.gov

Services

New York State Department of Financial

One State Street, New York, NY 10004-

For many generations People's United has focused on the fundamental principles of partnering with Vermont communities, and valuing the contributions of its employees. JGHS has been fortunate to be a recipient of the bank's community support in the form of annual grants for at least a dozen years. JGHS also has an account at People's United and I and other JGHS employees have Health Savings Accounts at the Vergennes branch.

With the help of People's Untied Foundation, JGHS has been able to serve hundreds of homeless families each year, many of them families with children. These annual grants are crucial to efforts to provide service-supported housing to homeless families with children and individuals. They also help us to leverage other funds to fulfill the mission

For example, each year with the Foundation's help John Graham provided shelter, housing and/or services to more than 300 people at our five houses and scattered sites with the Foundation's assistance. People also receive support and services like help with housing applications or food from the food shelf, assistance in getting signed up for health care and other benefits, and support in applying for jobs and education. Nearly all of those served go on to attain permanent affordable housing, and many also receive employment. Best of all, because help from the Foundation is recurring, JGHS is able to follow up with "aftercare" so that people do not fall back into homelessness.

Together with JGHS Board Members, I always enjoyed attending the annual celebration of the Foundations local awards where we got to speak directly with the wonderful People's leadership and staff. It gave us a chance to let everyone know about our work and to celebrate a common vision with bank personnel and other community partners. I am especially grateful to Kathy

Schirling who always took a personal interest in John Graham's work and in the families experiencing homelessness who benefitted.

As a fifth generation Vermonter and customer, it is my hope that M&T and People's United Bank's common legacies and complementary footprints will continue and strengthen their ability to serve their customers and our communities. It is my hope and expectation that combining two organizations with a well-established commitment to the communities, including strong support for volunteerism and charitable giving, will provide long term value to customers like me and the many nonprofit organizations that make Vermont a special community.

Please feel free to contact me at 802-989-2581 or at Elizabeth.shelter@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Ready