

The Columbus Dispatch

Opinion

Letter: Tax would preserve our quality of life

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Clearly, Michael Gonidakis is shilling for the big, out-of-town promoters in his opposition to the proposed ticket user fee to support arts, cultural and sports venues in Columbus (“Smaller venues, cheaper events exempt from latest ticket-tax,” Sept. 17 Dispatch.com). These out-of-town businesses are opposed because they don’t want to be part of the Columbus way of working together — to ensure our arts institutions and cultural and sports offerings are on solid footing.

The Greater Columbus Arts Council’s bold proposal is what makes Columbus unique in the country and why companies of all sizes are looking to grow or move here from other locations. The user fee on arts, cultural and sports events is a reasonable and realistic way to protect our quality of life in Columbus and continue to attract visitors and great creative talent.

We can’t let big out-of-town businesses get rich off of Columbus residents and take their money and go home. They need to step up and be part of our community year-round.

Jim Sweeney, Columbus