Information Item

Date:	September 11, 2023
To:	Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council
From:	Patrice Toney, Assistant City Manager Shantell McClam, Neighborhood Services Director

Subject: Update on Motel/Hotel Conversion Project with Private Developer and Step Up America for Permanent Supportive Housing

Strategic Focus Area: Livable Neighborhoods
Strategic Objective: No
Strategic Plan Action Item: No
Key Work Item: Yes

The City Council approved a three-year commitment on October 10,2022 in the amount of $2,258,234 in HOME-ARP funds to cover the costs for supportive services for the development of 80-100 permanent supportive housing units with a private developer and the project Step Up America. These units will be prioritized to chronically disabled people experiencing homelessness. Step Up America will act as the service provider for the site, providing the supportive case management services in combination with housing that are intended to make permanent supportive housing a cost-effective way to help vulnerable households live more stable and productive lives. The case managers will work with the tenants daily to build independent living, develop tenancy skills, and connect people with community-based health care, treatment, and other needed community services. Step Up America provides case coordination, service linkage, socialization classes, therapy, training on activities of daily living (cooking, cleaning, shopping, budgeting classes) as well as referrals to health, mental health, substance abuse and other community services.

Currently the Step Up America team has located a building, The Innkeeper, located at 2115 Peters Creek Parkway. This motel will be converted to 83 single bedroom units of permanent supportive housing. City of Winston-Salem staff has been working closely with the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem staff to ensure vouchers are in place for the payment of the units once residency begins. The project is expected to be ready for residency in the next 9-12 months.