

## Information Item

**Date:** August 11, 2020

**To:** Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

**From:** Tasha Logan Ford, Assistant City Manager  
Marla Y. Newman, Community Development Director

**Subject:**

Update Regarding Status of Activities Relating to the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation (CNI) Grant Award

**Strategic Focus Area:** Livable Neighborhoods

**Strategic Objective:** Improve Character and Condition of Neighborhoods

**Strategic Plan Action Item:** No

**Key Work Item:** No



On April 23, 2020 HAWS and the City were notified of its award of a CNI grant. The \$30 million grant will leverage funds from other sources, including city bonds, community development block grants and private equity to create more than \$100 million in new housing development for the Cleveland Avenue Homes community. The grant allows HAWS to replace the 244 existing apartments in Cleveland Avenue Homes with 406 new units, including 199 units of replacement public housing, 86 units of workforce housing, and 122 units of market-rate housing. Though the new development will have 45 fewer public housing units, Housing Choice Vouchers will be provided for those residents to use anywhere.

The Housing Authority of Winston-Salem will oversee construction of the new housing, as well as education, training and similar programs. The City will be responsible for neighborhood revitalization efforts, including business development and public safety, and will contribute \$3M in CDBG and a portion of bond proceeds as approved by Council in August 2019 to support the redevelopment. To date, the following activities have occurred:

1. HUD grant agreement has been signed and submitted;
2. Phase 1 RFQ for architectural services issued 7/13/20;
3. A Senior Project Manager responsible for resident engagement has been hired and starts work on 8/17/20;
4. Outreach to residents began on 6/1 and 6/8/20, and the first resident meeting (virtual) to initiate collaboration, planning and goal-setting was held on 7/30/20;
5. Community transformation website—to keep residents, stakeholders and other partners informed and engaged—has been transferred to the City to manage content and maintain; current web address is [www.clevelandavetransformation.com](http://www.clevelandavetransformation.com);
6. HUD virtual site visits to review implementation plan components—housing, people and neighborhood—held on 7/22, 7/29, and 8/5, with final virtual visit set for 8/12/20;
7. HUD environmental review initiated to prepare the former Brown Elementary School site for the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of housing development; and
8. Formation of community steering committee—including Cleveland Avenue Homes residents—supporting the Housing, People and Neighborhood outcomes, is underway.