

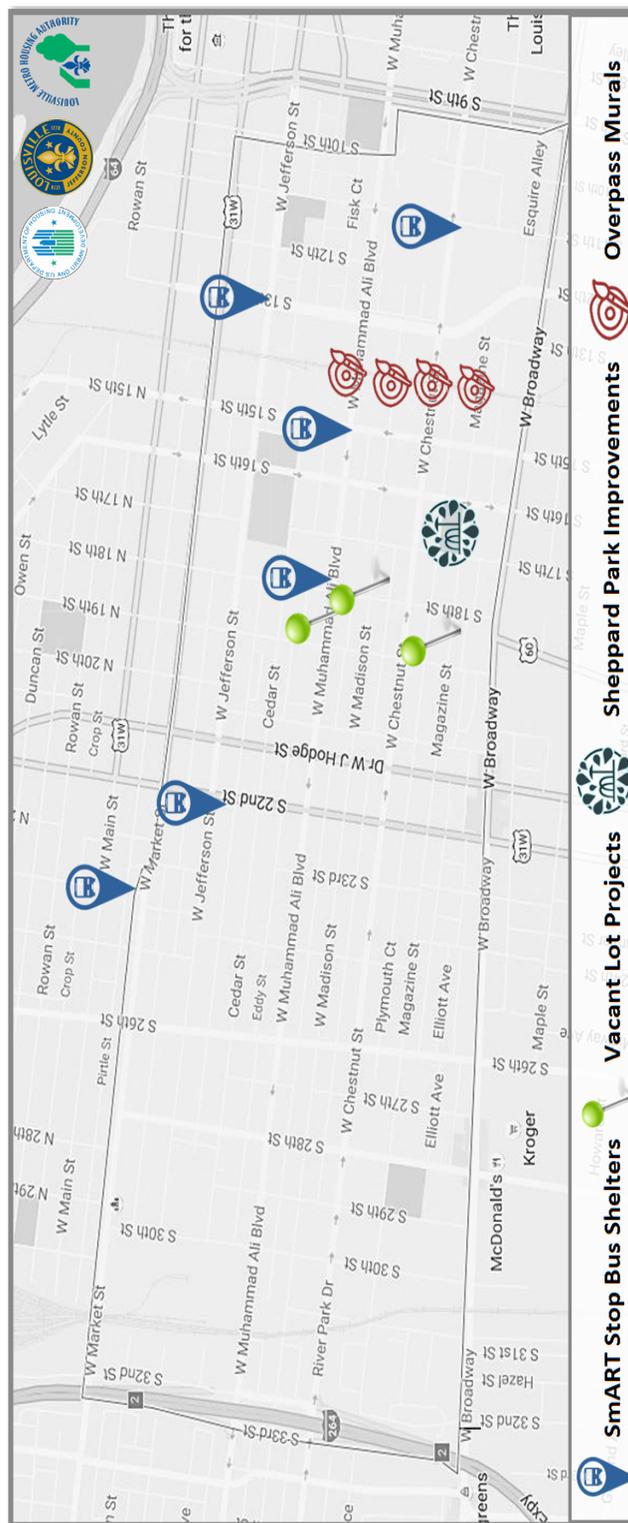
Choice Neighborhoods Overview

Russell is undergoing a dramatic transformation thanks to the Choice Neighborhood grants from the department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Choice Neighborhoods program supports locally driven strategies to address struggling neighborhoods with distressed public or HUD-assisted housing through a comprehensive approach to neighborhood transformation. Local leaders, residents, and stakeholders, such as public housing authorities, cities, schools, police, business owners, nonprofits, and private developers, come together to create and implement a plan that transforms distressed HUD housing and addresses the challenges in the surrounding neighborhood.

Choice Neighborhoods is focused on three core goals:

- 1. Housing:** Replace distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing;
- 2. People:** Improve educational outcomes and intergenerational mobility for youth with services and supports delivered directly to youth and their families; and;
- 3. Neighborhood:** Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets.

[To Learn More!](#)



Russell
Choice Neighborhood Initiative

A
ROADMAP
FOR THE
FUTURE

Implementation Grant Summary



Following a two-year planning process, Louisville was awarded a \$29.575M Choice Neighborhoods Implementation grant on Dec. 12, 2016. These funds will be leveraged with more than \$200M in private and public funding to fully implement the Vision Russell Transformation Plan, a comprehensive plan for the Russell neighborhood. Over 600 team members and partner organizations are now involved in the ongoing planning and implementation of these Vision Russell transformation efforts.

The Implementation Grant will largely fund new housing units that will be constructed on the Beecher Terrace public housing development, including 620 mixed-income rental and 20 homeownership units. Additional housing will be created off-site in Russell and other neighborhoods of choice, providing one-for-one replacement of all current Beecher Terrace units. The new Beecher Terrace community will be sustainable, walkable and feature first floor office and retail space along several of the buildings on Ninth Street and Muhammad Ali Boulevard- a bid to reignite Russell's rich history of commerce and the old Walnut Street district. Construction is expected to be completed by September, 2023.

Action Grant Summary

On July 1, 2016 The Louisville Metro Housing Authority received a \$1,000,000 Action Grant from HUD to implement "Action Activities" in Russell. Louisville Metro Government also contributed an additional \$375,000 towards these projects that are designed to spur further investment and set the stage for larger developments to come in Russell, such as the revitalization of Beecher Terrace. Action Activities are community inspired and highly visible displays of neighborhood pride.

Action Activities must:

- Be physical improvements.
- Support the Vision Russell Transformation Plan.
- Spur additional economic development and investment in the neighborhood.
- Receive final approval from HUD.

The four Action Activity projects were selected through a Call for Action and a polling process that was exclusively open to Russell residents. The polling helped identify the highest priorities among residents for neighborhood improvements.



Above: Rendering of the Sheppard Park Sprayground coming in 2018. See map on back for all Action Activity project locations.

Vision Russell Transformation Plan

SUMMARY OF PRIORITIES AND GOALS:

- A Improve educational outcomes.**
 - A.1:** Russell children enter kindergarten ready to learn.
 - A.2:** Russell school age children are proficient in core academic subjects, and graduate high school college or career ready.
- B Improve health and safety.**
 - B.1:** Residents enjoy good health and strong sense of well-being.
 - B.2:** Russell's built environment supports health and safety.
- C Create strong retail/service centers and expand economic opportunity for all.**
 - C.1:** Russell residents are financially secure.
 - C.2:** Existing Russell businesses are encouraged to stay and grow, and new commercial activities are drawn to the area to further stimulate growth.
- D Increase the availability of high quality, mixed-income housing.**
 - D.1:** Beecher Terrace replacement housing is located in vibrant, sustainable, mixed-income communities that serve as catalysts for new investment.
 - D.2:** Russell offers a variety of high-quality, affordable and market-rate homeownership and rental housing opportunities.
- E Improve community connectivity.**
 - E.1:** Russell residents are engaged in their community, civic life, and connected to resources.
 - E.2:** Residents have safe and convenient multi-modal transportation options to access services, amenities and jobs.
 - E.3:** Russell residents have the skills, tools, and ability to access and use modern technology and the internet.

To view a full draft of the Vision Russell Transformation Plan, please visit:
www.VisionRussell.org/transformationplan