



Russell Choice Neighborhood Coordinating Committee Meeting

February 13, 2019

Office Environment Company

1136 W. Market Street

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

- **Welcome and Introductions (Lisa O.)**
- **Vision Russell Transformation Plan (John Hawkins)**
 - Addendum to plan and updated roadmap
 - Adoption process as Neighborhood Plan
- **Action Activities (Gretchen Milliken & Kathleen O'Neil)**
 - Updates on Gateway Murals, Vacant Lots, and SmART Stop Bus Shelters projects
- **Implementation Grant**
 - Housing
 - Phase I Demolition/Infrastructure/Construction Start (**Gretchen & Bernard**)
 - Messer is General Contractor
 - Development Proposal at HUD awaiting final approval
 - Groundbreaking Ceremony sometime in March
 - Naming Phase I Building and Site (**John**)
 - Phase II Update
 - Messer is General Contractor
 - Projected construction start this summer
 - Phase III Updates
 - Relocation (Kathy Head)
 - All households in Phases I and II have moved.
 - *The Beech* has relocated to Shawnee High School.
 - Metro Parks has moved from the Baxter Community Center. Will be returning after the building is expanded and renovated. Date TBD.
 - Urban Strategies will be moving their offices to the Baxter Community Center in late February.

- Relocation meeting with Phase III households held on January 28. All families eligible for relocation benefits. Relocation surveys began January 29 and are nearly completed. Section 8 briefings will start in March 2019. Actual moves will also likely begin in March. Projected completion date for relocation is September 2019.
- Demolition (**Bernard Pincus**)
 - Messer overseeing Phase II demolition.
 - Innovative Demolition is sub-contractor.
 - Demo work will be done in three sub-stages.
- People (**TaLonda Holland, Kristie Stutler & Dan Farrell**)
 - # Beecher Residents active in Case Management
 - Urban
 - Family Self Sufficiency Program
 - Employment
 - Training Programs
 - Section 3 Opportunities
 - MOAs with service providers ____ Executed, ____ Pending
 - New Partnerships and Resources
 - Recent & Upcoming Events
- Neighborhood –
 - Parks and Community Center – **Note: Additional funding must be secured for each of the proposed projects.**
 - Porter Paint site (**Bernard**) - LMHA acquired in late December 2018. Environmental review RFP. Will demo existing buildings. Looking at potential mixed use as commercial/park. Will be engaging community in design.
 - Baxter Community Center (**Gretchen**) – Metro Parks has moved out temporarily and Urban is moving in. Center will be renovated and expanded. Metro Parks will return when complete, along with *The Beech* and potentially other service providers. Getting cost estimate on design work. Will be engaging community in design.
 - Baxter Square Park (**Gretchen**) – in ongoing discussions with Olmstead Conservancy. Park improvements
 - Critical Community Improvements (CCIs)- (**Gretchen & Kathleen**) - Five activities conceptually approved. Conceptual approval is not a guarantee of funding and HUD has requested additional items, including environmental reviews that must be completed before HUD will provide final approval and release funds for each activity.
 - Historic Quinn Chapel Stabilization (**Gretchen**) – proposed project aimed at stabilizing this historically significant

structure for future development and reuse, creating a historic structure report, and hiring a structural engineer and historic preservation consultant. YMCA is arranging for a Phase I Environmental study.

- *Smart City Public Safety (John)*– proposed project will include installation of 39 cameras, along with a public WiFi network. Updated map of locations. Environmental review underway at LMG.
 - *The Village @ West Jefferson (Kathleen)* – proposed project includes the build out of leasehold space in new commercial/retail building. LMG’s environmental review is pending Section 106 approval. Initial archaeological report completed, however SHPO requesting additional mitigation work.
 - *Business Center & Plaza at LCCC (Kathleen)*– proposed project includes finishing existing leasehold space in the Business Center in LCCC’s Old Walnut Street campus. A letter addressing HUD’s last questions has been submitted and we’re awaiting their response. LMG’s environmental review is pending Lead report information.
 - *18th Street Corridor Redevelopment (Laura Grabowski)*– funds will go towards the acquisition, landbanking, and the rehabilitation of vacant lots, commercial, owner-occupied and rental-occupied residential structures along 18th Street and the blocks immediately to the east and west. Met with local HUD staff to discuss Environmental review process.
- **Other Russell Updates**
 - New Directions Housing Corporation –Dedication ceremony for Bryan Holden’s 2nd mural at the Russell Apartments at 1:30 p.m. today. Two murals on Muhammad Ali Blvd.
 - Gwen Kelley (with 1619 Flux and Center for Neighborhoods) community art mosaic project being installed at the Beecher management office. Project was funded by the Fund for the Arts and the Humana Foundation.
 - Reading Initiatives
 - Russell Reads – **TaLonda**
 - Book Rich Environments – **Dan**
 - **Next Coordinating Meeting**
 - In May – day or evening meeting, or alternate?
 - Suggestions for locations?