



**EASTERN EIGHT
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

214 E. WATAUGA AVENUE, JOHNSON CITY, TN 37601
Phone 423-232-5097 Fax 423-926-0034

April 23, 2012

Terry W. Cunningham, Executive Director
Kingsport Housing and Redevelopment Authority
906 E. Sevier Avenue, P.O. Box 44
Kingsport, TN 37662

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

On behalf of Eastern Eight Community Development Corporation, I am pleased to submit this firm commitment letter in support of the Kingsport Housing and Redevelopment Authority's 2012 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant application being submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

We understand that the purpose of the grant funding is to prepare a Transformation Plan for the Robert E. Lee public housing site and the surrounding Midtown neighborhood. Among other things, the revitalization plan includes the demolition of 128 units of public housing and the construction of approximately 385 mixed-income, mixed-finance LIHTC and homeownership units with financing provided by equity investors for the tax credit units through the Tennessee Housing Development Agency.

Eastern Eight CDC was chartered in 1998 and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation and a certified Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO). Eastern 8 has a successful track record of planning, developing, and selling homes to first time homebuyers as well as providing homeownership counseling for potential first-time, moderate income homeowners. We look forward to partnering with the Kingsport Housing and Redevelopment Authority on developing the new affordable homes to be constructed as part of the Midtown Choice Neighborhoods implementation. As such we wish to contribute to the Choice Neighborhoods Transformation Planning process.

Eastern Eight Community Development Corporation commits to providing \$7,757.00 of in-kind services to include participation on the stakeholder planning committee and capacity building and resident engagement during the two-year Midtown Choice Neighborhood planning process. This is more particularly described on the enclosed attachment.

The Choice Neighborhoods Planning program is intended to forge broad-based partnerships to transform neighborhoods and create viable communities. We are enthusiastic to have this opportunity to be a part of that partnership and strongly support your 2012 Planning Grant application. We are committed to participating in the planning and implementation process and look forward to the same. We applaud your leadership and remain committed to collaborating with the Kingsport Housing and Redevelopment Authority in transforming the Robert E. Lee Apartments site and the Midtown Neighborhood.

Sincerely yours,

Retha Patton
Executive Director

Attachment

Attachment to Letter of Support

IN-KIND DONATION FOR 2012 CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING GRANT

Staff salary estimate (4 hours monthly x 24 months x \$35.00 per hour x 2 staff members)	\$ 6,720.00
Supplies (paper, pencils, computer, phones, etc.)	\$ 96.00
Staff Travel	\$ 545.00
Administrative Salary Estimate (5%)	\$ 336.00
Administrative supplies (copy service, postage, paper, computer usage, etc)	\$ 60.00
Consulting	\$
Meeting Space	\$
	\$
TOTAL	\$ 7,757.00