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Tennessee Housing Development Agency  
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April 18, 2012

Terry W. Cunningham, Executive Director  
Kingsport Housing and Redevelopment Authority  
906 East Sevier Ave  
Kingsport, TN 37662

Reference: 2012 HUD Choice Neighborhood Planning Grant Application

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

We are pleased to support the Kingsport Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Urban Collage and TCG International in the submission a Choice Neighborhood Planning Grant application to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. We understand that the purpose of this grant is to prepare a Transformation Plan for the Robert E Lee Apartments public housing and surrounding Midtown area. We also understand that the plan may include the construction of up to 75 for-sale affordable houses in the neighborhood.

Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) was established in 1973 with a goal of providing opportunities for affordable housing through development of programs for homeownership. Our vision is "Every Tennessean lives in a safe, sound and affordable home in a sustainable community." THDA's mission is "Leading Tennessee Home by creating, safe, sound, affordable housing opportunities." THDA offers a broad portfolio of housing assistance programs.

We are very encouraged by the Authority and its development partners' endeavors to redevelop and transform Robert E Lee Apartments and the surrounding neighborhood into a Choice Neighborhood. In support of the implementation of this transformation plan, THDA makes available up to \$8 million annually in permanent mortgage loans for eligible borrowers that meet our New Start mortgage loan underwriting requirements.

THDA wishes Kingsport Housing and Redevelopment Authority every success in this much-needed initiative to develop the Robert E Lee Apartments neighborhood's residential, commercial, recreational, physical infrastructure and social assets.

Sincerely yours,

Laura B. Sinclair  
Chief Program Officer

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