

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

LOUISVILLE METRO HOUSING AUTHORITY EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



July/August 2011



NEWS OF NOTE

AND SO IT BEGINS...

A MESSAGE FROM
GREG FISCHER
LOUISVILLE METRO
MAYOR



Congratulations on your \$22 million HOPE VI grant for Sheppard Square!

Replacing this severely distressed public housing development with a mixed-use and mixed-income community will once again raise the bar for energy-efficient housing development in Louisville. The newly created housing that will be built on- and off-site, will provide an opportunity for your residents to leave aging, outdated public housing and look forward to what the future holds in this revitalized community or the other housing options that will be made available to them.

Razing Sheppard Square will also eliminate the single largest impediment to any type of sustained redevelopment of the Smoketown neighborhood. After decades of planning, many of Smoketown's long-time residents and stakeholders have told me how thrilled they are to "at last" receive this much needed investment in their community. With over \$90 million in commitments from HOPE VI initiative partners, they are confident that the revitalized Sheppard Square site will become a centerpiece of their treasured historic neighborhood.

In addition to the \$12.5 million that the Louisville Metro government has committed towards infrastructure and capital improvements, my staff and I stand ready to work with LMHA and the Smoketown community to advance the goals of the HOPE VI program. This includes the creation of workforce partnerships that will help connect Sheppard Square residents to new construction jobs and green job training opportunities that will arise during the area's redevelopment.

With the HOPE VI grant in hand, we can all begin this exciting and demanding five-year process which will restore one of this City's most impoverished neighborhoods into a neighborhood of choice and a model community that offers its residents the highest quality of life. And so it begins!

Briefly Speaking is a bi-monthly employee newsletter published by the Public Information Office (PIO) for the LMHA. For more information contact Tim Barry, Executive Director (502) 569-3420 or barry@lmha1.org.

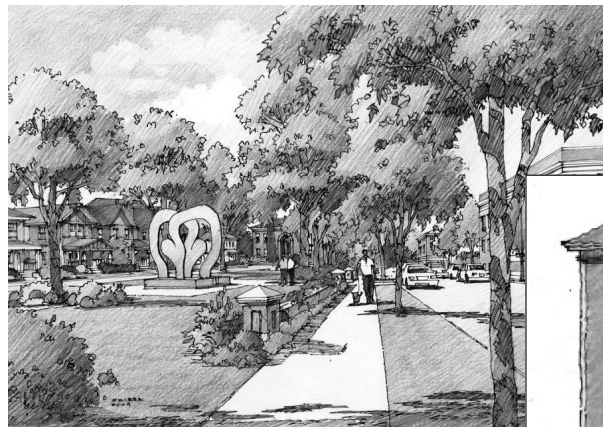
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LMHA RECEIVES \$22 MILLION HOPE VI GRANT

In June, Shaun Donovan, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Mayor Greg Fischer, Congressman John Yarmuth and other local officials attended a press conference to announce the HOPE VI grant award for Sheppard Square. The \$22 million grant from HUD will allow LMHA to begin replacing the 70-year old complex, located in the heart of Smoketown, with new energy-efficient mixed-income housing. The project is modeled on LMHA's two award winning HOPE VI sites – Villages of Park DuValle in West Louisville and Liberty Green in nearby Downtown Louisville.



Pictured from left to right - LMHA Executive Director Tim Barry, Congressman John Yarmuth, Mayor Greg Fischer, LMHA Board Chair Manfred Reid, and HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan.



Rendering of Hancock Street and a conceptual building drawing.



The revitalization plans for the new Sheppard Square community were decades in the making, and involved an extensive collaborative process with neighborhood residents and community stakeholders, along with Louisville Metro Government, Jefferson County Public Schools, the Presbyterian Community Center and numerous other HOPE VI partners. Urban Design Associates created the master site plan and conceptual unit plans which build on the historic character of the Smoketown neighborhood. Plans call for razing all 326 existing Sheppard Square units and replacing them with a combination of on-site and off-site subsidized and market-rate apartments and homes.

On-site redevelopment will include a mix of single-family and duplex homeownership opportunities, along with a variety of rental choices including semi-detached and row townhouses, and multi-family apartment buildings. All building types will be designed to blend seamlessly into the existing streetscape. Off-site development includes apartments for single-parent students at the Downtown Scholar House, as well as scattered-site public housing rental homes. All new housing units will meet or exceed both EnergyStar standards and Green Enterprise rating criteria, making them LMHA's most energy and resource-efficient properties to date.

As part of the Sheppard Square revitalization, the former Presbyterian Community Center will be transformed into housing for the elderly and disabled, including apartments for disabled veterans. The rehabilitation of this beloved historic property will also include 13,900 square feet of community space on its main level, which will house on-site management and maintenance offices, along with offices for social workers, and a large community room with an attached commercial kitchen. The Harambee Health Center plans to relocate from its current location at the new Presbyterian Center into the rehabbed structure, along with the Neighborhood Network Center, currently located at the St. Peter Claver Community Center. (continued on back)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

July

Phonsine Baber, Sheppard Square
Katrina Beeler, Vine Street
Byron Bishop, Dosker Manor
Patrick Clay, Parkway Place
Janell Coghill, Finance
Diane Coleman, Avenue Plaza
Margi Decker, Sheppard Square
Yvonne Feger, Finance
James Goff, Vacancy Prep.
Terry Good, Regional Maintenance
Stephen Higgins, Regional Maintenance
William Jackson, Regional Maintenance
Donna Keehn, Louisville Housing Services
Latasha Kilgore, Construction Administration
Patricia Laster, Operations
Shirley Leonard, Avenue Plaza
Carol Lewis-Sandelin, Lourdes Hall
Mark Lindenmayer, Extermination
Allen Martin, Dosker Manor
Oscar Martinez, Beecher Terrace
Danny O’Daniel, Lourdes Hall
Emma Robinson, Louisville Housing Services
Will Seay, Operations
Larry Selmon, Dosker Manor
Shameca Smith, Lourdes Hall
Robert Taylor, Auto/Grounds
Robert Thompson, Auto/Grounds
Marie Tull, Personnel
Larry Votaw, IPL
Art Wasson, Vine Street
Thomas White, Purchasing
Carlos Whitehorse, Regional Maintenance

August

Rebekah Aman-James, Vine Street
David Bald, Parkway Place
Michael Barnett, Dosker Manor
John Barr, Extermination
Chanda Boone, Beecher Terrace
Ramona Brewer, Vine Street
Cecil Burgin, Extermination
Sherri Churchill, Sheppard Square
Gary Cunningham, Louisville Housing Services
Brenda Dodson, Vine Street
Deborah Gilbert, Vine Street
Keith Grinstead, Parkway Place
Ronald Hall, Lourdes Hall
Lawrence Hardy, Vine Street
Mary Head, Occupancy
Vanessa Holland, Occupancy
David Hughes, Auto/Grounds
Bobby Jackson, Vacancy Prep.
Theresa Jaimes, Vine Street
Michele Jefferson, Vine Street
Vickie Johnson, Bishop Lane Plaza
David Kelley, Finance
Mary Masden, Beecher Terrace
John McGuire, HVAC
Cornelia Oldham, Information Technology
David Rose, Regional Maintenance
Ramon Salter, Parkway Place
John Savage, Auto/Grounds
Robin Sneed, Personnel
Phillip Stepteau, Executive
Shelley Ware, Finance
Tonya Wise, Construction Administration



SALUTE TO SERVICE (JULY/AUGUST)

35 Years

(7/2011) David Thompson,
Avenue Plaza/St. Catherine Court

20 Years

(7/2011) Danny O’Daniel, Lourdes Hall
(7/2011) Larry Votaw, IPL
(8/2011) Cheryl Edwards, Parkway Place
(8/2011) Kevin Graves, Extermination

15 Years

(7/2011) Joyce Babb, Personnel
(7/2011) Charlene Williams, Dosker Manor
(8/2011) Jeffrey Carter, Lourdes Hall
(8/2011) Everett Stephenson, Lourdes Hall

10 Years

(7/2011) Tonya Wise, Construction Administration
(8/2011) Chastiny Coleman, Beecher Terrace
(8/2011) Kathleen Scott, Purchasing

5 Years

(8/2011) LaToya Morrison, Vine Street

LMHA RECEIVES \$22 MILLION HOPE VI GRANT (CONTINUED)



Revitalized Sheppard Square site plan

Sheppard Square’s existing street pattern isolates residents from surrounding neighborhoods. Therefore, reconfiguring the site to where people, resources and vehicles can flow in and out of the Smoketown neighborhood is another major goal of the HOPE VI revitalization plan. To facilitate this process, a barricaded intersection at Hancock and Lampton Streets will be reopened, and the Boxing Glove sculpture, by renowned artist Ed Hamilton, that is currently located at the center of the blocked intersection, will be relocated to a new park-like “Green” parallel to Hancock Street. Two new streets will also be added to help transform the area into a transit-oriented, yet pedestrian-friendly community.

New housing opportunities will be enhanced by a wide array of community and supportive services (CSS) for Sheppard Square households. Individualized needs assessments and outcome-focused case management services will be provided by LMHA’s highly skilled case managers. New health-based initiatives, results-oriented early childhood care, educational programs and parental supports will also be made available to residents. Existing Sheppard Square households will also be given extensive relocation benefits and support from LMHA’s experienced relocation staff, as well as an opportunity to move back into newly created HOPE VI units.

In sum, this HOPE VI grant will provide more than 450 new homes for local families, as well as quality job and learning opportunities and CSS services for Sheppard Square households. To accomplish this ambitious Revitalization Plan, HOPE VI funds will be leveraged with more than \$90 million in physical development commitments and \$4.2 million in community and supportive services.

LIBERTY GREEN IS “SILVER”!

It’s official - the Liberty Green Community Center has received Silver LEED designation. Geo-thermal heating and cooling, reserved parking for low emission vehicles, and pervious pavement in parking areas are just three of the many sustainable features at the Community Building that helped LMHA achieve the Silver LEED designation. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is an internationally recognized certification system that provides third-party verification of a building’s performance in areas such as energy savings, water efficiency, CO² emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources.

“PLANT IT” FOR THE PLANET

To raise awareness regarding the importance of Earth Day, LMHA helped its employees raise some “GREEN” by having assorted herbs, vegetables and flowers available for sale. The plant sale proceeds were donated to the St. Peter Claver Garden for youth educational programming. This inaugural event also included food sampling, and featured gardening experts from YouthBuild Louisville and Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Services. Thanks to the employees who attended, LMHA donated over \$100 to the Presbyterian Community Center that manages the St. Peter Claver Garden funds. “We really appreciate LMHA’s commitment to the garden,” said Bill Gatewood upon receiving the contribution.



Pat Packer, Personnel, won a rain barrel donated by MSD. She plans to use it as an environmental education resource for her Cub Scout pack.

AVENUE PLAZA WEATHERIZATION PLAN



Avenue Plaza residents will soon benefit from a generous weatherization grant from the Department of Energy. The Louisville Metro Government is working with LMHA on the weatherization improvements project, which is being administered through the Kentucky Housing Corporation. Over \$1.4 million will be spent to replace the residents’ windows and the heating and air conditioning units, and carbon monoxide detectors will be installed in every apartment. The doors leading to the building’s exterior stairwells will also receive new weather stripping. These improvements will build upon LMHA’s previous efforts to reduce utility consumption at Avenue Plaza, which was one of five finalists among 102 Louisville buildings competing for the Mayor’s Kilowatt Cup Award in 2009.

IN HONOR OF FATHER’S DAY

LMHA was one of several sponsors for the Annual 2NOT1 Fatherhood and Families Annual Father’s Day Picnic. The event, held in Shelby Park, included a variety of games, food and fun. LMHA was one of the hundreds of Public Housing Authorities across the country that took part in a nationwide HUD initiative to support local Father’s Day activities.