WHAT IS A CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD?

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) leverages significant public and private dollars to support locally-driven strategies that address struggling neighborhoods with distressed public or HUD-assisted housing through a comprehensive approach to neighborhood transformation.

ABOUT THE TRENTON CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE

A PLANNING & ACTION GRANT

On September 19, 2019, the Trenton Housing Authority and City of Trenton received a Fiscal Year 2019 Choice Neighborhoods Planning and Action Grant from HUD in the amount of $1,300,000.

The grant will support a 2-year planning process followed by 1.5 years to implement Action Activities, which entail innovative community and economic development activities that help communities build momentum and accelerate change in the neighborhood.

CNI FOCUSES ON THREE CORE GOALS

HOUSING: Replacing distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood.

PEOPLE: Improving outcomes of households living in the target housing related to employment and income, health, and children’s education.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Creating the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets that are important to families’ choices about their community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

CHRISTI HUFF
Redevelopment Project Manager | Trenton Housing Authority
609-278-5004
CHUFF@THA-NJ.ORG

We would like our list of partners to continue to grow, and welcome Donnelly and neighborhood residents to join us!

PLAN PARTNERS

IMAGINING A NEIGHBORHOOD OF CHOICE

NORTH TRENTON BATTLE MONUMENT
The North Trenton-Battle Monument Choice neighborhood is anchored by Donnelly Homes, a public housing community. This largely residential neighborhood of immense historic and cultural significance is well positioned to benefit from Downtown Trenton’s renaissance as new investments in the central business district spill over into the neighborhood.

The planning process will build on existing assets of the community and leverage important anchors such as Capital Health Regional Medical Center, MLK Park and Calhoun Street Park/Capital Sports Complex, as well as the many schools including MLK Jr Elementary and numerous places of worship.

The planning process will build on existing assets to citywide revitalization efforts bringing together local and regional stakeholders to envision a new future for the neighborhood.

The planning process will explore ways to support the goals of Trenton250, the City’s first comprehensive master plan, such as:

- Fostering Social Opportunity & Vibrant Economy Through Education
- Building a Safe City
- Promoting Civic Unity & Pride
- Reinforcing High-Quality Neighborhoods

The 2-year planning effort will lead to the creation of a comprehensive road map to achieving a community driven vision for meaningful change. It will outline actionable goals, timeframes for implementation, potential funding sources, and metrics to measure and monitor progress.

Two important notes to remember regarding the Housing Plan:

- **RIGHT TO RETURN**: Regardless of how the Donnelly Homes site is redeveloped, all Trenton Housing Authority residents in good standing will have the right to return.
- **ONE-FOR-ONE REPLACEMENT**: For every unit of public housing that is demolished, a new unit will be replaced within the neighborhood.

One of the next big tasks we will be working on is a survey of Donnelly Homes residents and residents of the surrounding neighborhood. This is an effective tool to understand some of the challenges facing residents relating to:

- Health and Safety
- Education and Employment
- Transportation
- Access to Services & Amenities (grocery stores, playgrounds, parks, etc.)

Be on the lookout for the survey in the new year!

CONSIDER JOINING A TASK FORCE
There are three Task forces: **Housing**, **People** (addressing issues like education, employment, and health), and **Neighborhood** (considering economic development, safety, connectivity, green space, etc.).

COME OUT FOR EVENTS
There will be several community-wide meetings, in addition to special events and activities during the planning process to keep everyone updated. We have lots of ideas to make them fun for all ages. These will provide opportunities for you to express your opinions and preferences on things such as housing types and styles, neighborhood improvements, education and employment programs. Be on the lookout for upcoming announcements.

STAY IN TOUCH
Life is busy but you can still follow the progress of the North Trenton-Battle Monument Choice Neighborhood planning process. Sign up for our email list!

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

PARTICIPATE IN THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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- Education and Employment
- Transportation
- Access to Services & Amenities (grocery stores, playgrounds, parks, etc.)

Be on the lookout for the survey in the new year!

WHAT WILL THIS PLAN LEAD TO?

The 2-year planning effort will lead to the creation of a comprehensive road map to achieving a community driven vision for meaningful change. It will outline actionable goals, timeframes for implementation, potential funding sources, and metrics to measure and monitor progress.

TWO IMPORTANT NOTES TO REMEMBER REGARDING THE HOUSING PLAN:

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