SUMMIT LAKE

Housing Task Force

Kick-off Meeting
March 5, 2021 - 1:30 pm

Image courtesy of Tim Fitzwater

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Let’s get to know each other
Choice Neighborhoods - A Primer

- Grant program of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Funding to create a “Transformation Plan” for a neighborhood centered around a public housing site
- Three focus areas:
  - “Neighborhood” - looking at parks, streets, lighting, safety, businesses, amenities, housing
  - “People” - focusing on the needs of residents
  - “Housing” - what do we do to improve Summit Lake Apartments
"Housing" Focus - Summit Lake Apts

Under Choice Neighborhoods, the Housing Plan must...

- Be shaped by resident input
- Be informed by a market study
- Complete environmental studies
- Consult with historic preservation
- Include sustainable design elements
- Include one-for-one replacement of all existing units
- Include a right-to-return to a new unit for all existing residents
- Include a relocation plan that meets the Uniform Relocation Act (URA) requirements
Planning vs. Implementation

- Planning Grant
  - developing a guidebook for what we would like to do
  - NO demolition or redevelopment at this time
  - NO residents will be required or asked to move at this time
- Goal is a plan that can be implemented
  - Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant ($30 million)
  - Other Source of Funding

Regardless of the final plan, Summit Lake Apartments residents will ALWAYS have specific rights and protections in place.
AMHA’s Commitment to Residents

- NO Summit Lake Apartments residents will be required to move/lose their housing BECAUSE of this process, will need to remain lease compliant
- The Choice Neighborhoods process will help us decide what to do.
Process plus Timeline

- Kick Off Meeting
- Resident Survey
- Choice Workshop #2
- Choice Workshop #3
- Choice Workshop #4
- Choice Workshop #5
- Choice Workshop #6
- Early Action Activities
- Plan Complete

- Assessment Engagement
- Visioning
- Preliminary Ideas
- Final Plan

- Winter | Spring | Summer | Fall | Winter | Spring | Summer | Fall | 2021 | 2022 | 2023
Shared Values with Civic Commons

Transparency and honesty are essential.
Everyone will be respected and valued.
This is a resident-led process.
We have to build trust first.
We will work to engage those who are not in the room.
We will use plain language.
We will encourage residents to raise questions.
Roles & responsibilities
As task force members, as consultants, and as a team

Task Force
- Provide guidance and be a promoter of the process
- Share what you hear with your neighbors and share with us what you hear from your neighbors with us
- Help get other residents involved
- We will always listen and answer questions
- What else??

AMHA/City/Consultant
- We will always listen and answer questions
- We will follow the Civic Commons Core Values
- What else??
Task Force Members

Who is currently at the table and how does everyone fits in:

- Summit Lake Apartments Residents
- Alpha Phi Homes
- Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA)
- City of Akron
- Summit County Land Bank
- Summit Lake CDC

Who is missing from the table?

- More Summit Lake Apartments residents
- Who else?
Next steps

> Engagement
  - Oral History Project
  - Resident Survey
  - One on One + Small Group Conversations

> Assessment: ‘Where Are We Today’
  - Zoning
  - Historic consultation
  - Environmental conditions
  - Infrastructure assessment
  - Crime hot-spots
  - Conditions around the Apartments

> Bi-Monthly meetings (as needed)
Thank you!