



community ventures

Your Dream. Our Mission.

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April 8, 2016

The Honorable Jim Gray, Mayor
Office of the Mayor
200 E. Main St.
Lexington, Ky. 40507

Dear Mayor Gray,

Midland Avenue is a highly visible gateway to downtown Lexington with great potential to become a defining corridor for our community.

For generations, investment and residents fled to suburban areas. But that trend is changing. Community Ventures (CV) stands at the forefront of an initiative to revitalize this underutilized gateway with new mixed-use development, improved green space, traffic calming measures, and a proposed bike path to connect to downtown.

The proposed mixed use development is a dense mixture of retail, residential, and office space that aims to build a stronger East End Neighborhood.

Through to the planned revitalization efforts by CV and the Town Branch Commons Corridor project, the East End will benefit from the synergies of these two large-scale, complementary projects.

A mix of private and public investment will signal the importance of this area of downtown, create stability for residents and mark a new era for this historic neighborhood, which traces its history to the 1800s. Build around the city's premier horse track at the time, the East End was bustling through the 1940s. It was home to an eclectic mix of doctors, teachers, small business owners and jockeys. Many African-Americans who migrated from the South made their homes here to be close to jobs in the neighborhood.

Our two projects can help the neighborhood recapture the energy, vibrancy and diversity that were once its hallmarks.

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1450 N BROADWAY
LEXINGTON, KY 40505

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The Town Branch Commons Corridor will encompass a larger downtown and regional community/environmental initiative. The East End neighborhood, along with the entire community, will benefit from improved bike and pedestrian paths, better accessibility to public transportation and a water quality initiative with bioswales, bio-retention and other stormwater improvements along Town Branch Creek.

CV is moving forward with programming and planning for the development along Midland. We strongly support the Town Branch Commons Corridor project and the TIGER grant, which will allow the investment to occur more rapidly.

Together, these two initiatives will be integrated and create a standard for sustainable development in an urban core that blends infrastructure improvements with environmental elements to promote a safe, healthy green gateway into downtown Lexington.

Sincerely,

Kevin R. Smith
President & CEO

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