

LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

300 West New Circle Road ● Lexington, KY 40505 ● Phone: (859) 281-5060 ● Fax: (859) 281-5055

Equal Housing Opportunity

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Austin J. Simms Executive Director April 12, 2016

Mayor Jim Gray Office of the Mayor Lexington Fayette Urban County Government 200 E. Main Street Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Mayor Gray,

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Housing Authority has been a leader in ensuring safe, affordable housing since the Great Depression. With more than 1,300 units of public housing under our direct management and more than 2,500 Section 8 vouchers available, the Housing Authority is an integral part of building self-sufficiency for 4,000 low-to-moderate-income families.

Transportation is a key issue for many of our clients. Some are not licensed. Some do not have access to a vehicle. And some have a vehicle, but it is not reliable enough or adequate for the needs of the entire household. Adequate bus stops downtown, safe pedestrian crossings – particularly those around the transit center—and improved sidewalks and biking paths can make a world of difference when it comes to navigating the city in the way that is necessary for these families to truly grab onto our existing ladders of opportunity and make their way to the top. That is why the Town Branch Commons Corridor Project is so vital for our community. Libraries, schools, government offices, cultural opportunities for children, and post-secondary education offerings – these are investments our community makes in ensuring opportunity for all residents. But they need to be easily and safely accessible to be of value to our clients.

Imagine you are parent with a child in a stroller, or an elderly person who is not as quick or confident in crossing a busy road – how would that affect your decision about taking the bus to the library on a rainy day? Or about whether to make a preventative health appointment when it's scorching hot? The Town Branch Commons Corridor Project will provide traffic calming measures, better bus stops, and safer, better-placed pedestrian crossings – as well as better connected bike lanes.

As we encourage and require clients to make strides toward self-sufficiency, we recognize that we must have the infrastructure to support them. This is a transportation project that will reverberate throughout our community – opening it up in a way that will open up the entire world for many of our families and clients. We look forward to seeing the Town Branch Commons Corridor Project in Lexington.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Housing Authority

visit our website at www.lexha.org