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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 21, 2020

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The Honorable Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., M.D.  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20410

RE: Choice Neighborhoods Implementation grant program  
Housing Authority of the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Dear Secretary Carson,

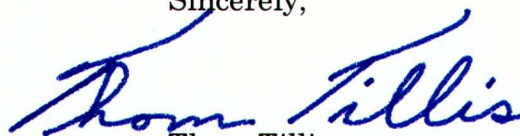
I am pleased to support the grant application submitted by the Housing Authority of the City of Winston-Salem along with co-applicant, the City of Winston-Salem for funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Choice Neighborhoods Implementation grant program in the amount of \$30,000,000.

The Housing Authority of the City of Winston-Salem (HAWS) and the City of Winston-Salem indicate that funding from the Choice Neighborhoods grant program will reconnect two neighborhoods that became artificially divided by urban renewal programs, highway building, and economic segregation. The eastern neighborhood suffers from concentrated distressed housing, commercial/residential disinvestment, high rates of unemployment, and violent crime. The western side of the neighborhood enjoys economic development and job growth; however, it lacks affordable and low-rise housing as well as neighborhood-level retail and services.

It is my understanding that HAWS and the City's plan includes redevelopment of the 244-unit distressed and obsolete public housing Cleveland Avenue Homes; access to a network of medical providers, an employment program, and educational programs for children of all ages; and construction of an elementary school. Located within an Opportunity Zone, the newly reconnected Newside neighborhood would transform this area into a unified, thriving community.

Thank you for your consideration of this application as you make your final decision for the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation grant program. Please feel free to contact my Raleigh office at 919-856-4630 if you have questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Thom Tillis  
U.S. Senator

TRT/lm

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