



City of Lewiston Press Statement May 6, 2022

Lewiston's Choice Neighborhood Initiative will be the subject of a May 25th ***“Investing in a Neighborhood & Transforming Our City”*** forum at the Lewiston Public Library – Callahan Hall, 200 Lisbon Street, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. It will focus on a \$30 million Choice Implementation Grant from the Department of Housing & Urban Development awarded in May 2021 to the Lewiston Housing Authority and the City of Lewiston—the smallest city to ever receive this funding. The forum is free and open to the public – a flyer is attached.

Mayor Carl L. Sheline notes, ***“The Choice Neighborhood grant is a game changer for downtown Lewiston and our entire city. The impact of this investment is transformational for a city our size.”***

Panelists participating in the forum will Chris Kilmurry, Executive Director of Lewiston Housing and lead grantee of the Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant; Catherine Elliott, Senior Development Officer at Avesta Housing and development partner to Lewiston Housing; and Misty Parker, Lewiston's Assistant Director of Economic & Community Development, co-grantee of the Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant.

Parker notes, ***“The Choice grant will support locally led, strategic investments, which will render positive change and strengthen the City of Lewiston.”***

The Choice Initiative will partially fund 185 new, safe, energy-efficient, mixed-income apartments that Lewiston people can afford to call home. These developments will be a catalyst for new investment throughout the neighborhood and beyond downtown. Parker adds, ***“The Choice Initiative isn't just about housing; it will invest in people and the neighborhood, sparking continued economic growth of the city.”***

Prior to the forum, a walking tour of the future housing sites will be offered; the tour will depart the front of the Lewiston Public Library, 200 Lisbon Street, at 4:30 p.m.

“This is the result of the hard work and tenacity that Lewiston is known for. What continues to evolve through this grant will bring hope and change for Lewiston's future,” states Mayor Sheline.

This forum is part of a monthly community forum series hosted by the City of Lewiston Mayoral Ad Hoc Committee on Economic Development. The committee was established in January 2022 for the purpose of advising and making recommendations to the Lewiston City Council on the challenges and opportunities for economic development in Lewiston.

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