



Commission Meeting

December 5, 2023

HCD_ Laney Walker/Bethlehem partnership with T.D. Jakes MOU Approval Request

Department:	HCD
Presenter:	Hawthorne Welcher, Jr. and/or HCD Staff
Caption:	Motion to approve Housing and Community Development Department's (HCD's) request to enter into a MOU with TDJM, TDJREV, and TDJF, for potential development of a healthy food establishment in Laney Walker/Bethlehem. (Approved by Administrative Services Committee November 28, 2023)
Background:	<p>Established in 1996, T.D Jakes Real Estate Ventures, LLC is aimed at solving sociological issues for entrepreneurship, mentorship, academic progress, and entertainment that spawns job creation by building bridges and alliances that build equality and deliver solutions for underrepresented and underserved communities.</p> <p>The company recently launched a comprehensive, community development platform to create 21st century solutions to address certain fundamental needs of the community while also addressing the physical needs of the community through investment and development, increasing access to housing, and improved commercial delivery systems and services.</p> <p>Therefore, based on this LLC's mission and mindset, we believe it best to work through collaboration specific to creating a strategy and approach that will rid this historic area of the current foot desert through hopefully the development of a healthy food establishment. This MOU serves as the right instrument to further conversations of such.</p>
Analysis:	The approval of the contract will allow for pre-development activities on this site to begin.
Financial Impact:	This is not a construction contract. There is a \$0 financial impact.

Alternatives:	Deny HCDs Request
Recommendation:	Motion to approve Housing and Community Development Department's (HCD's) request to enter into a MOU with TDJM, TDJREV, and TDJF, for potential development of a healthy food establishment in Laney Walker/Bethlehem.
Funds are available in the following accounts:	Not Applicable
<u>REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:</u>	Procurement
	Finance
	Law
	Administrator
	Clerk of Commission