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The Housing Authority of New Orleans Awarded HUD's Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant for BW Cooper/Earhart Transformation Plan

Continuing the work of providing access to affordable housing for low-income residents of New Orleans

New Orleans (January 5, 2023) – The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) is very pleased to announce that it has been selected by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as an award recipient of the Choice Neighborhood Planning Grant for its BW Cooper/Earhart Transformation Plan.

HANO was one of 31 applications received by HUD from agencies nationwide competing for the fiscal year 2022 grants. After review of all applications, HUD selected nine grant recipients totaling over \$4.4 million in funding and alerted those agencies selected at the end of the 2022 year.

HANO's awarded grant of \$409,000 is slated for their BW Cooper Earhart Transformation Plan, which will address affordable housing units, design and structural work, neighborhood poverty, and community engagement.

HANO Executive Director Evette Hester shared, "BW Cooper and the Earhart neighborhood have been a very important part of our city's affordable housing blueprint, so we are very excited to see HUD's support in continuing to sustain this neighborhood's offering of affordable housing to our residents."

"I am very proud of the work that HANO's Executive Director Evette Hester has done to bring about this needed funding for the support of affordable housing in the City of New Orleans, " said Mayor LaToya Cantrell. "It is Ms. Hester's management of the agency in combination with the oversight and guidance of the HANO Board of Commissioners that makes this type of grant a reality. Their joint efforts, dedication and hard work together continues to create access to affordable housing for the residents of New Orleans."

The City of New Orleans Director of Housing Policy and Community Development Tyra Brown added, "The City of New Orleans is committed to partnering with HANO and other stakeholders in leveraging resources to revitalize neighborhoods such as BW Cooper. It is important to invest in our people, housing and neighborhoods, which the City's Office of Community Development is happy to do alongside the work of HANO in creating and sustaining access to affordable housing."

HUD and HANO will be working closely together on the implementation and monitoring of the grant funds to meet all regulations, deadlines, and to achieve the outcome all are working towards – affordable, secure and accessible housing for the city of New Orleans.

About the Housing Authority of New Orleans

The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) is focused on providing affordable housing opportunities for low-income residents of the city of New Orleans while laying the foundation for economic sustainability. HANO serves approximately 22,000 low-income families through a combination of their Housing Choice Voucher Program and public housing units. HANO also serves public housing needs for the elderly, disabled and veterans.

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