



CITY OF TUCSON

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Robert Rappaport
Public Information Coordinator
(520) 837-4073
Robert.Rappaport@tucsonaz.gov

Date: Sept. 6, 2018
TDD: 791-2639

TUCSON AWARDED GRANT TO REVITALIZE ORACLE NEIGHBORHOOD

The City of Tucson is the recipient of a \$1.3 million Choice Neighborhoods Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The money will be used to improve the Oracle Neighborhood and the Tucson House public housing facility in the neighborhood.

The first \$350,000 will be used to fund planning activities in the target area through the Planning Center, ASU School of Social Work, and Poster Frost Mirto in the development of a comprehensive transformation plan focusing on neighborhoods, people, and housing.

The remaining \$950,000 of the Planning Grant will be used for capital improvements in the area, which can include infrastructure, parks, facades, transportation, housing, and any public improvements eligible for Community Development Block Grants. Specific projects will be selected through a public engagement process that will be announced soon. That process will involve residents of the Tucson House, community residents, and partners in the projects.

“This is good news and good work by our City of Tucson staff,” said Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild. “This will give us funds to kick-start our efforts to improve the Oracle-Stone corridor for the residents and businesses in the area.”

U.S. Reps Raúl Grijalva and Martha McSally were instrumental in helping secure the Choice Neighborhoods Grant for the City of Tucson.

The transformation plan will lead the process in applying for a Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant for up to \$30 million - \$21 million toward the rehabilitation of the Tucson House and \$9 million for other neighborhood improvements.

The Tucson House opened in 1963 as a high-rise apartment building. The City of Tucson acquired the building in 1979 to use as public housing for the elderly and disabled.

###