



Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers

2nd District Council Member

PRESS RELEASE

SUBJECT: COUNCILWOMAN GOODEN-RODGERS PRAISES \$25 MILLION WESTSIDE HOUSING INVESTMENT
FROM: COUNCILWOMAN OPHELIA GOODEN-RODGERS
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Contact 574-235-9221 | SBCITYLCERK@SOUTHBENDIN.GOV

Councilwoman Gooden-Rodgers Praises \$25 million Westside Housing Investment

South Bend, Indiana - Three weeks ago, the City of South Bend first presented a plan to partner with 2 non-profits to fill vacant lots in the city with more than 120 new single-family homes, many of them reserved for low-to-middle income residents. The larger portion of the plan includes \$25 million of total investment to build 92 homes on the city's Westside, in South Bend's Second Council District between Lincoln Way West and the South Bend City Cemetery. Both projects are scheduled to come before the South Bend Common Council for funding approval on Monday July 22, 2024.

This Lincoln Park housing partnership with Affordable HomeMatters Indiana, would provide the group with \$5 million of City TIF funds spread out over 5 years, in exchange for construction of at least 92 new homes on the Westside and \$20 million of investment by Affordable HomeMatters Indiana.

Second District Councilwoman Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers praises the plan stating, "this historic area of our city has felt forgotten and neglected over the recent past. Thank you to the investment group for their confidence to make this investment in the neighborhood and in our Westside. I believe that as \$25 million dollars is put into the neighborhood it will spark further investment and positive change along Lincon Way West."

Gooden-Rodgers continues, "I intend to advocate for the use of our local union contractors and home builders as this project continues in the coming years and will personally work with the development group to create opportunities for the young folks of the area to be a part of this growth."

The Councilwoman closes, "92 new homes on our Westside is a great start! I thank Mayor Mueller and city staff for their efforts and support bringing this forward. We still need a lot more new and affordable homes and I look forward to working with the mayor and his team as we continue to push to restore pride on the Westside."

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