Wu, David W.

From: Morris, Chris H.

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 4:08 PM

Subject: DeKalb Sustainable Neighborhood Initiative

Attachments: DSNI Candidate Areas.pdf

Dear Community Leader:

DeKalb County is launching the DeKalb Sustainable Neighborhoods Initiative (DSNI), a pilot program that will foster a collaborative, cross-sector, community-based approach to improving the quality of life in DeKalb neighborhoods. Communities participating in the DeKalb Sustainable Neighborhoods Initiative will have the opportunity to work with the assets in their area, including collaborating with a variety of agencies, organizations and institutions that share an interest in the community to craft a comprehensive approach for improving the quality of life in their neighborhoods.

Seven candidate areas have been identified for this opportunity based on their eligibility to utilize resources available through the County's U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funded programs and related federal, state, and local initiatives. The seven areas, based on high school clusters, include: Clarkston, Columbia, Cross Keys, Lithonia, McNair, Stone Mountain, and Towers (see attached map).

The DeKalb Sustainable Neighborhoods Initiative invites you to attend an information session to learn more about the program and how these candidate community areas can submit a request to participate. The DSNI Information Session is being held on Thursday, April 19th, at 6 p.m. at the Maloof Auditorium, 1300 Commerce Drive, Decatur 30030.

The Information Session will include detailed information on the DeKalb Sustainable Neighborhoods Initiative as well as information on how to submit a request for your community to be considered as one of the two communities that will be included in the pilot version of DSNI that will be launched in May 2012.

Community leaders from each of the areas are being invited to attend the April 19th Information Session and submit a request to participate in the full program. All areas that submit a request for participation may receive targeted assistance for community improvement activities. Details on these resources and assistance available will be provided at the Information Session.

The DeKalb County Department of Human and Community Development will be the lead partner for this initiative and will be working closely with other County departments, community stakeholders, and Emory University Office of University-Community Partnerships in this effort. We look forward to seeing you on April 19 to discuss this great opportunity to continue to improve our neighborhoods in DeKalb!

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