

November 30, 2022

Dear Durham Tech community and neighbors,

Thank you again for your interest and participation in our community efforts to build affordable housing just around the corner from Durham Tech's Main Campus, at 902 S. Briggs Avenue. All of us on the team at Durham Tech, Mosaic Development Group, Banc of America CDC, and the Partnership for Southern Equity remain grateful for the time, ideas, critical feedback, and enthusiasm that so many shared with us over these last few months, shaping this development in powerful ways.

We are reaching out to share a brief update on this effort.

As a quick recap, Durham Tech is partnering with Mosaic Development Group and Banc of America CDC to design and develop this community ([Read more about the goals and background of this effort](#)). Together, we convened a Steering Committee to guide this work, which is made up of students, community leaders, and development partners. This group has been instrumental in shaping and co-facilitating our community engagement efforts over the past 6 months, through which we were able to engage over 150 unique individuals in a series of 6 community meetings – leading to key feedback from students, neighbors, employees, and the broader community. Thank you to all who participated.

We are excited to share the [final report](#) from that process with you now. The report was prepared by the [Partnership for Southern Equity](#), a nonprofit organization that assisted us in designing and implementing an equitable engagement process to gather input on community design, amenities, and other priorities to ensure the development meets the needs and aspirations of prospective residents and the surrounding community. This report serves to:

1. Provide a brief review of the proposed development
2. Summarize the key findings from each of these community conversations
3. Share drafts of concept site plans, built iteratively in conversation with community and architects/design team through this process
4. Identify next steps for continued community engagement

Of course, this report closes out just one chapter of our engagement process, which won't stop even after this community has become reality. Our engagement will continue to evolve to ensure this development centers those most impacted by the issues we hope to address through this effort.

As you review this report, we invite you to connect with any follow-up questions or comments you may have. You can email us at westm@durhamtech.edu and rashadac@durhamtech.edu or [submit questions and comments here](#). The conversation and the development process continues in earnest!

The next steps we are pursuing to make this development a reality:

- *Secure financing*: The development team will be applying for financing through Low Income Housing Tax Credits (4% bond financing), while also applying for other affordable housing funding/ subsidy sources. We plan to apply for financing in 2023, pending the availability of funding opportunities for gap financing.
- *Continue to engage community input*: To further inform the design, development, and management of this community, we will continue to convene the Steering Committee throughout 2023, and continue to reach out to the network of community members who have participated or expressed interest in staying in touch/sharing their input ([Sign up here if you'd like to receive these regular updates/opportunities to get involved](#)).

As always, please feel more than welcome to reach out with any questions, suggestions, or feedback. We are grateful for your input, and hopeful that together we can be a part of addressing the affordable housing crisis in our community and in our country.

With gratitude,

Maggie West and Candace Rashada