

April 15, 2025

Zoning, Neighborhoods, and Development Committee Milwaukee Common Council City Hall 200 E Wells St Milwaukee, WI 53202

Letter of Support – Community-Led Housing Developments at 2600 Block of N. 35th Street

Dear Members of the Zoning, Neighborhoods, and Development Committee,

On behalf of Metcalfe Park Community Bridges, Inc. We are writing in strong support of the proposed development of four single-family homes at the 2600 block of North 35th Street, led in partnership with Turner Community Partners LLC.

This project reflects our shared commitment to stabilizing and strengthening Metcalfe Park by ensuring that longtime residents have access to affordable, dignified homeownership. These new homes—three-bedroom, two-bathroom single-family houses—will be sold to low- to moderate-income, first-time homebuyers who currently live in Metcalfe Park. At a deeply subsidized sale price of \$105,000, made possible through generous support from Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) and local funders like Northwestern Mutual Foundation, this development helps close the gap between cost and accessibility.

This project is about more than bricks and mortar, it's about investing in people and keeping families rooted in place. Homeownership is a critical pathway to intergenerational wealth and stability. By building new homes that our neighbors can afford to own, we are building the conditions for long-term health, safety, and community wealth in Metcalfe Park.

Equally important, this project uplifts local developers like Turner Community Partners, who are working in true partnership with the community, not apart from it. We believe that development should be done *with* the people who live in a neighborhood, not *to* them. This partnership model ensures that any and all development directly benefits the existing community, rather than displacing or excluding them.

This is the first of many collaborative, from-the-ground-up developments we envision in Metcalfe Park, developments rooted in transparency, shared power, and a commitment to building a future where current residents can thrive.

We urge the committee to approve the sale of these city-owned lots and support a model of development that centers community voice, builds wealth, and creates a more just and rooted Milwaukee.

Metcalfe Park Community Bridges, Inc.