



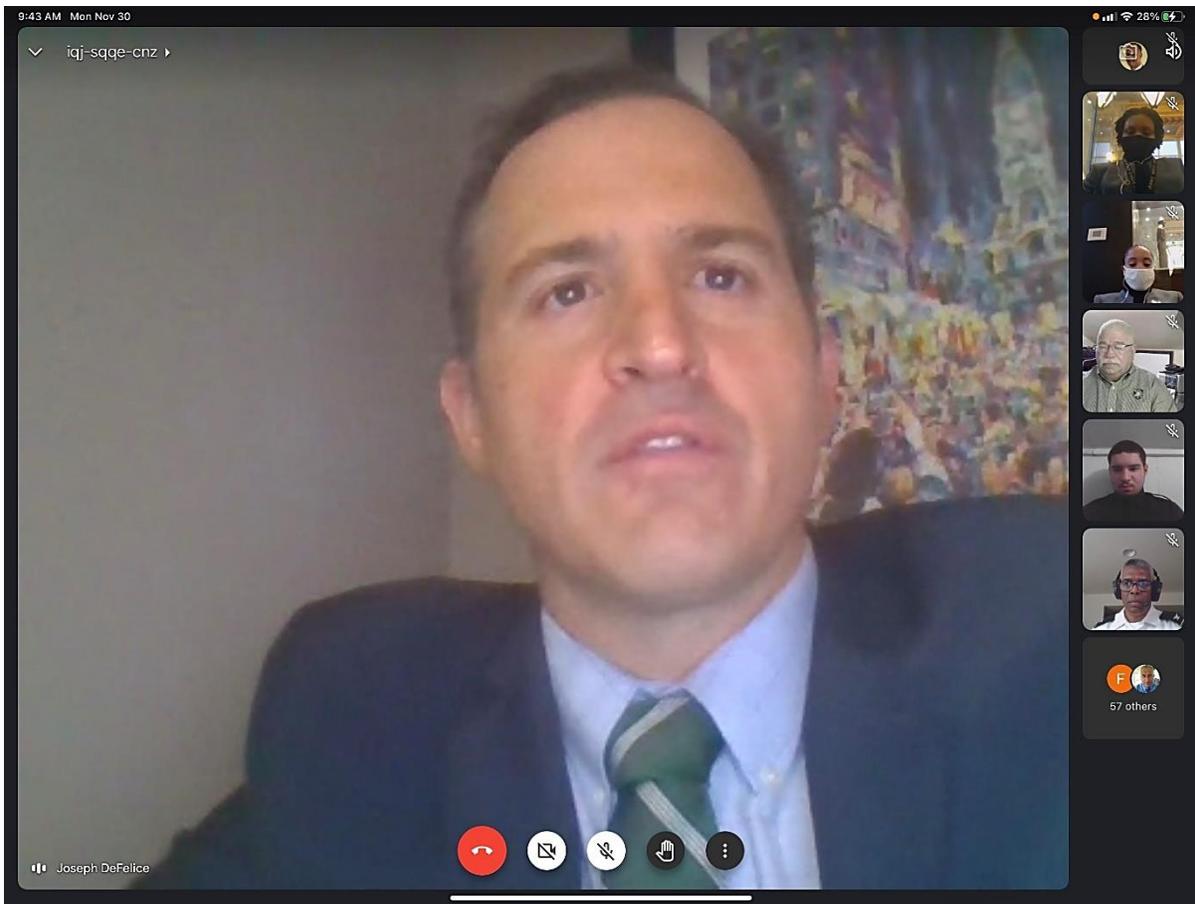
December 4, 2020



The Beginning of New Opportunities in Coatesville, Pennsylvania

It's always good to be on the road again—especially when a return trip involves witnessing first-hand what a difference Opportunity Zones can make in a local community. This Wednesday, I joined Susan Springsteen of H2O Connected LLC, nth Solutions LLC and Proudfoot Capital for a **“topping off” ceremony of a project utilizing a \$5 million private Opportunity Zones capital investment that will transform Coatesville’s west side.** What was once a dilapidated historic building will soon become a state-of-the-art facility that will house seven new businesses and create dozens of new jobs for local workers. This was the first private development of this magnitude in the city in over 50 years—and will serve as an anchor of the commercial corridor. It was also a great excuse to join Susan and Pennsylvania State Representative Dan Williams (D-74th) for a reunion of those involved in the project, many of whom I met when I toured the site back in late July. Great to be joined by Amber Little-Turner, Sonia Huntzinger, Joshua Burrell, Patrick Bokovitz, Councilman Ed Simpson, City Manager James Logan and County Commissioners Michelle Kichline, Marian Moskowitz and Josh Maxwell for the celebration. Thanks for giving me reasons to keep coming back. Keep up the great work!





LIVE from Richmond, Virginia & West Point, New York

I'd like to thank **Jerryl Bennett** who serves as HUD Liaison, Federal Interagency STEM Initiatives, the West Point Society of Richmond and the West Point Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Equal Opportunity for hosting this week's virtual Leadership, Ethics and Diversity in STEM training event. It isn't every day that you are invited to inspire 40 young women and men from the Franklin Military Academy in a day-long program designed to engage, excite and inspire students in hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) activities. Just imagine being part of an ethics discussion with future leaders of the nation's armed forces currently attending the United States Military Academy at West Point



if you are a young high school aged cadet. This round included students from the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority. You may not know that since 2012, the HUD Veterans Affinity Group Innovation Network has supported over 40 STEM focused events with nearly 2,000 middle and high school students in nine states—at no cost to the participants. In a “Flashback Friday” photo,

you'll see participants from the last event held in Virginia where students learned how to program a robot to navigate a maze and perform specified tasks—and then pitted their newly found skills against all of the others in a final challenge. Want to learn how you can host a STEM event in your area? Please contact jerryl.e.bennett@hud.gov. Great to have played a part in such a worthwhile activity.

Section 3 is not just a grantee “requirement.” It's a path toward resident self-sufficiency.

Many thanks to Richmond Field Office Director Carrie Schmidt and her team for their great work in “getting the word out” about the recently announced release of the Section 3 final rule focused on economic opportunity outcomes and reducing the regulatory burden on entities that receive funding. This week, we met virtually with 60 partners from Virginia's Hampton Roads area. Attendees also received tips



on how to find and post opportunities in their area. Section 3 offers those who receive housing assistance a path forward towards jobs, wealth creation and economic improvement. This past year in the Mid-Atlantic, more than \$20 million in construction contracts and \$1.5 million in non-construction contracts led to the creation of 825 new Section 3 jobs. That’s nearly 1,000 HUD-assisted families who are directly benefitting from Section 3 businesses and federal contracts. Director Schmidt’s next event, the HUD Central Virginia Empowerment Webinar, will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. For details or to attend, please email Megan.C.Payne@HUD.gov.

Expanding affordable rental housing for low-income persons with disabilities

In the Mid-Atlantic Region:

DC: Mission First Housing Development, \$2.4 million
MD: Way Station, Inc., \$461,086
Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, \$6.9 million
PA: Hispanic Association of Contractors & Enterprises (HACE), \$1.4 million
VA: Virginia Housing, \$6.9 million

\$18M Awarded!



A Big Win for Public Housing in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania

A collaborative effort between HUD’s Pittsburgh Field Office and the Allegheny County Housing Authority (ACHA) has led to the successful conversion of 88 scattered-site public housing units to a more sustainable financial platform using Housing Choice Vouchers.

“I’d like to congratulate ACHA on this significant achievement,” said HUD Pittsburgh Public Housing Director Jacqueline Molinaro-Thompson. “For the past two years, my team has worked closely with the housing authority and the Office of General Counsel here in Pittsburgh to get the repositioning transaction to the finish line. Thank you all for your hard work. We did it!”

This major milestone is ACHA's first Section 18 Demolition and Disposition repositioning action, supporting HUD's ongoing efforts to reposition the remaining units of public housing across the country by the end of the fiscal year. The ultimate goal is to preserve and improve the public housing stock in local communities, so vulnerable families can live in quality affordable housing.

Pictured above, ACHA Paralegal Debbie Breitenstein (left) and Pittsburgh Public Housing Director Jacqueline Molinaro-Thompson execute legal documents associated with the repositioning of public housing units—all while social distancing.

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY: Fiscal Year 2020 HOPE VI Main Street Grant Program

HUD has announced a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Fiscal Year 2020 HOPE VI Main Street Grant Program. The NOFA was posted on www.grants.gov on October 29, 2020. **The HOPE VI Main Street Program provides grants to small communities to assist in the renovation of a historic or traditional central business district or "Main Street" area by replacing unused, obsolete, commercial space in buildings with affordable housing units.** Properties may be publicly or privately owned. However, the local government whose jurisdiction includes the Main Street area is the only entity that is eligible to receive an award. The population for this local government jurisdiction cannot exceed 50,000 residents. Additionally, if the jurisdiction includes a Public Housing Authority, the number Public Housing units may not exceed 100. With this publication, approximately \$1,000,000 is available for award. HUD expects to make two awards under this NOFA of up to \$500,000 each. Applications are due on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. For more information about the Main Street program, click here. Potential applicants may submit questions to Susan.Wilson@hud.gov. These grants would be helpful for the work you may have underway to bring your "Main Street" back to life. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to apply.

Stay safe, stay sane and be well.



Joe DeFelice, Region III Regional Administrator
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Region III Recap, December 4, 2020

Region III Recap & HUDLines, HUD's Region III e-News Brief

We welcome your feedback and invite you to share your news with Lisa A. Wolfe at lisa.a.wolfe@hud.gov. If you know anyone who would like to receive our new Region III Recap or our quarterly HUDLines, please feel free to share. We safeguard and do not rent, sell or permit the use of our lists. To subscribe, visit [HUDLines](#). You may also [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

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