



PRESS RELEASE

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COUNCIL APPROVES 380 AGREEMENT WITH LONE STAR CIRCLE OF CARE *West End Elementary School to be revitalized, used for Project Headwaters*

TAYLOR, Texas – During the Thursday, December 12, Taylor City Council meeting, councilmembers unanimously approved entering into a 380 Agreement with Lone Star Circle of Care (LSCC) to revitalize Taylor’s historic West End Elementary School. As part of the revitalization, the building will be used for Project Headwaters, a program that will offer medical, health, and social services for residents regardless of their financial circumstances or health insurance status. The City will also convey two properties along Doak Street that LSCC will use for an urban garden serving the mission of Project Headwaters.

The revitalization of the abandoned school has been a longstanding goal of the Taylor City Council. The West End Elementary School, located at 1301 Ferguson, was built in the 1920s and was used as a school until 1983.

“It’s great to see you come in and make this great addition to Taylor and give these people some health care that is much needed in (an) underserved community,” Council member Gerald Anderson said.

During the Council meeting, LSCC CEO Rhonda Mundhenk presented the goals of Project Headwaters, which include the development of a new service delivery model in Taylor for low-income residents and the co-location of a new clinic with programs that will influence early childhood development and healthy aging. Additionally, Project Headwaters will focus on programs for access to healthy foods through the urban garden.

“The potential that this project has is just incredible. And it has been a long arduous journey and there have been a lot of fits and starts and crossing our fingers that everything would come together,” Mayor Brandt Rydell said, “It’s just a good feeling to get to this point.”

LSCC operates 23 sites in six counties in Texas. Services include primary care, comprehensive obstetrics and gynecology, integrated behavioral health, dentistry, convenient care, optometry, and pharmacy services. Over the past several years, the City has discussed possibilities with LSCC for the use of the West End Elementary School building, and the organization has been actively pursuing funding for the building renovation and the health care programming they want to provide at the location.

LSCC is partnering with the City of Taylor as well as with other organizations for this project, including St. David’s Foundation, Episcopal Health Foundation, the Carl C. Anderson, Sr. and Marie Jo Anderson Charitable Foundation, Williamson County, Opportunities for Williamson & Burnet Counties, the WIC and Community Nutrition program at Williamson County & Cities Health District, The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School Design Institute for Health, Clayton & Little Architects, and The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School Departments of Population Health and Internal Medicine, Division of Primary Care and Value-Based Health.

For additional information, please contact the City of Taylor Communications Office at 512-352-5448.