

Date: September 19, 2018

From: Hank Elkins, Orange County Justice United Affordable Housing Team

Subject: Petition for Town Staff to evaluate master leasing as an affordable housing strategy

My name is Hank Elkins, and I am a member of the Orange County Justice United Affordable Housing Team.

Over the last twelve months, Justice United leaders have partnered with the Chamber of Commerce, with affordable housing providers, and with county residents ~~having~~ ^{facing} barriers to stable housing. We have worked together to develop a master leasing strategy. This is a strategy to move residents with extremely low incomes and other barriers into commercial housing and to do so quickly, to do so cost-effectively, and to do it well.

To shape this concept, residents with extremely low incomes have contributed leadership at every step. The team has met with the Chapel Hill Housing Advisory Board; we have met with the Orange County Housing Advisory Board; and we have been privileged to meet with Town Council members. We have built the master leasing proposal upon the foundation of constructive suggestions we have received from these sources.

We are requesting that Town Staff evaluate the master leasing proposal in terms of the Town's own affordable housing strategy. And we are requesting staff feedback, feedback to allow us to sharpen the proposal further. We are asking for constructive evaluation to advance our shared interest in making Chapel Hill a Place for Everyone.

Please refer staff to Justice United organizer Devin Ross (919)358-5828 or devin@ocjusticeunited.org for the latest draft of the master leasing proposal and for further information.