



July 20, 2022

Pastor
Rev. William T. Spearman

Associate Minister
Rev. Pamela E. Blair

Board of Stewards
Chairman
Paul Allen

Board of Stewardess
Chairperson
Ruby Bishop

Board of Trustees
Chairman
Ralph Evans

Mrs. Cindy Schneible
President
McKinney Community Development Corporation
5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Suite 110
McKinney, TX 75070

Dear Mrs. Cindy Schneible and the MCDC Board of Directors:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a request for an extension for grant #20-12 on behalf of St. James CME Church.

As shared in the initial request for funding, our goal has been to seek funding that would lessen the need for a high percentage of loans. While we have sought grant funding and have been awarded funding through the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), we have not secured all of our funding through grant or foundation sources as desired. As a result, we will need to continue our applications for grant funding, while applying for construction loans as soon as possible.

As additional background, one parcel of property includes a building that is historic (built circa 1965), particularly to the Black community of East McKinney. While we made application for funding through the National Trust for Historic Preservation, our grant application was not funded in this past round. We were encouraged and plan to apply again. An application for Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ1) funding is in progress for consideration, particularly under the *Vacant/Underutilized Site/Buildings* category. We are also working directly and consistently with the City of McKinney's Downtown Development and Historic Preservation Planning Manager for funding and development opportunities. We have also been able to secure legal consulting services and the architectural consulting services of JMA LLC, which includes a Principal Owner who is closely related to the original owners of Al & Alene's Barber Shop, which is the site of the proposed project.

We believe in this project, including its preservation opportunity, and desire to move forward in support of the needs within the community. Thus, we would like to **request an extension of 12 months (September 2023)**. In consideration of increased construction supplies and labor costs, we believe this will provide ample time to procure the necessary funding as we continue to move forward.

For any questions or feedback, I can be reached at wtspearman55@yahoo.com or 972-800-3654.

Thank you for your consideration,

William T. Spearman
William T. Spearman

Reverend William T. Spearman, Pastor
St. James C.M.E. Church - McKinney, Texas

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