James Graham Brown Foundation Provides Grant to West End Opportunity Partnership

Leadership Grant Will Provide Funds to Revitalize and Invest in West Louisville

Louisville, Ky. (July 28, 2021) – The James Graham Brown Foundation has committed to providing a $2.5 million leadership grant to the West End Opportunity Partnership, which is a plan to encourage and support economic development and energize Louisville’s west end neighborhood.

By committing to a $2.5 million leadership grant, the James Graham Brown Foundation seeks to pave the way for additional private donations to unlock additional funding allocated by Louisville Metro and the state. When $10 million is raised in private contributions, the state will give $10 million. Louisville Metro has also pledged $10 million dollars to supplement the total program cost of $30 million dollars.

The initiative will contribute and support economic growth in the west end in several ways. Most notably, for the next 20 years, 80 percent of new tax revenue collected in the area will stay in the west end. Additional potential areas of focus include loans to new and existing businesses, environmental cleanup, financing for more affordable rental units, home improvements and more.

“This is an exciting and valuable initiative for the west end neighborhoods and the city of Louisville as a whole,” said Mason Rummel, president and CEO of James Graham Brown Foundation. “We are thrilled to be a piece of the puzzle and encourage other community partners to support this project. By doing so, you are investing in financial growth and freedom for many west Louisville residents, business owners and leaders.”

The West End Opportunity Partnership was backed and passed by State Senators Neal, Adams, Mcgarvey, Stivers and State Representatives Stevenson and Fleming. The project was born out of broad community conversations over the past two years. The initiative will be governed by 21 board members, who represent the racial majority of residents in west Louisville. To learn more about the West End Opportunity Partnership and for more information on donating to the initiative, please visit https://westendpartners.org/

About the James Graham Brown Foundation

The James Graham Brown Foundation was established in 1954 by the noted lumberman, horseman and entrepreneur. Since its founding, the organization has awarded nearly 4,000 grants totaling over $620 million. The foundation funds a variety of causes and local charities working in the areas of education, human services, economic development, cultural and civic projects. Total grants for 2020 were approximately $18,055,025.