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Docket Number:	19-ERDD-01
Project Title:	Research Idea Exchange
TN #:	232441
Document Title:	Cheryl R Lee Comments - From Policy to the People - Green Affordable Housing
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Cheryl R. Lee
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	3/17/2020 5:40:07 AM
Docketed Date:	3/17/2020

Comment Received From: Cheryl R. Lee
Submitted On: 3/17/2020
Docket Number: 19-ERDD-01

From Policy to the People - Green Affordable Housing

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Comments on the Staff Concept

Building homes or apartments within a community should always hold consideration for discovery phases where builders and designers learn what they are making, for whom, and what is the need of the community?

Visual materials and tools are used to optimize processes within an environment, but does this truly target the community we are trying to serve? We don't want to paint a beautiful picture; we want to be realistic and impactful with our offering of affordable, green, and functional housing. Engaging with key stakeholders assist us to not assume what they want, but what is imperative for their families and single life lifestyles.

Who is the customer for the building? Create a profile for users and document into an end-users profile.

What are the populations' problems we want to help solve? This is critical information; it will give us the challenges our target populations need solutions to on a continuum.

How does what we do solve the user's problem? Can our building/design idea benefit end-users and improve their current state of living and environment; have we carved out their input?

We should also consider non profits that build affordable housing and their asset to this project. They provide touch-to-touch to impoverished communities and many add value to developing and sustaining community equity. In many cases, they establish a presence that overlays affordable housing with community programs and initiatives which drives community impact.

Story mapping is a great way to find imperative information one needs to begin any process, whether it is a design process, a program, or a new idea that will allow touch points across general population areas. This process will coincide with the design development and add a narrative to the purpose of the project.

Last but not least, include a collaborative session with stakeholders, community members, builders, designers, and other management to ask key questions to work out innovative ideas and move them to deliver a fantastic service or product to end-users.