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HOUSING PLAN WILL SUPPORT THE LONG-TERM PRESERVATION OF 32-UNIT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FACILITY FOR PERSONS WITH HIV/AIDS IN NORTH LAWNDALE

Today, Mayor Lightfoot introduced a redevelopment agreement with Heartland Phoenix House to preserve a 32-unit affordable housing development in North Lawndale for persons living with HIV/AIDS under financial measures introduced today to City Council by Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot. Heartland acquired the property and assumed the mortgage and regulatory agreements last month from AIDSCARE III LP.

Phoenix House, a 13-year-old, supportive living facility at 1251 S. Sawyer Ave., in the 24th Ward, provides on-site case management, medical assistance, mental health and/or substance abuse support and other services to persons living with HIV/AIDS, as well as formerly homeless individuals.

The City will provide a $1 million Multifamily Loan to help stabilize the property and complete future work necessary over the next 15 years. The City will also amend the existing redevelopment agreement to address the undeveloped vacant lots on the site for use as open space by the tenants until Heartland is in a financial position to complete the development.

As part of the redevelopment agreement, Heartland will maintain the property as affordable housing for residents earning up to 50% of area median income. The agreement requires City Council approval because the facility’s development was partly financed using a $1.3 million multi-family loan from the Department of Housing. Heartland will assume the outstanding debt on the loan.

Founded in 1988, Heartland Housing is a leader in developing and managing affordable and supportive housing in the Midwest.

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