What is the Choice Neighborhood Initiative?

- The Housing Authority of the City of Tulsa (THA) and the City of Tulsa were one of five cities to receive the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant from the U.S. Office of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

- Choice Neighborhoods Initiative promotes a comprehensive approach to transforming neighborhoods struggling to address the interconnected challenges of distressed housing, inadequate schools, poor health, high crime and lack of capital.

- Funded through HUD’s Choice Neighborhoods Initiative, THA and the City of Tulsa plan to utilize the $30 million award to help revitalize and transform Tulsa’s Eugene Field neighborhood and stimulate economic development in that area.
What opportunities will Choice Neighborhood create?

**Improved housing:** Replace distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood;

**Opportunities for families:** Improve outcomes of households living in the target housing related to employment and income, health and children’s education; and

**Stronger neighborhoods:** Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets - including safety, good schools, and commercial activity - that are important to families’ choices about their community. We are working with community partners to enhance and extend the learning environment and activities for students.

The Choice Neighborhood Initiative will help strengthen Eugene Field Elementary School and Webster Middle and High School as anchors of the community.
What is the Riverwest concept?
What is the project timeline and impact on families?

- This initiative will create 460 new apartments over six phases.
- Phases I will break ground spring 2020 and all Phases complete by 2024.
- Eugene Field had 28 students and Webster had 13 students relocated in the first phase.
- Over the lifetime of the project, 75 Eugene Field students and 44 Webster students will have their housing relocated.
Where are phases I – VI taking place?
What supports are families receiving?

- All residents will receive relocation assistance, mobility counseling and case management assistance, and all residents will maintain a first right to return.

- All students at Eugene Field Elementary School participated in a social and emotional learning workshop led by Tulsa Children’s Museum Discovery Lab.

- Activities were held at Riverview Park Apartments for Eugene Field and Webster Middle and High School students to begin to prepare them for the neighborhood transformation.
What supports are families receiving?

- An education specialist through Communities in Schools is working with us to provide onsite assistance with addressing education needs for current and new families as well as identifying out-of-school time summer learning opportunities within all targeted households with children.

- For families being relocated, we will deliver transportation solutions to help the students who want to stay at Eugene Field.

- We are working in close collaboration with Tulsa Housing Authority and Urban Strategies to proactively engage families impacted by relocation through dedicated communication channels and student focus groups.