



**MAYOR'S OFFICE  
M E M O R A N D U M**

January 11, 2024

**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Mayor Vi Lyles *Vi Lyles*  
**SUBJECT:** Faith-Based Development Initiative

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Faith-based organizations (FBOs) in Charlotte serve as community hubs, providing spiritual leadership and valuable social services. These organizations steward an extensive portfolio of property across our city. With the increasing needs of the community, and the mission of FBOs in serving, there is the opportunity for collaborating on the innovative use of FBO-owned properties. Partnerships with mission-oriented developers present a strategic avenue to activate these properties, aligning congregations' missions with community-driven goals to enhance the availability of affordable housing and bolster community well-being.

City Council has already successfully invested more than \$18 million of Housing Trust Fund dollars into the development of over 600 affordable housing units in partnership with local FBOs. To expand these accomplishments, a Faith-Based Development Initiative (FBDI) is being established. Council Member Mayfield, in collaboration with our Housing and Neighborhood Services Department, will lead this initiative, facilitating collaboration across a broad range of partners, including FBOs, affordable housing developers, philanthropic organizations, and housing services providers. Our collective effort will equip FBOs with the support, resources, partnerships, and expertise to successfully navigate the complexities of affordable housing development.

I am excited about this initiative as it aligns strongly with our strategic objective to expand affordable housing and reflects our commitment to innovative, community-led solutions.