



**PROJECT
ROW
HOUSES**

Project Row Houses announces creation of sister non-profit, PRH Preservation, Inc.

*First property transaction along Webster Street completed;
Ensures historic housing stock is being preserved in the Third Ward*

HOUSTON – June 6, 2018 – The Project Row Houses board of directors announced today the formation of a new non-profit corporation, PRH Preservation, Inc., which supports the charitable purposes of Project Row Houses and will own, develop, improve, and operate affordable housing for low income persons living in Houston’s Third Ward. PRH Preservation is led by Executive Director Eureka Gilkey, who also serves as executive director of Project Row Houses.

Initial funding of \$2 million has been gifted to PRH Preservation by the Kinder Foundation. The grant was used to purchase a 1.4-acre piece of property at Webster, Hadley, and Live Oak Streets, which consisted of approximately 21 wood-frame structures constructed between 1930 and 1950. Primarily in residential use, the structures are now managed by PRH Preservation and under renovation.

“We have launched the next step in the community development of Houston’s historic Third Ward with the goal of improving the quality of life for residents. PRH Preservation preserves and ensures long-term, safe and affordable housing for residents,” said Gilkey.

Specifically, PRH Preservation was formed to aid in:

- Preserving the character and culture of the neighborhood as it goes through transition;
- Accelerating the redevelopment of the neighborhood by raising money to subsidize individual projects;
- Contributing to the sustainability of Project Row Houses;
- Achieving the appropriate mix of subsidized housing versus market based residential and commercial uses within the defined area;
- Preserving as many of the original row houses as practicable;
- Bringing original row houses into compliance with applicable codes and making them sustainable;
- Working with any land owner in the defined area in the most effective manner; and
- Devising a plan for the Eldorado Ballroom that not only facilitates its use for the benefit of the community but also contributes to the sustainability of Project Row Houses.

Hastings Johnson will serve as PRH Preservation’s president. “Having served on the Project Row Houses board, I am aware of the need for this new organization. The board hopes to steer PRH Preservation with a singular focus on investing in this historic neighborhood through intentional and strategic community development.”

Nancy Kinder, president and CEO of the Kinder Foundation said, “Our investment in the Third Ward and Project Row Houses remains long-term in focus and our support of PRH Preservation is intended to have a tangible and meaningful impact on the neighborhood and its residents.”

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