**Product Council/Building Healthy Places**

**Joint White Paper Opportunity**

**February 2017**

The ULI Building Healthy Places Initiative is excited to have the opportunity to work with two ULI Product Councils to prepare reports or white papers which explore topics that intersect with Product Council interests and human health. We will seek ideas from Product Councils in Spring 2017, and will aim to complete the reports by Fall Meeting, 2018.

The Building Healthy Places Initiative will provide resources to conduct research, focus findings, draft reports, find images, and design and print the report. Product Councils will develop and propose white paper topics, identify point people, review white paper drafts and final content, discuss paper findings at ULI meetings, and help to disseminate findings. The joint white papers will be shared widely with Product Council networks, ULI members, and partner organizations via virtual and in person events, mailings, email, and other means.

**White Paper Content**

White paper topics will explore the connections between human health, wellness, wellbeing, and the built environment. Potential topics could include, for example – addressing regulatory barriers to building healthier buildings; exploring how to expand investment by REITs in healthy buildings and places; reforming parking policies to promote sustainability and health; exploring strategies to sustain inter-generational living; solving last mile challenges; bringing international best practices on transit or active transport to the United States; etc.

Building Healthy Places is flexible about what topics are explored for these papers—we are most interested in topics that will spark and sustain the interest of Product Council members and ULI members writ large. We prefer topics that encompass issues of social and economic equity.

**Statements of Interest**

Building Healthy Places will seek Statements of Interest from Product Councils. Please consider the following:

* What topics would be interesting and relevant to your Product Council membership, and also to the ULI membership more generally? Are there research areas that you have discussed in the past that we have an opportunity to make progress on?
* Who from your Council will serve as leads and liaisons on this project? We would like Councils to identify two members to serve as point people. These members will serve as reviewers of outlines and drafts, identify experts and research resources, tap other Council members for tasks as needed, and serve as connections to the Council as a whole. They should have a passion for the subject and time to devote to the project.
* How will your Product Council use the results of the research effort and white paper? How will your Council members share it with other ULI members and organizations? What potential does this work have to influence practice and policy and how will Council members expand this circle of influence?

 **Timeline**

The project timeline is as follows:

* April 2017 – Opportunity announcement, Statements of Interest forms available
* June 5, 2017 **–** Statements of Interest due from Product Councils
* July 2017 – Selection of two white paper topics/Product Councils
* Fall 2017 – White paper outline draft, initial scoping
* Winter 2017/18 – Research, interviews, writing
* Spring 2018 – Draft complete, Product Council review, possible discussion at Spring Meeting, revisions
* Summer/Early Fall 2018 – Final draft, editing and design, communications strategy developed
* Fall 2018 – Release, discussion at Fall Meeting Council meeting, distribution, communications

**More Information**

This project is supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. We are excited about the opportunity to partner with Product Councils on these important reports and papers. Additional information will follow.

Please be in touch at health@uli.org with any questions or comments.