



October 16, 2014

Message from the President & CEO



Richard C. Gentry
President & CEO

October is "Housing America Month," and we have some good news to report on actions we are taking to achieve that goal.

An updated ordinance to create additional affordable housing soon will be adopted in the City of San Diego. We also are improving the services we provide to some of our most vulnerable citizens – homeless San Diegans – as we prepare for the upcoming winter season.

New Funds for Affordable Housing

The San Diego City Council on October 6 took action on a compromise proposal by Councilmember Myrtle Cole to double the City of San Diego's Housing Impact Fee on most new commercial development to create additional affordable housing.

A Memorandum of Understanding negotiated by the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) and the Jobs Coalition became the foundation of the compromise proposal. The compromise plan phases in a fee increase over three years, beginning January 1, 2015.

Based on historical data collection, the compromise proposal is expected to generate an additional \$3 million over a five-year period above the current fees.

The compromise proposal exempts manufacturing, warehouse and nonprofit hospital development and protects research and development construction from any fee increase.

The fee returns to the San Diego City Council October 21 for further action.



Kalos Apartments - North Park - Developed with Housing Impact Fees - Completed 2.7.13

SDHC: Technology to Address Homelessness

I joined San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer and City Council President Todd Gloria for a major announcement to improve this region's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

All homeless service providers in the City of San Diego now are using the same software to coordinate housing and services provided to homeless individuals and families.

SDHC and more than 50 public and private nonprofit agencies will now share the same information regarding demographics and available options for housing.

These service providers – which administer more than 250 programs – will be able to more effectively assess the needs of homeless San Diegans and place them into appropriate programs.

The improved HMIS, maintained by the Regional Task Force on the Homeless, is supported by \$400,000 in funding from the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2015 budget, approved by the City Council on June 9.

[Watch video on SDHC's YouTube Channel](#)



Pictured from left: Bill Bolstad (Father Joe's Villages) Thomas Theisen (Regional Task Force on the Homeless) SDHC President & CEO Richard C. Gentry San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer and San Diego City Council President Todd Gloria

SDHC: Single Adult Emergency Winter Shelter Opens November 1

The City Council on October 7 approved the contract for operation of the Single Adult Emergency Winter Shelter at 16th Street and Newton Avenue, which will provide a place to stay for 200 men and women per night.

The HMIS system will be part of a new intake process this year at the shelter when it opens November 1.

For the first time, instead of the nightly lottery system previously used, a new coordinated assessment and housing placement system (CAHP) will be used by providers to determine who stays at the shelter.

The goal is to ensure that the most vulnerable individuals are served first. To reinforce the importance of moving out of homelessness and into permanent supportive housing, the shelter also will limit the length of stay to 45 days. While at the shelter, homeless San Diegans will receive enhanced supportive services.

The shelter is part of the City of San Diego's Homeless Shelters and Services Programs, administered by SDHC. SDHC also was directed by the City Council to perform with city staff a study of replacement locations for a permanent indoor homeless shelter.



Single Adult Emergency Winter Shelter Previously open from 11.23.12 to 6.30.14

I invite your comments.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Gentry
President & Chief Executive Officer
San Diego Housing Commission

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Read SDHC's Creating Affordable Housing Report

