



July 16, 2015

Message from the President & CEO



Richard C. Gentry
President & CEO

This summer has been a time for new beginnings for the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) and our partners.

We commemorated the start of the restoration of an iconic Downtown

San Diego sign as part of our rehabilitation of a historical property that will serve homeless Veterans.

I'm also pleased to share with you the preliminary findings in our groundbreaking efforts to identify strategies to reduce costs for developing affordable housing.

In addition, the City of San Diego's (City) new interim housing program for 350 homeless adults is now fully operational, replacing the City's emergency winter shelter tents program.

SDHC Financial Report Recognized for Excellence



SDHC Financial Services Department
July 7, 2015

SDHC's Financial Services Department received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting—the highest recognition awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

This is the seventh consecutive year that SDHC's Financial Services Department has earned this award.

This certificate, which recognizes "transparency and full disclosure" in government agencies' financial reports, was awarded for SDHC's comprehensive annual financial report for fiscal year 2014.

SDHC Partnership - Iconic Hotel Churchill Sign Removed for Restoration

The nearly 2,000-pound, 1940s era sign atop the historical Hotel Churchill in Downtown San Diego was removed to be refurbished.

After it is restored, the sign will be returned to Hotel Churchill's roof next year as a symbol of the brighter future that will be provided at Hotel Churchill for homeless San Diegans.

SDHC, working through our nonprofit affiliate, Housing Development Partners (HDP), is collaborating to rehabilitate Hotel Churchill to create 72 affordable studios with supportive services for homeless Veterans, youth aging out of the foster care system, and adults who will also need supportive services.



Historical Hotel Churchill Rehabilitation
827 C Street - Downtown San Diego

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will provide supportive services for 56 housing units for homeless Veterans. In addition, \$1.8 million from the State Mental Health Services Act, administered by the County of San Diego Mental Health Department, will provide permanent supportive services for the 16 non-Veteran adults.

This renovation is one of the five key points of HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO, SDHC's three-year homelessness action plan, which was launched on November 12, 2014.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

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

SDHC Presentation – Affordable Housing Costs and Revenue Options

SDHC Commissioner Frank Urtasan, the Regional Vice President of External Relations for San Diego Gas & Electric Company, joined SDHC's Senior Vice President Real Estate Division Debbie Ruane and me for a presentation to the San Diego City Council's Smart Growth and Land Use Committee about affordable housing development costs.



San Diego City Council
Smart Growth & Land Use Committee Presentation

Our presentation, "San Diego's Affordable Housing Challenge: Costs and Revenue Options," included our preliminary findings about ways to lower the costs of building affordable housing.

At the direction of our Board of Commissioners, SDHC is the only public housing authority in California that will be taking formal action to identify government regulations to lower the costs of providing affordable housing.

[Read the SDHC Presentation](#)

SDHC Partnership Live-Work-Play: Trolley Residential Apartments

The name says it all for Trolley Residential Apartments—a new development next to a San Diego Trolley public transportation station that will provide 51 affordable apartments for low-income San Diegans.



Trolley Residential Apts. groundbreaking ceremony
4981 Market Street
Encanto neighborhood of San Diego

San Diego City Councilmember Myrtle Cole joined me and the co-developers, Chelsea Investment Corporation and Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, for the groundbreaking ceremony yesterday.

Trolley Residential Apartments will remain affordable for 55 years for families with incomes from 30 percent of the San Diego Area Median Income (AMI) to 60 percent of AMI, currently \$24,300 to \$48,600 a year for a family of four.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

SDHC Partnership City's Year-Round Interim Housing Program Opens

The City of San Diego's new year-round interim housing program at a permanent facility for homeless San Diegans is fully operational, providing temporary housing to 350 adult men and women, replacing the City's emergency winter shelter tent program.



350 men and women
St. Vincent de Paul Village
Paul Mirabile Center
16 15th Street - Downtown San Diego

The interim housing program sets aside 140 beds for homeless Veterans.

The interim housing program is operated by St. Vincent de Paul Village, Inc. at its Downtown San Diego campus. SDHC administers the program as part of the City of San Diego's Homeless Shelters and Services Programs.

Homeless San Diegans are referred to the program through the Coordinated Assessment and Housing Placement system utilized by homeless service providers in Downtown San Diego.

Interim housing program residents have access supportive services, such as on-site "housing navigators" to help them prepare for the next appropriate housing option, such as rapid re-housing, transitional housing, or permanent supportive housing.

The San Diego City Council on March 24, 2015, unanimously approved an SDHC recommendation for year-round interim housing in a permanent facility for homeless San Diegans to replace the temporary tents the City of San Diego had provided during the winter months for nearly 30 years.

SDHC Hosts CLPHA Summer Meeting in San Diego

SDHC served as the host public housing agency for the summer meeting of the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA).



CLPHA Summer Meeting Panel Discussion
June 19, 2015

CLPHA members toured 22 affordable San Diego developments for which SDHC served as a funding partner or that we monitor for affordable housing compliance.

San Diego City Councilmember Todd Gloria, a former SDHC Commissioner, was a guest speaker on the topic of affordable housing advocacy.

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

I invite your comments.

Sincerely,

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

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