



June 22, 2017

Message from the President & CEO



Richard C. Gentry
President & CEO

As spring gives way to summer, I'm pleased to share with you a significant step toward addressing homelessness, as well as new opportunities for affordable housing in the City of San Diego.

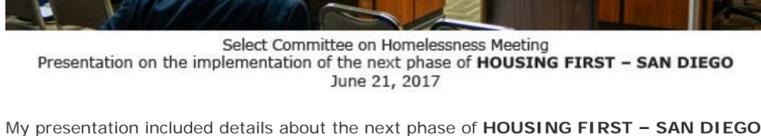
These new housing opportunities include announcements of initiatives to support the creation of affordable housing, and the grand openings of newly constructed rental apartments with more than 280 affordable units.

I invite you to read about these measures, as well as additional recent San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) activities.

Presentation to the Select Committee on Homelessness

I was honored to be among the presenters for the first meeting of the San Diego City Council's Select Committee on Homelessness.

The committee was created this year to discuss current programs, new programs and solutions, and funding for efforts to address homelessness.



Select Committee on Homelessness Meeting
Presentation on the implementation of the next phase of **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO**
June 21, 2017

My presentation included details about the next phase of **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO**, SDHC's homelessness action plan.

HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO: 2018-20 will provide permanent housing opportunities for 3,000 individuals and families over the next three fiscal years, beginning on July 1, 2017, through six new or expanded programs.

[Read the SDHC Fact Sheet](#)

[Read the SDHC Presentation](#)

SDHC Financial Services Recognized



Certificate of Achievement for
Excellence in Financial Reporting

SDHC's Financial Services Department has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the ninth consecutive year.

This award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.

SDHC received the award for the agency's Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016) Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

[Read SDHC's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report](#)

San Diego Mayor's 'Housing SD' Plan

San Diego Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer announced his "Housing SD" Plan, which includes a variety of reforms and incentives to produce more housing that is affordable for low- and middle-income families to address the current housing crisis in the City of San Diego.



Mayor's "Housing SD" News Conference
June 21, 2017

City Councilmembers Scott Sherman and Chris Ward, former Mayor Jerry Sanders, who currently serves as President & CEO of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, and I were among the speakers at the Mayor's news conference.

The recommended actions in SDHC's report "[Addressing the Housing Affordability Crisis: An Action Plan for San Diego](#)" align with many of the Mayor's proposals, such as reducing parking requirements on some developments and shortening the development entitlement process.

[Read the Mayor's News Release](#)

County of San Diego Affordable Housing Initiatives

The County of San Diego Board of Supervisors voted to approve three new initiatives to create additional affordable housing that will help address homelessness.



County Affordable Housing Proposals News Conference
June 12, 2017

I joined Supervisor Dianne Jacob, Chair of the Board, and Supervisor Ron Roberts for a news conference to announce these measures:

- Direct \$25 million in County funds to establish an investment pool to support public-private partnerships to create affordable housing;
- Review 11 County-owned properties, including eight in the City of San Diego, as possible sites for affordable housing development; and
- Transfer \$500,000 from the Neighborhood Reinvestment Program into a fund to conduct feasibility studies and planning activities to identify creative, cost-effective affordable housing solutions.

These proposals dovetail nicely with the initiatives in our **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO** homelessness action plan and our programs to create and preserve affordable housing.

[Read the County News Release](#)

SDHC Partnership - 202 New Affordable Rental Units

The grand opening of Atmosphere apartments celebrated the transformation of a drab vacant lot in Downtown San Diego into 202 newly constructed affordable rental apartments for low-income San Diegans.



Atmosphere Grand Opening
202 affordable rental housing units, including 51 units to address homelessness
May 31, 2017

These apartments include 51 that are set aside for homeless San Diegans. Rental assistance for these units is provided by Federal rental housing vouchers awarded by SDHC as part of the first three years of **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO**, which was launched on November 12, 2014.

Speakers at the grand opening included San Diego Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer, San Diego County Supervisor Ron Roberts, San Diego City Councilmember Chris Ward and me.

SDHC invested a \$3 million loan and authorized the issuance of \$25.7 million in Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds toward the construction of Atmosphere, an SDHC partnership development with Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation.

Atmosphere's rental units will remain affordable for the next 55 years.

[Read the News Release](#)

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

SDHC Partnership – Affordable Housing for Low-Income Seniors

The newly constructed Fairbanks Terrace provides 82 affordable rental apartment homes for low-income seniors age 62 and older in the northern part of the City of San Diego.



Fairbanks Terrace Grand Opening
82 affordable rental apartment homes
June 21, 2017

These apartments will remain affordable for 55 years.

SDHC's Chairman of the Board Frank Urtasun participated in the grand opening of this SDHC partnership development with Chelsea Investment Corporation.

SDHC authorized the issuance of \$15.3 million in Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds toward the development of Fairbanks Terrace.

[Read the News Release](#)

Hotel Churchill Renovation Honored

SDHC's renovation of the historic Hotel Churchill received the prestigious Ruby Award as the "Housing Project of the Year – Rehabilitation."



Hotel Churchill Ruby Award
"Excellence in affordable housing and community development."
June 1, 2017

The Ruby Awards, sponsored by the San Diego Housing Federation, honor "excellence in affordable housing and community development."

This is one of four awards the Hotel Churchill renovation has received so far, including:

- The 2017 Adaptive Reuse Award from the Save Our Heritage Organisation of San Diego; and
- The Structural Engineers Association of San Diego has awarded a Certificate of Merit in Retrofit/Alterations and a People's Choice award for Hotel Churchill.

SDHC, working with its nonprofit affiliate, Housing Development Partners (HDP), created 72 affordable rental studio apartments at Hotel Churchill for homeless San Diegans, predominantly Veterans.

[Read the News Release](#)

I invite your comments.

Sincerely,

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

View Previous Email Updates	Watch videos on SDHC's YouTube Channel	Read SDHC's 2015-16 Fiscal Year Annual Report & Highlights	Read SDHC's HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO Report	Read SDHC's Creating Affordable Housing Report