



SAN DIEGO
HOUSING
COMMISSION

News Release

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SAN DIEGO HOUSING COMMISSION PARTNERS BREAK GROUND ON NEW AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS FOR LOW- INCOME FAMILIES IN THE COLLEGE AREA

The San Diego Housing Commission is providing a \$4.9 million loan toward the \$25 million cost of developing Mesa Commons Apartments

SAN DIEGO, CA—A comfortable, affordable place to live for very low- and extremely low-income families is coming to the College area of San Diego, a new apartment complex that is funded in part by the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC).

A groundbreaking ceremony today for Mesa Commons Apartments at 6456-6470 El Cajon Blvd. focused on the impact the 77 affordable housing units will have on the families who one day will call it their home.

“These are families trying to make it, doing the right thing, but they need a little help,” said SDHC President and CEO Richard C. Gentry. “Our development partnership requires that the apartments remain affordable for 55 years.”

Mesa Commons Apartments will be affordable for families earning 30 percent to 60 percent of the San Diego area median income. Thirty percent of area median income is \$24,200 a year for a family of four, and 60 percent is \$48,360 a year for a family of four.

SDHC is providing a \$4.9 million residual receipts loan toward the \$25 million cost of developing Mesa Commons Apartments.

“When redevelopment was dissolved, it was the San Diego Housing Commission that was able to step up and take the city’s place as the financier for this project—the public funding needed to make this possible,” said William Leach, Vice President of Public Finance for Palm Communities Corporation, which is developing Mesa Commons Apartments with nonprofit development partner Las Palmas Housing. “I’d like to thank Rick Gentry and the San Diego Housing Commission for providing that.”

Affordable housing like Mesa Commons Apartments can change people’s lives, said Danavon Horn, CEO of Palm Communities.

“It allows people to have a safe, comfortable and affordable place to live,” Horn said. “It’s something that all communities need. I want to thank the City of San Diego and the San Diego Housing Commission for working with us all this time and putting money into this transaction to make it happen.”

In addition to affordable apartments, Mesa Commons Apartments will include a community room, computer room, fitness room, picnic area, and playground.

The Las Palmas Housing nonprofit affiliate Communities Advocating for Resident Empowerment (C.A.R.E.) will provide social services such as adult education and after-school programs to Mesa Commons Apartments residents, said Naomi Pines, Development Director at Las Palmas Housing.

The apartment complex also will feature “green” and sustainable improvements, including a solar-energy system to offset half of the development’s projected energy consumption, Energy Star appliances, water-saving faucets and fixtures, and energy-efficient windows.

For more information about SDHC partnership developments, visit www.sdhc.org.

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