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HUD DC OFFICIAL MEETS WITH EAST LA COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Luke Tate and Community Partners Discuss Enhancements to the Maravilla Community

East Los Angeles – Last week, the Community Development Commission and Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (CDC/HACoLA) hosted a site visit at the Nueva Maravilla Public Housing Development with Luke Tate, Senior Advisor for Urban Policy with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

During the visit, Sean Rogan, CDC/HACoLA Executive Director, noted that “the CDC/HACoLA has already committed close to $10 million in revitalization funds to the Maravilla community.” Tate acknowledged the accomplishments of the CDC/HACoLA and emphasized that “all Americans need safe, healthy neighborhoods, with affordable housing and access to good jobs and quality schools.”

Tate engaged in a discussion with representatives from the office of Congresswoman Judy Chu, HUD Field Office, East Los Angeles College (ELAC), Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), First 5 LA, the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s...
Department, as well as non-profits such as Bienvenidos, Alma Family Services, Los Angeles Educational Partnership, Child Development Consortium of Los Angeles, Volunteers of East Los Angeles, and community residents.

Tate also represents the White House Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI) which is an interagency strategy to transform neighborhoods of concentrated poverty into neighborhoods of opportunity. Speakers from ELAC, LAUSD, and First 5 LA demonstrated how the Promise Neighborhood planning grant recently submitted to the U.S. Department of Education by the East Los Angeles Community partners coupled with the NRI principals will be used to address the education needs in the Maravilla community.

The $500,000 Promise Neighborhood planning strategy will strengthen the pathway to high school graduation for students attending Griffith Middle School and Esteban E. Torres High School. The partnering of these two schools will be furthered by the Promise Neighborhood Maravilla School-Community Offering Program Enrichment (SCOPE) initiative. Together, these schools will directly impact the academic and economic futures of nearly 5,000 secondary students.

President Obama has called for solutions to combat poverty in a manner that demonstrates the inter-connectedness between education, employment, housing, safe neighborhoods, access to capital and other elements. The CDC/HACoLA and the East Los Angeles Community partners appreciated the opportunity to voice their commitment to taking an integrated approach to improving educational outcomes for Maravilla Community youth.

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