NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES BREAKS GROUND IN PASADENA

County Contributes Over $2 Million to Develop 19 Affordable Units for Mar Vista Union Apartments

Pasadena, CA, April 14, 2015 – The Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles (CDC) joined representatives of Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich, the Mayor and Councilmembers of the City of Pasadena, and the Developer, National Community Renaissance, to celebrate the groundbreaking of Mar Vista Union Apartments, a new affordable housing development for First 5 LA participants and homeless families. The CDC provided a total of $2.15 million in construction and permanent financing, comprised of $950,000 in Affordable Housing Trust Funds, and $1.2 million in First 5 LA Capital Funds.

Mar Vista Union Apartments, scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2016, will provide 19 units of affordable housing. Of the total 20 units onsite, seven will be reserved
for First 5 LA families with a child aged 0-5, with at least one member of the household who is, or was, involved with the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, and who is homeless or at risk of homelessness. The remaining 12 units will be reserved for homeless families, as well as one for the onsite manager. There will be two fully-accessible units for the mobility impaired and two units for the audio or visually impaired. Mar Vista Union Apartments will feature a community room with a computer lab, a tot lot, and a community garden. The site will also include laundry rooms and private patios. Union Station Homeless Services will provide services to the residents such as health care, substance abuse counseling, mental health counseling, and employment assistance.

Sean Rogan, CDC Executive Director said, “Every day without permanent housing is an impediment to a family’s ability to thrive. This is especially true for those with young children who need stability through their formative years. We are proud to be part of a project that will provide the services needed for families who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness, to feel welcomed, supported, and secure.”

Mar Vista Union Apartments is pursuing Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver designation and will exceed state energy requirements by 15%, in addition to including drought-tolerant landscaping and energy efficiency appliances.

For more information on the development of Mar Vista Union Apartments, please contact Christy Schroeder, Event Manager for National Community Renaissance, at (909) 204-3423. All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, Public Information Officer for the CDC, at (626) 586-1762.

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