

PRESS RELEASE

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Community Development Commission /
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COUNTY CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING OF A NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN EAST LOS ANGELES

Whittier & Downey South East Will Provide Affordable Housing for Special Needs Households That Are Frequent Users of DHS



Los Angeles, CA, June 7, 2018 – Officials from the Community Development Commission/Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (CDC/HACoLA) joined Supervisor Hilda L. Solis to celebrate the groundbreaking of Whittier &

Downey South East (WDSE) Apartments located in unincorporated East Los Angeles. WDSE Apartments is a 71-unit project being developed by Meta Housing Corporation and Western Community Housing.

The CDC/HACoLA is administering construction and providing permanent financing of \$2.5 million in Affordable Housing Trust Funds to fund 35 permanent supportive housing units for formerly homeless households who are frequent users of the Department of Health Services (DHS) and living with a mental illness. The site will feature

an additional 35 units for low-income families, plus one manager's unit. The ground floor of the site will consist of commercial retail space. LifeSTEPS, the lead service provider, will offer case management, mental health and substance use disorder counseling, among other supportive services.

Monique King-Viehland, Executive Director of the CDC/HACoLA, said, “Everyone deserves housing and basic supportive services. We know there is a big need in Los Angeles County, and the CDC/HACoLA is here to help make a



difference in people’s lives. Whittier & Downey South East is the next step in our journey to end homelessness and close the affordable housing gap.”

WDSE residents will enjoy a community room, a communal laundry room, a play structure, courtyard open space, an outdoor exercise area, a gym, container garden and edible landscaping program, and a BBQ area. WDSE Apartments is designed to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certifications and incorporates universal design features, a solar hot water system, and electric vehicle parking.

For more information on the development of WDSE Apartments, please contact Lindsay MacKay or Lexi Asfalk at (949) 955-7940. All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, CDC/HACoLA Public Information Officer, at (626) 586-1762.

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