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Photos Included

Monterey County Housing Authority Development Corporation Celebrates Completion of Dai-Ichi Village, Japantown's First Senior Affordable Housing Redevelopment

Salinas, CA (November 11, 2016) – The Monterey County Housing Authority Development Corporation (HDC) has successfully completed redevelopment of ten public housing units in the Japantown area of Salinas. Dai-Ichi Village, a 41-unit development located at 30 East Rossi Street, is Japantown's first senior affordable housing development and will open to residents in November.

Dai-Ichi Village is part of the four-phase Haciendas housing development project from HDC. Haciendas Senior (Dai-Ichi Village) is phase three of the planned four-phase project that consists of 41 units out of a total 190 units to be rebuilt on the existing site. Once the reconstruction is complete, it will add 90 units to the original 100 that were there prior to redevelopment. The entire Haciendas project is focused on the removal and rehabilitation of aged and deteriorated housing in Salinas to help revitalize existing neighborhoods and inspire change within the community. This project was made a reality with funding from the City of Salinas as well as highly-competitive Low Income Housing Tax Credits from the federal government among other funding sources.

In honor of this new senior housing being the first affordable housing redevelopment in Japantown, Paul Davis architects named the 41-unit apartment building Dai-Ichi Village, which translates to "the first" in Japanese. The building also displays subtle Japanese influence throughout the exterior design.

"Everyone in the area has been looking forward to the transformation of Chinatown and its surrounding communities. HDC accepted the opportunity to redevelop the old housing site in an effort to revitalize the area and provide quality affordable housing for struggling senior citizens who currently have limited housing options in the community." Said Starla Warren, president/CEO of HDC. "Dai-Ichi Village, which is the third of four planned phases in our project, will serve as an important element for the future revitalization of Japantown and Chinatown."

Dai-Ichi Village is a four-story building consisting of forty one-bedroom units and one two-bedroom management staff unit. Residents will also enjoy amenities such as a community center, an on-site laundry room, two computer labs, and resident services directed towards the senior population. In addition to exceeding California Energy Commission efficiency standards by 17.5%, the newly renovated senior development is also GreenPoint rated 125 and Energy Star certified.

"With the aging population, you're going to see more and more demand for senior developments. HDC recognized the growing demand and chose to focus on addressing the need of our senior population by dedicating one entire phase of the four-phase development to address part of the demand." said Warren.

The grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on November 17th at 10 am and will celebrate Dai-Ichi Village as Japantown's first affordable housing redevelopment. The event will include guest speakers from HUD, Wells Fargo, the State of California and the City of Salinas.

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HDC was created specifically to assist Public Housing Authorities (PHA's) with redeveloping their public housing and related portfolios as well as building development capacity. Due to HDC's intimate knowledge of all public housing, Sousing Choice Voucher and other Public Housing Authority programs, they are in an excellent position to share their knowledge and approaches. For more information about HDC, visit hdcmonterey.org or call 831-796-4660.