



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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ENTERPRISE JOINS CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOR GREEN ROUNDTABLE

(Columbia, Md., July 21, 2009) –Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. (Enterprise) representatives joined the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) today for the inaugural meeting of the CBC’s Green Roundtable. Trisha Miller, director of the Enterprise Green Communities initiative, and Dvora Lovinger, Enterprise senior director of government affairs, attended the roundtable discussion about the impact of rising energy costs on low- and moderate-income families and African-American communities and how the greening of affordable housing not only reduces costs but also creates healthier environments.

The focus of the Green Roundtable was to build a green agenda for African-American communities. The CBC brought together green experts, such as Enterprise, to make recommendations and help implement models for greening communities.

“Through our experience during the past five years implementing the Enterprise Green Communities initiative, we know it is possible to bring home the benefits of the green economy to low-income families in African-American communities, allowing for all housing to cost effectively deliver results that are significantly healthier and more economically and environmentally responsive,” Miller said.

Enterprise gained its green building experience through its award-winning Green Communities initiative. When members of Congress were drafting the pending Green Resources for Energy Efficient Neighborhoods (GREEN) Act (HR 2336) and the companion Senate measure, the Energy Efficiency Housing Act of 2009 (S. 1379), they looked to Enterprise for recommendations. The legislation is modeled after recommendations provided by Enterprise senior leadership and raises the bar for energy and environmental performance in affordable housing.

“The federal government has an important role to play in accelerating the transformation of affordable housing,” Lovinger said. “With Congress’s support, communities can deliver many more resources to bring the benefits of green methods, materials and financing to African-American communities.”

Since the inception of Green Communities in 2004, Enterprise has invested \$650 million to create more than 15,500 green affordable homes in 350 developments in 30 states that all meet the Green Communities Criteria. Enterprise also has trained more than 4,000 housing professionals in green affordable development and advised more than 20 federal, state and local housing agencies on developing green affordable housing policies. The impact of this work has enabled developers in all climates and regions of the United States to build and rehabilitate homes that are healthier, more energy efficient and better for the environment – without compromising affordability.

Enterprise looks forward to its continuing work with the CBC and encourages Congress to quickly pass the important green building-related legislation that is currently pending.

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Enterprise is a leading provider of the development capital and expertise it takes to create decent, affordable homes and rebuild communities. For more than 25 years, Enterprise has introduced neighborhood solutions through public-private partnerships with financial institutions, governments, community organizations and others that share our vision. Enterprise has raised and invested more than \$10 billion in equity, grants and loans to help build or preserve more than 250,000 affordable rental and for-sale homes to create vital communities. Enterprise is currently investing in communities at a rate of \$1 billion a year. Visit www.enterprisecommunity.org and www.enterprisecommunity.com to learn more about Enterprise's efforts to build communities and opportunity.