



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Enterprise Applauds Government Agencies' Unprecedented Partnership for Sustainable Communities

EPA Joins HUD, DOT to Connect Transportation, Environmental Protection, Housing Investments

(COLUMBIA, Md., June 16, 2009) – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Transportation (DOT) today unveiled the Partnership for Sustainable Communities. This interagency initiative will help improve access to affordable housing, increase transportation options and lower transportation costs while promoting equitable development, addressing the challenges of climate change and protecting the environment in communities nationwide.

“This is an exciting day for communities coast to coast,” said Doris Koo, president and CEO of Enterprise Community Partners. “When three of the largest government agencies align their strategic goals to increase access to affordable housing and transportation options while being environmentally responsible, there is a greater sense that ‘livable communities’ can truly be achieved in the near future.”

Earlier this year, HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan and Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood formed an interagency task force committed to creating affordable, sustainable communities. Today, in testimony before the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson described how the expanded partnership will work across agencies to achieve common goals. The agencies came together and identified six livability principles, which aim to provide more transportation choices; promote equitable, affordable housing; enhance economic competitiveness; support existing communities; coordinate and leverage federal policies and investment and value communities and neighborhoods.

Through its Green Communities initiative, Enterprise has been a longstanding advocate of transit-oriented development as a companion to affordable housing, and is a staunch partner in efforts to create environmentally responsible communities that are close to public transportation, jobs and services.

“The principles and practices of green development offer evidence-based, cost-effective ways to address current and longstanding housing challenges, rising energy and transportation costs and the effects of global warming while creating jobs,” said Dana Bourland, vice president for Green Initiatives, Enterprise Community Partners.

Since the inception of Green Communities in 2004, Enterprise has invested \$650 million in equity, loans and grants to create more than 14,500 green affordable homes in 350 developments in 30 states. Enterprise also has trained more than 4,000 housing professionals in green affordable development and advised more than 20 states and cities in developing more environmentally sustainable 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. For more information on Green Communities, please visit www.greencommunitiesonline.org.

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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 25 years, Enterprise has pioneered neighborhood solutions through public-private partnerships with financial institutions, governments, community organizations and others that share our vision. Enterprise has raised and invested \$9 billion in equity, grants and loans to help build or preserve 225,000 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, and to meet some of the half a million people we have helped.