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Permanent Affordable Housing Development Comes to Colusa

Rancho Colus Addresses Gap in Affordable Housing for Working Adults and Families

(COLUSA, CA) February 7, 2022 – Last month, the Colusa County Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution authorizing participation in the No Place Like Home (NPLH) program competitive allocation for funding the proposed Rancho Colus development, a new 49-unit affordable housing apartment complex designed for permanent housing for Colusa County working adults and their families. The residential development will be located at 1717 Highway 20 in the City of Colusa, and will feature one, two, and three-bedroom units, as well as a 3,000 square foot community center where supportive services will be provided through partnership with Colusa County Behavioral Health and Social Services. Rancho Colus helps address a countywide need for permanent affordable housing for working community members and those requiring supportive services.

In 2021, the Colusa County Board of Supervisors approved the acceptance of NPLH funds from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) by a resolution passed on 12/18/21. The NPLH funding program dedicated \$2 billion in bond proceeds to invest in the development of permanent supportive housing for vulnerable populations throughout the state. Earlier in the Fall of 2021, Colusa County transferred unused existing housing revenues from Health and Human Services and Behavioral Health to the local Housing Authority by a contract approved by the Board of Supervisors which allowed the Housing Authority to purchase the property noted above and comply with State requirements that opened the door for the release of

the non-competitive funds already allocated to Colusa County. These steps have allowed the Housing Authority to move forward with development of a multi-family rental housing unit, ultimately called Rancho Colus.

On August 4th 2020, the Board of Supervisors approved the Colusa County Housing Study by Housing Tools, which concluded that there is a shortfall of workforce, affordable, and low-income housing, and that the County could benefit from State funding sources for affordable housing, such as the NPLH program. Rancho Colus addresses the housing shortfall identified in the Housing Tools study. Rancho Colus is not a temporary or transient housing project designed to address the unhoused and/or transient population, but rather a permanent, affordable housing development for working adults and their families.

“The county, like the rest of California, is significantly lacking in affordable housing, and this development provides local community members with the opportunity to step-up their lifestyle, and also receive the supportive services they need,” said Supervisor Merced Corona, Chair of the Colusa County Board of Supervisors. “This hand-up provides permanent, affordable housing for members of our working community, elevating their quality of life, and further advancing Colusa County’s housing goals.”

Rancho Colus also provides benefits to the City of Colusa, assisting them with reaching their Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) goals, and supporting local special districts through assessments.

“The Rancho Colus development addresses local needs, and helps us reach local goals,” stated Denise Conrado, RHA Commissioner and City of Colusa Councilmember. “This development is a win-win for our community, helping to provide affordable housing and critical services for our residents, and bringing the City of Colusa closer to meeting its RHNA goals.”

Rancho Colus residents will be required to pay rent, and adhere to an elevated standard of living as outlined in the development’s Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs). Colusa County will also have an ongoing presence on-site as its Behavioral Health and Social Services Departments provide supportive services to residents. Colusa County has a successful track record of running similar projects that serve our most vulnerable populations, and the county is committed

to holding the Rancho Colus property management company accountable to its rules and regulations.

Financing for the development is expected to close in Spring 2023, with construction to commence thereafter. Pending any delays in the schedule, residents are expected to take occupancy in Spring 2024.

For additional questions related to the Rancho Colus development please contact Gustavo Becerra, Executive Director, Regional Housing Authority at g.becerra@regionalha.org or (530) 671-0220 ext. 113.

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