



NEWS RELEASE

County Administrative Office

CONTACT:

David Wert

Public Information Officer

(909) 387-4717

dwert@sbcountry.gov

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Affordable housing community wins vital tax credits

BLOOMINGTON – Construction can now move forward on a 190-unit affordable housing community thanks to nearly \$1.5 million in tax credits approved today by the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee.

The \$1,486,175 in tax credits were awarded to the first phase of the community, which also include a new County library and community center. The 113,914-square foot development, located near the corner of Valley Boulevard and Locust Avenue, will be built in two phases.

"This project is more than just housing," said County Supervisor Josie Gonzales, whose Fifth District includes Bloomington. "As one of the largest investments the County has made in recent history in an unincorporated area, this development is the vital opportunity for more jobs, improved education, senior services, and increased economic development our residents have been waiting for."

Phase One, projected to begin construction in early 2015, will consist of 70-units for seniors, a public library, and senior community space. It will also include 36 family units, a spacious community center and classroom facility, which will be used by the Colton Unified School District to implement after school programs that align with the Countywide Vision Cradle-to-Career goal, www.sbcountry.gov/vision. Phase Two will consist of the remaining 84 family units. The housing project will lease one-, two-, and three-bedroom units.

The project is relying on a combination of funds from the County and private investors. The tax credits approved today will make the project much more attractive to the private investors who are needed to make the project a reality.

The approved project is managed by the County's Community Development and Housing Department, which held multiple public meetings in Bloomington to solicit input from local residents on the architectural style and address any direct concerns.

"I am very excited for the residents of Bloomington. These tax credits are an important step towards building this beautifully designed, mixed-generational housing community. The new library and housing community exemplifies the Countywide Vision in action," said Dena Fuentes, director of Community Development and Housing for the County.

This development will ultimately link the Countywide Vision elements of Housing, Wellness, Jobs and Economy, and Education by getting local residents back to work and requiring the project developer to work with County Workforce Development and the County Housing Authority. It also brings schools, the County library, and the community under one roof.

For more information on the Bloomington Housing Community, visit www.affordablebloomington.com.

