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OAKLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY TO RECEIVE \$10.5 MILLION OF FEDERAL NATIONAL STIMULUS

STIMULUS FUNDS TO BE USED TO CONTINUE OHA'S EFFORT TO REPAIR AND PRESERVE LOW INCOME HOUSING IN OAKLAND

LOCAL JOBS AND BUSINESSES TO BENEFIT

(Oakland, CA) – The Oakland Housing Authority (OHA) has been notified by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that it will receive \$10.5 million from President Obama's economic stimulus package recently passed by Congress. With funds provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, OHA will make physical improvements to its properties that will both benefit the lives of public housing residents and extend the life of its buildings.

"This substantial amount of money will allow the Oakland Housing Authority to make significant improvements to the condition of its properties," said Jon Gresley, Executive Director.

The Oakland Housing Authority has many repair projects in the pipeline that have been waiting for funding for years. It will immediately put out "calls for proposals or bids" to local contractors so that it can address deterioration in OHA's rental properties. This new financial support will put people to work quickly and assist local businesses through the purchase of building supplies and services related to the construction effort. Most importantly, these improvements will raise the quality of housing for Oakland's public housing residents.

The Oakland Housing Authority, like many housing authorities in the United States, has been historically under funded by the federal government. The OHA has over \$75 million in deferred maintenance and repair projects which are a result from this chronic under funding. Basic construction work, such as repairing or replacing roofs, gutters, dry rot, windows, plumbing, paving, exterior painting and landscaping will be addressed in the next 18-months with the stimulus funding.

Oakland Housing Authority provides housing for approximately 10 percent of Oakland's families, with 3,221 public housing units in its stock. 11,142 of Oakland families, elderly and disabled rent with Section 8 vouchers, which is a public/private partnership allowing clients choice in the private rental market. The average income of OHA families is about \$15,000.

For more information on the Oakland Housing Authority call 510-874-1512 or visit www.oakha.org