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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# **DEVELOPERS RECOGNIZE HOUSING AUTHORITY SITE FOR SUSTAINABILITY, PLAN**

## **Tassafaronga Village now in running for Grand Award at PCBC conference**

OAKLAND, CA—Oakland Housing Authority (OHA) was named an Award of Merit winner in two categories for the 2010 Gold Nugget Awards, judges announced recently. OHA and its design and building partners earned Merit honors for Tassafaronga Village, the Authority's first self-developed tax credit property, in the Green Sustainable Community of the Year and Best Infill, Re-Development or Rehab Site Plan categories.

The Gold Nugget Awards honor architectural design and planning excellence and draws entries from throughout 14 Western States and internationally. Tassafaronga is now eligible for a Grand Award in both categories, which will be announced on Thursday, June 10 at the Gold Nugget Awards luncheon at the Moscone Center in San Francisco as part of PCBC, the nation's largest regional conference and trade show for the real estate development field.

"Gold Nugget Award winners reflect our industry's best, brightest and most innovative architects, planners and builder/developers," said Judging Chairman and Gold Nugget ceremonies producer Peter Mayer. "We applaud them all, and we forward to our June 10 celebration of Merit and Grand Award winners."

Located in East Oakland, Tassafaronga, a mixed-income, mixed-use, neighborhood, offers 157 units of affordable housing for low-income Oakland residents, which includes 19 units of supportive housing for families with special needs. The Tassafaronga site plan is the first venture developed statewide by a housing authority expected to achieve a LEED for Homes Platinum Certification, and is the first project in Northern California to have earned a Gold Certification in the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED for Neighborhood Development program.

The architect of Tassafaronga Village was David Baker + Partners, while Cahill Contractors was the builder. PGA Design was the landscape architect.

Long recognized as one of the leading housing authorities in the nation, the Oakland Housing Authority (OHA) continues to be an innovator in the field of public housing. Currently, OHA provides housing for approximately 10 percent of Oakland's families, operating 3,160 public housing and project based section 8 units. Presently, 10,958 Oakland families, elderly and disabled rent with Section 8 vouchers. The average annual income of OHA families is about \$15,000.