



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vacant Agency Parcels Will Become Community Garden Sites

Sacramento, Calif., (May 31, 2007) - Two plots of land in Del Paso Heights owned by the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency will be turned over to the Health Education Council (HEC) under a lease agreement for use as community gardens.

The parcels are part of a vacant strip of land on Alvarado Boulevard that runs underneath a series of power lines making the property unsuitable for development. Similar parcels are popular with residents in Del Paso Heights who enjoy cultivating gardens. The parcels will help accommodate the community's large Hmong population by providing a place to grow native vegetables and herbs. The HEC currently manages three successful gardens in the community and offers classes in nutrition, gardening, health and parenting. Twice a year, gardeners celebrate their harvest with a potluck.

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SHRA (www.shra.org) is a Joint Powers Authority created by the City and County of Sacramento to represent both jurisdictions for affordable housing and community redevelopment needs. The Agency is the leading public developer of affordable housing and oversees residential and commercial revitalization activities in 14 redevelopment areas throughout the City and County. SHRA has a FY 2007 budget of \$233.8 million and approximately 302 employees. The Agency owns and manages 3,144 units of public housing and is one of the largest landlords in Sacramento. SHRA also administers approximately 11,000 rental assisted vouchers per month.

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