



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oak Park Community Celebrates as City Redevelopment Agency Demolishes Two Nuisance Liquor Stores

Sacramento, Calif., (April 14, 2007) - A crowd of about 100 community members cheered as a bulldozer dealt a crushing blow to the Washington Market in Oak Park on April 14 following the City Redevelopment Agency's decision last year to tear down the 2nd Avenue liquor store. The action ends the chronic problems of crime, drug activity, prostitution and other blighting problems that gravitated to the corner market. A new single-family home will be built in its place and will be offered for sale to a low-income owner occupant.



The celebration continued as members of the Oak Park Neighborhood Association and the Second Saturday Clean Up Program joined residents in a one-and-a-half mile march to the Days Market on 20th Avenue where residents pulled the liquor store sign off the building in a symbolic gesture to mark the pending demolition. Officials from the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA www.shra.org) replaced it with a sign noticing it as the future site for a single-family affordable home.

The troublesome Days and Washington markets in Oak Park were torn down on April 14 in a community celebration. Two new single family homes will replace the stores and will be for sale to low-income buyers.

"This is really about recovering the fabric of healthy neighborhoods," said Anne Moore, executive director of the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency.

Both properties were non-conforming uses in primarily single-family neighborhoods. In light of many complaints, widespread community support called for the redevelopment and reuse of the properties. The Agency expects to select a developer for the single-family homes by the end of the summer and as the process moves forward, construction is expected to begin by spring 2008.

Agency officials say redevelopment activities have made a positive impact in the Oak Park community. Residents are increasingly involved in meetings to discuss redevelopment activities and projects, property values have increased 75 percent since 2001, and homeownership is on the rise. For information on community meetings to prioritize and plan future Oak Park projects, contact Assistant Community Development Director Chris Pahule at (916) 440-1322.

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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.

"One Community, One Vision"
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