



# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### CITY OPENS SACRAMENTO'S FIRST "GREEN STREET"

Sacramento, CA - Officials from the City of Sacramento, Department of Transportation and Redevelopment Agency celebrated the opening of the City's first "Green Street" with residents and business owners on September 15. The new streetscape integrates sidewalks with greenery and stretches for six blocks along Dixie Avenue between Erickson Street and the Swanston Light Rail Station in the North Sacramento Redevelopment Area.



Fashioned after Portland's concept, the \$2 million project creates a storm water drainage system using detention basins that contain a variety of plants and shrubs. The storm water runoff is captured in the basins where it waters the streetscape plants and is filtered through the soil before it flows to Sacramento's waterways requiring minimal City irrigation and maintenance.

The project also included sidewalks, curbs and gutters which were lacking in the community and creates convenient, pedestrian-friendly access to the Swanston Light Rail Station serving downtown. Metal sculptures designed by local artist Larry Meeks serve a dual purpose of adorning the streetscape with public art while channeling rainwater to newly planted trees and other foliage.

In addition to \$1 million from City bond funds, SHRA was able to provide funding through \$800,000 in North Sacramento tax increment funds and \$228,000 from CDBG

The City's Green Street earned the 2009 American Public Works Association Project of the Year award in the transportation category for projects in the \$500,000 to \$3 million range.

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SHRA ([www.shra.org](http://www.shra.org)) is a Joint Powers Agency created by the City and County of Sacramento to represent both jurisdictions for affordable housing and community redevelopment needs. The Agency serves as the Housing Authority for the City and County of Sacramento and is the leading public developer of affordable housing and oversees residential and commercial revitalization activities in 15 redevelopment areas throughout the City and County. SHRA has a FY 2009 budget of \$294 million and approximately 291 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.