



NEWS RELEASE

INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES

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PUBLIC ART PROMOTING SOLAR ENERGY UNVEILED AT BOYS & GIRLS CLUB IN ALKALI FLAT

Sacramento, CA | Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency representatives joined public officials on January 9 as the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Sacramento unveiled a huge interactive sculpture highlighting the importance of solar energy in the children's play area at the in Thomas P. Raley Branch in Alkali Flat.

"This beautiful work of art is a tremendous legacy for the children and everyone in this community," said Maureen Price, Chief Executive Officer of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Sacramento.

The public artwork was created by Sacramento artist Anthony Padilla who thought it would be "awesome if there would be a solar park." The three dimensional sculpture is powered by dusk to dawn solar lighting and has a charging station with USB ports where children can plug in their ipods and other electronic devices.

"I wanted to do something that wasn't only a cool piece of art but also gave power to the people mixing art and nature," said Padilla.

SHRA provided \$1.3 million in redevelopment funds to build the facility in 1999 which included the land and assistance in creating the interactive play area and community garden which was completed in 2009.

"We're delighted to see the mural incorporated into a place that has been specially designed for children to have fun and use technology while learning how they can help preserve the environment around them," said SHRA Executive Director La Shelle Dozier.

The sculpture was co-commissioned by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission.

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 2013 budget of \$169 million and 253 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 11,500 rental assisted vouchers per month.

