



News Release

San Antonio Housing Authority
818 S. Flores St.
San Antonio, TX 78204

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Contact: Jamie Kaun, (210) 477-6792
jamie_kaun@saha.org

SAHA SEEKING NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT ON NAME FOR NEW DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY

SAN ANTONIO –The public is invited to a community meeting at 6 p.m., Friday, Nov. 20, at Refugio Street Apartment Homes, 300 Labor St. to discuss the new name for the latest phase of development at Victoria Commons in downtown San Antonio.

The 245-unit multi-family, mixed-income rental community is the third phase of development for the area formerly known as Victoria Courts.

“We’re expecting construction to be completed next spring and marketing activities will need to begin shortly,” said SAHA Board Chairman Ramiro Cavazos. “Neighborhood associations, such as Lavaca, Southtown and King William, and many other interested community members have been involved from the beginning and we want them to be a part of this important decision, as well.”

Victoria Courts was originally constructed in 1940 and was demolished in 1999 to begin redevelopment and revitalization efforts. The first phase, 210-unit Refugio Street Apartment Homes, opened in 2004, and the second phase, Artisan Park Townhomes, opened with 22 units in 2006.

“The development has a working title, Durango Midrise, but we think the public can help us choose a more meaningful, permanent name for a community that we hope will be an important part of the neighborhood for many years to come,” said SAHA President and CEO Lourdes Castro Ramirez.

The meeting discussion will be facilitated by representatives from Creative Civilization, a San Antonio-based advertising agency, which represents regional and national clients in the general market, Hispanic market and business-to-business markets.

This third phase of development will cost approximately \$35 million. Funding, in part, is from an \$18,778,269 HOPE VI revitalization grant SAHA received from HUD in 2003. Additional funding for Victoria Commons is from equity funds and tax credits from sources including SAHA, the State of Texas, the City of San Antonio, and conventional lending.

The developer for Victoria Commons is Dallas-based Carleton Development Companies. Beeler-Guest-Owens, the architects of record, worked together with San Antonio-based Lake-Flato Architects.

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