

For Immediate Release:
September 26, 2008

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Community Center will Complete Edenvale/Great Oaks' Neighborhoods' Top 10 Priorities List

San Jose breaks ground on its first LEED Gold Community Center

SAN JOSE, CALIF.—The Edenvale/Great Oaks Strong Neighborhood will be celebrating San Jose's first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), Gold Standard community center with a groundbreaking event tomorrow, **Saturday, 11 a.m., September 27** at **4955 Edenvue Drive**, in front of the Southside Boys & Girls Club, adjacent to the Caroline Davis Intermediate School campus.

“The Edenvale Community Center will be an excellent addition to the already vibrant Edenvale/Great Oaks community,” said Councilmember Forrest Williams. “This Community Center will also provide so many important resources for the youth of District 2 and San José, and we are all looking forward to its completion.”

The new Edenvale Community Center is designed as a Gold Certified building as measured by LEED. The planned 20,204-square-foot facility will achieve reduced water consumption by 40 percent and save energy through its extensive use of windows that provide natural daylight. Three-quarters of the construction and debris can be recycled, diverting the waste from landfills and incinerators.

“The completion of the Top 10 priorities is a big accomplishment for the Edenvale/Great Oaks community,” said Harry Mavrogenes, Executive Director, San Jose Redevelopment Agency. “We know that it has been a long road for the community to get to this point, so our Agency is committed to getting this project built.”

The estimated \$18.5 million project was a top priority of the Edenvale/Great Oaks Implementation Plan Coalition (EGOPIC), a resident group helping to guide the neighborhood improvement plan.

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The Agency's and the City's contributions for the construction of the Center is respectively \$12.6 million and \$5.9 million. The Oak Grove Unified School District is providing the land through the lease to the City for the two-acre site on the Caroline Davis Intermediate School campus. Students and the community will be able to use the center's gymnasium, computer lab, multipurpose room, early childhood recreation classrooms and fitness room.

"We are excited about the new Edenvale Community Center," said Israel Leal, President, Edenvale/Great Oaks Plan Implementation Coalition (EGOPIC). "Our youth will benefit from having a safe place to play, learn and grow."

In addition to the new funding commitment for the Edenvale Community Center, the Agency has invested a total of \$2.7 million in the Edenvale/Great Oaks Strong Neighborhood since the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) was launched in 2000. Other highlighted investments in the Edenvale/Great Oaks neighborhoods include \$600,000 for the Edenvale Shopping Center Parking Lot renovation, \$370,000 for design and installation of antique-style pedestrian scale streetlights and \$300,000 for exterior improvements to homes on Roundtable Drive. To date, the Agency has invested more than \$70 million and has completed nearly 150 projects in the SNI project areas City-wide.

San Jose Redevelopment Agency

The Agency is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all who live and work in San Jose. Governed by the City Council, the Agency facilitates and oversees comprehensive programs for development to revitalize and strengthen quality of life and competitiveness for San Jose's downtown, neighborhoods and industrial areas. For more information, visit www.sjredevelopment.org

Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI)

The Strong Neighborhoods Initiative purpose is to build Strong Neighborhoods by developing community leadership and working collaboratively with residents to achieve the delivery of City Services and Neighborhood Priorities. For more information, visit www.strongneighborhoods.org

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