



Connections Housing Downtown San Diego Housing Commission Partnership

SDHC Timeline

- **Oct. 17, 2007:** The vision for a one-stop homeless service center was initiated, with the formation of a Permanent Homeless Shelter Task Force at the San Diego City Council’s Land Use & Housing Committee, chaired by City Councilmember Jim Madaffer.
- **Dec. 2, 2008:** The San Diego City Council, chaired by Council President Scott Peters, approved a draft request for proposals for site development and operation of a permanent homeless services facility. Under the leadership of President and CEO Richard C. Gentry, the San Diego Housing Commission, in collaboration with the former Centre City Development Corporation (now Civic San Diego), was asked to lead the efforts to recommend a solution to address the homelessness problem in downtown San Diego.
- **April 3, 2009:** The San Diego Housing Commission and Centre City Development Corporation issued the request for proposals and organized a nine-member volunteer citizens committee to review the proposals and make a recommendation: SDHC, CCDC, United Way, City of San Diego, County of San Diego, Downtown San Diego Partnership, East Village Community Action Network, Downtown Residents Group, and Corporation for Supportive Housing.
- **April 21, 2010:** The San Diego City Council’s Land Use & Housing Committee, chaired by Councilmember Todd Gloria, approved the citizens committee recommendation to have the developer team of Affirmed Housing Group and PATH build a permanent homeless services facility. The recommendation was forwarded to the San Diego City Council.
- **Oct. 5, 2010:** The San Diego City Council, sitting as the Redevelopment Agency and chaired by Council President Ben Hueso, approved the citizens committee recommendation to build the one-stop homeless service facility later named Connections Housing Downtown.
- **Feb. 18, 2011:** Chaired by Gary Gramling, the Board of Commissioners of the San Diego Housing Commission approved a \$2 million loan to the co-developers of Connections Housing Downtown as part of the \$38 million development and rehabilitation costs.
- **Dec. 8, 2011:** The San Diego Housing Commission made a commitment to provide 89 federal housing vouchers for 73 permanent residential studio units and 16 special needs emergency units.
- **March 1, 2012:** The San Diego Housing Commission’s \$2 million loan to Connections Housing Downtown was approved by the San Diego City Council, sitting as the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego, chaired by Council President Tony Young.
- **Dec. 7, 2012:** SDHC awarded 50 federal Sponsor-Based Vouchers to PATH that will be used to help formerly homeless individuals ready to leave Connections Housing Downtown find housing in the community while they continue to receive supportive services from PATH. (The San Diego Housing Commission in 2010 was one of the first public housing agencies in the nation to gain approval from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to use federal housing vouchers to serve homeless San Diegans.)
- **March 11, 2013:** The grand opening of Connections Housing Downtown provides 223 housing units; a health clinic operated by Family Health Centers of San Diego; and a multiservice center managed by PATH offers a wide variety of services from 34 on-site community partners.

