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## SAN DIEGO HOUSING COMMISSION WILL IMPLEMENT TEMPORARY EMERGENCY WINTER SHELTER THIS YEAR WHILE ONE-STOP HOMELESS SERVICE CENTER IS COMPLETED

**San Diego, CA**—The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) will administer a temporary emergency winter shelter for single homeless adults prior to this year's completion of Connections Housing Downtown, a one-stop homeless service center. The contingency plan was proposed by SDHC and unanimously approved Monday by the San Diego City Council.

The emergency winter shelter, administered by SDHC for the city since 2010 and scheduled to open December 1st, will provide a transition to the opening of the new, year-round facility.

Connections Housing Downtown is being developed at 1250 Sixth Avenue in an extensive renovation of the former San Diego World Trade Center. It replaces so-called "sprung" shelters open only from December to early April. The development team of Affirmed Housing Group and PATH Ventures expects to have the facility ready by the end of December.

This year's temporary shelter will operate at 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Newton Avenue. It is the same site used for in the 2011-12 season, when 220 beds were available each night. The operator will be selected after a competitive Request for Proposals.

Connections Housing Downtown will have an on-site community health clinic and 223 beds for homeless adults year-round. SDHC provided a \$2 million loan and 89 Project-based federal housing vouchers (\$908,000 annually) to support the facility's permanent housing program for formerly homeless residents.

The one-stop homeless service center was approved by the San Diego City Council, sitting as the Redevelopment Agency, on October 5, 2010. The official groundbreaking was held on January 26, 2012.

In its 7-0 vote, the City Council action also designated a Navy-owned site in the Midway District for continued operation of the emergency winter shelter for homeless military veterans.

For more information about the San Diego Housing Commission, visit www.sdhc.com