Virtual Groundbreaking Celebrates New Construction of 95 Affordable Apartments

**Summary:** The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) announced the virtual groundbreaking of a new affordable housing development on January 12, 2021. The project, named Affordable Apartments, will provide 95 units for low-income individuals and families. The event was attended by local elected officials, including California State Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins, San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, and County Board of Supervisors Chair Nathan Fletcher. The developer, Community HousingWorks, along with additional development partners, provided recorded remarks for the virtual event.

**Key Points:**
- **Funding:** SDHC awarded a $7 million loan and authorized the issuance of more than $34 million in tax-exempt Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds to support the development.
- **Partnership:** SDHC worked with the program in San Diego and supported similar efforts at the federal level through its advocacy initiatives related to the federal Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Program.
- **Legislation:** The Consolidated Appropriations Bill of 2021, passed by Congress and signed into law in late December, included important changes to the VASH voucher program. The legislation directs HUD to provide a way for families who are not eligible for VASH vouchers to pay a portion of their rent, which SDHC advocated for.
- **Tax Credits:** The bill also included a 20% increase in tax credits for affordable housing projects.
- **MTW Program:** SDHC has received an MTW designation from HUD, and the organization advocated for further changes to the program. The MTW Collaborative, established in 2018, represents 39 public housing authorities across the country, including SDHC.

**Contact:** For more information, visit the SDHC website at [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org).

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**Virtual Groundbreaking**

**Date:** January 12, 2021

**Location:** Virtual event

**Participants:**
- California State Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins
- San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria
- County Board of Supervisors Chair Nathan Fletcher
- Community HousingWorks and additional development partners

**Remarks:** The event featured recorded remarks from the above-listed participants, highlighting the importance of affordable housing and the need for continued legislative action to support such initiatives.

**Key Features:**
- The Affordable Apartments project is one of SDHC’s efforts to address homelessness and provide affordable housing.
- SDHC has been active in advocating for changes to the VASH program and has received an MTW designation, allowing for innovative approaches to affordable housing.
- The MTW Collaborative, of which SDHC is a member, aims to improve outcomes for public housing authorities.

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**Resources:**
- [Read the MTW Policy Paper](https://www.sdhc.org/resources/mtw-policy-paper)
- [SDHC Newsletter](https://www.sdhc.org/subscribe)
- [View the News Release](https://www.sdhc.org/press-releases)

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**About SDHC:**

The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) is a public housing authority established in 1979. SDHC serves as the local administrator for the HUD’s Public Housing Program and the HUD’s Housing Choice Voucher Program in San Diego County. SDHC provides a variety of award-winning affordable housing programs and services that stimulate the local economy, revitalize neighborhoods, and impact the lives of low-income individuals and families.

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