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SAHA SUCCESSFULLY AWARDS \$14.5 MILLION IN STIMULUS FUNDS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

SAN ANTONIO – The San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) Board of Commissioners has awarded multiple contracts to obligate 100 percent of \$14,557,802 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) funding in advance of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) March 17, 2010 deadline.

HUD allocated \$4 billion through the Recovery Act to more than more than 3,100 public housing authorities, with the requirement that the money be used solely for capital improvements and that it must be obligated to projects within one year, 60 percent expended within two years and 100 percent expended within three years.

"Not only are we creating a safer and healthier environment for those we serve, we're investing in the local economy as well by contracting with San Antonio businesses," said SAHA President and CEO Lourdes Castro Ramirez.

SAHA currently has 6,177 public housing units at 70 properties, most of which are at least 30-50 years old.

"Our board and staff have worked diligently to thoroughly review needed improvements at many of our aging public housing properties. They were prioritized based on capital needs relating to life safety, health risk, property repair and energy efficiency," said SAHA Board Chair Ramiro Cavazos.

Sixty percent of the 17 firms awarded contracts for the renovations are based in San Antonio and one is in Boerne. Firms will be completing the following renovations over the next two years:

Comprehensive modernization of Lewis Chatham Apartments (a 199-unit elderly/disabled community)

Comprehensive modernization – Galaxy Builder's Ltd. (San Antonio) \$6,420,000

Architect and engineering services – O'Neill Conrad Oppelt Architects, Inc. (San Antonio), \$340,000

Asbestos abatement for two apartments – Allstate Environmental, Ltd. (Del Valle, TX), \$5,100

Abatement – AAR, Inc. (Liberty Hall, TX), \$240,000

Life safety

Architect and engineering services for elevators and fire alarm systems at various properties – Alderson & Associates, Inc. (San Antonio), \$340,000

Modernization of elevators and fire systems at various properties – Central Electric Enterprises & Company (San Antonio), \$3,091,100

Health risk

Asbestos consulting services – Terracon Consultants, Inc. (San Antonio), \$54,460

Design and installation of playground equipment at various properties – Noah's Park & Playground, LLC (Edmond, OK), \$291,850, and Weston Solutions, Inc. (San Antonio), \$918,745

Property repair and energy efficiency

Cabinet replacement at Madonna and Tarry Towne Apartments – The Wilson Group, Inc. (Greenwood, MO), \$561,712, and at Villa Hermosa and Sun Park – Concept Builders (San Antonio), \$300,218

Fence repair at LC Rutledge – Fencecrete America, Ltd. (San Antonio), \$35,475, and at at Matt Garcia – GG&G General Construction, Inc. (San Antonio), \$44,500

HVAC replacement for various properties – Atlas Comfort Systems USA, LLC (Houston, TX), \$354,833, and The Wilson Group, Inc. (Greenwood, MO), \$595,116

Shingle roofs at various properties – H. Karp Company (San Antonio), \$665,394

Sliding glass patio doors at Villa Hermosa and Le Chalet – HEI Construction (Boerne, TX), \$96,510

To read more about the specifics of SAHA's Recovery Act activities, visit www.saha.org/aboutsaha/html/stimulus.html.

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