



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

SERVING THE HOMELESS

UPDATES ON HOMELESS SERVICES IN THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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Meeting Scheduled July 30 to Discuss Cortez Center Plans

A community meeting will be held July 30 to discuss the latest news about the Cortez Hill Family Center. Topics will include the conditional use permit, environmental review, and the selection process for the Center's operator.

City staff will be available to answer questions and respond to any concerns. The meeting will be held in the Don Room of the El Cortez Apartments, 701 Ash St., at 7 p.m. Participating in the meeting will be City officials, community residents, architects, and environmental consultants. This is the fifth community meeting held since November 2000. The conditional use permit hearing process is scheduled to begin in August.

The property is being prepared for the first stages of rehabilitation which is due to start by the beginning of August. The City is providing 24-hour security for the project, the landscaping is being maintained, and debris is being removed that was left at the site when the City took possession.

Located on Ninth Avenue, the Cortez Hill Family Center is scheduled to be completed this fall. At any given time, the Center will house 150 family members who will be provided with a variety of assistance services.

City Family Homeless Center to Receive \$210,000 from Developer

Funding commitments to the City to help pay for the proposed Cortez Hill Family Center now total more than \$1.93 million thanks to a \$210,000 donation from Bosa Development California Inc.

Bosa is building a nearby condominium project, Discovery at Cortez Hill. Nat Bosa, company vice president, encouraged other developers to contribute to the project also.

The total acquisition and rehabilitation cost for transforming the former Days Inn on Ninth Avenue will be approxi-

mately \$3.7 million. The Centre City Development Corp. will contribute \$1.22 million for the project and the City received a \$500,000 state grant in June.

The City has also qualified for a \$2.7 million Section 108 loan from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The City will continue to look for other funds to make up any shortfall.

The Cortez Hill Family Center project is being coordinated by the City's Homeless Services Program.

Housing for Displaced Seniors to be Discussed at Aug. 1 Committee Meeting

On Aug. 1, a plan to develop transitional housing for displaced seniors is scheduled to be presented at a meeting of the City Council's Land Use and Housing Committee.

The City is considering a plan to help seniors who live on very low, fixed income have been displaced from housing because of rapidly increasing rents, very low vacancy rates, and the closure of the Hotel San Diego.

Under the plan, the City would help house up to 50 displaced seniors at 35 leased rooms in downtown. The City has committed to provide 100 new transitional housing beds for homeless people with special needs by December 2001.

The meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on the 12th floor of the City Administration Building, 202 C St.

More Information About Homeless Services

The City's Homeless Services Program is administered by the Community Services Division of the City's Community and Economic Development Department.

Back issues of the *Serving the Homeless* newsletter are available on the Homeless Services web page of the City's web site: www.sandiego.gov.

For more information about the Homeless Services Program, call (619) 533-6525, or visit the City's web site.