



News from  
Councilmember Todd Gloria

District Three

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Construction Begins on the First LGBT-Affirming Senior Housing Development in San Diego**

*Partnership between Community Housing Works and the San Diego LGBT Community Center Creates Unprecedented Housing Opportunity*

SAN DIEGO, CA (July 13, 2016) –Councilmember Todd Gloria today joined California State Assembly Speaker Emeritus Toni Atkins and many community partners to break ground on San Diego's first LGBT-affirming senior housing development located at 4200 Texas Street in North Park.

The 76-unit affordable apartments are being developed by Community Housing Works (CHW) who partnered with San Diego LGBT Community Center (The Center) to provide social services to future residents. Though the apartments will be available to all qualifying low-income seniors, CHW worked extensively with The Center throughout the planning process to ensure the community provided a safe and welcoming environment for LGBT seniors.

**"This collaboration between Community Housing Works and the San Diego LGBT Community Center provides much needed housing targeted towards the large population of LGBT seniors in the area and couples it with support and services,"** said Councilmember Gloria. **"Many of these folks have experienced a lifetime of rejection and prejudice. I am glad to have supported this project to provide residents a community where they can live proudly and without fear as their authentic selves."**

A 2011 needs assessment led by The Center found many LGBT seniors suffered from fears of increasing social isolation, lack of access to culturally competent health and social services, and lack of access to safe, affordable, and affirming housing options. The \$27 million project was financed through several mechanisms including Federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits, City of San Diego tax-exempt bonds, and grant funds from the San Diego Housing Commission, as well as several other public and private sources.

**"We cannot let low inventory and cost be barriers to housing for San Diegans,"** said Councilmember Gloria. **"As regional leaders, we owe it to our residents, especially those in our most vulnerable communities, to create more housing opportunities and increase the availability of affordable housing in our City."**

Construction of the project is expected to take 18 to 24 months. More information is available at <http://chworks.org/real-estate-development/current-projects/north-park-seniors/>.

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