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COMMUNITY INVITED TO “GREEN STREET” VOLUNTEER EVENT IN BARRIO LOGAN

SD Redevelopment Agency & Urban Corps Team up to Beautify Homes, Community

SAN DIEGO, Calif.—The San Diego Redevelopment Agency, in partnership with Urban Corps of San Diego County and San Diego City Council District 8, will host a volunteer community service event in Barrio Logan on Saturday, June 5, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The event is a part of the *Green Street* Community Enhancement Program.

The community of Barrio Logan is invited to roll up its sleeves alongside San Diego City Council President and Redevelopment Agency Chair Ben Hueso in the public clean-up effort, which will kick-off at The Barrio Station, 2175 Newton Avenue, San Diego, CA 92113. Urban Corps staff and dozens of youth Corpsmembers will also be on-hand to coordinate volunteer service among area residents. Lunch will be served to approximately 150 volunteers at the Barrio Station Theater.

Volunteers will be divided into sub-groups to paint over graffiti, tackle weeds, and remove debris. In addition, waste and green waste oversized garbage bins will be available to dispose of large-item debris from the surrounding community.

“The *Green Street* Community Enhancement Program has helped revitalize neighborhoods throughout Barrio Logan and San Ysidro,” said Hueso. “I continue to be impressed by the number of volunteers and residents that participate in the clean-ups. At the end of the day, the area will look better and neighbors will have become closer.”

In addition to the volunteer community improvement event, the *Green Street* program features the renovation of 14 homes for low-income qualifying Barrio Logan residents. Home renovations include a variety of interior and exterior upgrades designed to improve both the energy efficiency and curbside appeal of homes. Applications for the *Green Street* home renovation program will be distributed at the event and residents may begin the income qualification process on-site by bringing copies of paystubs.

The mission of the Redevelopment Agency’s *Green Street* Community Enhancement Program is to provide home and community improvements which conserve resources and enhance the public spaces of the redevelopment project areas within the City of San Diego, promoting healthy living environments while developing youth and encouraging public volunteerism, thereby increasing residents’ connection to and ownership of their own communities. There are 14 homes in Barrio Logan that will be renovated, and 25 homes in San Ysidro. The Redevelopment Agency has until



July 2010 to complete the home renovations and community clean up initiative. Every effort is being made to employ green building methods that utilize durable, non-toxic and/or renewable materials.

The first Community Enhancement event kicked-off in San Ysidro on October 24th. Since then, the San Diego Redevelopment Agency and Urban Corps have performed 21 home improvements, and three community clean-ups throughout Barrio Logan and San Ysidro.

In its two decades of service to youth and environment, Urban Corps has helped more than 6,500 youth in San Diego County attain job opportunities in the fields of conservation, recycling and community service. The majority of these participants are high school dropouts aged 18-25 with little or no job skills. Urban Corps places a high premium on volunteerism and community service. Civic responsibility is extensively promoted by the program and each corpsmember participant is required to provide 8 hours of volunteer community service per month. This results in approximately 9,000 hours of community service hours donated annually to the San Diego community.

About the Redevelopment Agency of the City of San Diego

The Redevelopment Agency of the City of San Diego, created by the City Council in 1958, uses special legal and financial mechanisms to eliminate blight and improve economic and physical conditions in designated areas of the City. The Agency's purview encompasses 17 project areas, study areas and affordable housing. Activities within the project areas are carried out by the city's Redevelopment Division and two public, nonprofit city corporations: Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC) and Southeastern Economic Development Corporation (SEDC). The Agency also administers seven Project Area Committees (PAC) that advise the agency on the adoption of redevelopment plans and implementing redevelopment projects. For more information, visit: www.sandiego.gov/redevelopment-agency/

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