



News from
Office of the Mayor

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OAKLAND TO RECEIVE \$71.5 MILLION FROM STATE
State Partnership to Bolster Efforts on Housing and Infrastructure

Oakland, CA — June 20, 2008 - **Mayor Ron Dellums** today announced that eight housing development projects within the city of Oakland have been awarded funding under the first round of the California Infill Infrastructure Grant Program and the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Program, both administered by the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development. The total funding award for the eight projects totals \$71.5 million. The funding awards were approved by the Local Assistance Loan and Grant Committee last week.

“Like many urban centers across the United States, Oakland is extremely vulnerable and in desperate need of modern infrastructure improvements for our deteriorating roads, highways, housing and water systems,” said **Mayor Dellums**. “This funding is the result of tremendous commitment on the part of state legislators as well as local and county representatives who have fought hard to ensure that this crucial funding met the needs of city residents. This is a strong example of our community coming together towards our vision of a model city with a common goal of improving the quality of lives of Oakland residents through public or private partnerships.”

Specific grant awards include:

- MacArthur Transit Village Project - \$17 million from the TOD program and \$17.3 million from the Infill Program
- Central Business District/Uptown Project - \$9.9 million from the Infill Program
- Tassafaronga Village - \$6.1 million from the Infill Program
- 6th and Oak Senior Homes - \$2.0 million from the Infill Program
- Saint Josephs Senior Apartments and Affordable Home Ownership - \$3.2 million from the Infill Program
- Coliseum BART Transit Village - \$8.5 million from the TOD Program
- Lion Creek Crossing Project - \$7.5 million from the TOD Program

Grant awards total: \$71.5 million

“I authored Proposition 1C because I know infill housing and residential development near transit hubs are crucial components of helping Oakland and other California cities reduce traffic congestion and provide more affordable living options for their residents,” said state **Senate President pro Tempore Don Perata (D-Oakland)**. “I am pleased that this funding will help several housing projects become reality and generate decent-paying construction jobs in Oakland.”

In addition, local elected officials have championed local housing and infrastructure efforts, including **Assemblymembers Sandre Swanson, Assemblymember Mary Hayashi, and Oakland City Councilmembers Desley Brooks, Jane Brunner, and Larry Reid.**

Councilmember Brunner, whose district includes the MacArthur Transit Village Project, said, “I have been working with the community on this project for more than 10 years. This award will allow us to make the MacArthur Transit Village a reality.”

The Proposition 1C grant programs were established by the Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006, a statewide voter approved bond initiative. The primary objective of both the Infill Infrastructure and the TOD programs is to increase the overall supply of infill housing, increase the supply of affordable housing, increase public transit ridership, and minimize automobile trips. The TOD program seeks to accomplish these objectives by providing financial assistance for the development of housing and related infrastructure near public transit stations. The Infill program provides financial assistance for infrastructure improvements necessary to facilitate new infill housing development.

The mayor, City Council, and state representatives have provided strong support for infill housing development within its urban core, believing that new development is a central component to the economic revitalization of the city. However, Oakland’s ability to accommodate this growth is dependent upon significant upgrades to the city’s aging infrastructure including but not limited to improvements to local streets, sewer lines, and parks. These are precisely the kinds of infrastructure problems that Proposition 1C was intended to address – situations where a major impediment to higher density infill housing is the lack of adequate infrastructure capacity.

Key scoring criteria that were considered under both grant programs include the provision of affordable housing units, project readiness, developer experience, community support, and the extent to which the project will increase public transit ridership. The city of Oakland projects scored high in all of these criteria compared to projects in other Bay Area cities. The MacArthur Transit Village project received the highest score of any project in the entire Bay Area for the TOD Grant Program and was awarded funding under both grant programs.

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