



# SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

440 TURK STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102 • PHONE (415) 554-1296 • FAX (415) 240-1024

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Contact: Office of Governmental Affairs & Communications,  
415-554-1296

### \*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\*

## SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING AUTHORITY AWARDED OVER \$19 MILLION FOR RESIDENTIAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Today, the San Francisco Housing Authority (SFHA) was awarded \$17.9 million dollars through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to provide residential capital improvements to distressed public housing over the next two years. An additional \$1.2 million was awarded to SFHA through Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Neighborhood Initiative (NI) grant. The two HUD awards received today is a 58% increase over the annual amount provided to SFHA from HUD for capital improvements.

Mayor Gavin Newsom praised the effort, "For far too long, public housing in the United States has been neglected and an after thought in Washington. I applaud President Obama for allocating these funds to the San Francisco Housing Authority and creating jobs in the process."

"The San Francisco Housing Authority praises the work of President Obama and Congress to pass the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act," said SFHA Executive Director Henry Alvarez, III. "The \$17.9 million that SFHA will receive through this stimulus package shows a significant commitment by the Federal Government to rectify the deterioration of public housing that has been caused by nearly a decade of neglect. Although we are ready to begin the work today, we cannot begin the work in advance of HUD finalizing the paperwork."

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding will be allocated throughout San Francisco through four primary capital improvement areas; Energy Conservation, Health and Safety, Vacant Unit Repairs, and Exterior Paint and Site Improvements. 'Shovel Ready' projects have been identified and work will begin within the next ten days. Additionally, the \$1.2 million Neighborhood Initiative grant will support HOPE SF by assisting the launch of the physical revitalization of Hunters Point.

Over the coming weeks, SFHA will partner with San Francisco's Mayor's Office of Housing to submit an application and begin competing for the remaining \$1 billion worth of stimulus funding that will be provided to public housing redevelopment projects that leverage private financing.