



For Immediate Release

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AUSD and Housing Authority of the City of Alameda Complete Purchase and Sale of Eagle Avenue Property 1-acre parcel to be used for affordable rental homes

March 21, 2022 - **Alameda, California** - In a small ceremony at Alameda Unified School District's central office today, AUSD and the Housing Authority of the City of Alameda (AHA) completed the transfer of the property at 2615 Eagle Avenue. The transfer paves the way for a new affordable housing development on the island.

The site of the district's Maintenance Yard since 1924, the 1.05-acre property has housed trade shops (such as for carpentry, plumbing, gardening, painting, and HVAC) and a district warehouse. Over the years, however, the buildings and pavement on the site had fallen into significant disrepair. In addition, the district had acquired the Singleton Property in 2018, which provided considerably more building and parking space for AUSD's Maintenance, Operations, and Facilities Department.

Public discussions about what to do with the three parcels on the site began in September, 2017, when the Board first gave direction to staff to form a District Advisory Committee to analyze and make recommendations on various real estate holdings, including not only the Maintenance Yard, but Lum Elementary School, the Bachelor's Office Quarters, and the Food Services warehouse.

In June, 2020 AUSD's District Advisory Committee issued a report stating the property was no longer needed for educational purposes; the Board officially declared the property surplus two months later. The district issued a Request for Proposals in January 2021. After a first read at its June 22, 2021 meeting, the Board selected AHA's proposal for \$2.5 million at its August 10, 2021 meeting.

The Housing Authority of the City of Alameda plans to build 40 to 50 affordable rental homes on the site. The higher capacity will allow AHA to help alleviate the housing crisis in the Bay Area by building more housing for families. The apartment homes will be affordable to households making between 20-80% of area median income and will include a preference for those who currently live and work in the City of Alameda. A preference is also expected to be provided to staff of the Alameda Unified School District.

"This site acquisition is key to the Housing Authority's mission of preserving and increasing affordable housing in Alameda," says Vanessa Cooper, executive director of the Housing Authority, "and further strengthens our longstanding partnership with the school district. We are particularly pleased that this acquisition will provide a valuable mid-island location for affordable housing."

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Says Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi, "It is gratifying to be able to transfer property from the district to the Housing Authority at a time when housing is so desperately needed in our region. We are excited to see this parcel transform from its current condition into a thriving residential area."

AHA will start design and development in 2022 and seek funding during 2023. The anticipated groundbreaking date is early 2024.

Photo #1 Caption

Representatives of AUSD and AHA met March 21 to sign documents related to the purchase and sale of 2615 Eagle Avenue. Carly Grob (L), chairman of the AHA Board of Commissioners, and Jennifer Williams (R), President of AUSD's Board of Education, shake hands after the final purchase and sale documents are signed.

Photo #2 Caption

Representatives of AUSD and AHA met March 21 to sign documents related to the purchase and sale of 2615 Eagle Avenue. Clockwise: Carly Grob, Chairman, AHA Board of Commissioners; Pasquale Scuderi, Superintendent, AUSD; Jennifer Williams, President, AUSD Board of Education; Vanessa Cooper; Executive Director, AHA.

About AHA

For over 80 years, The Housing Authority of the City of Alameda (AHA) has provided a range of housing assistance to low-income households. The primary goal of the Housing Authority is to provide quality, affordable, and safe housing in the City of Alameda. Our programs include Housing Choice Vouchers, Project-Based Vouchers, specialized housing assistance, family self-sufficiency, affordable real estate development, resident services, and management of AHA owned property.

About AUSD

Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) serves more than 9600 students in Alameda, California, an island community in the San Francisco Bay Area. For more information, please visit the <u>AUSD website</u>, follow <u>@AUSDNews</u> on Twitter, or subscribe to our<u>email communications</u>. Questions? Contact Susan Davis, Senior Manager, Community Affairs, at sdavis@alamedaunified.org.