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Contact:

Patrick Montgomery
Communications & Public Relations Manager
Burbank Housing
pmontgomery@burbankhousing.org | 707-303-1083

\$9.7 Million in State Funding for Farmworker Housing Boosts Affordable Housing Efforts in Healdsburg

Healdsburg, CA – April 23, 2024 – On April 17, 2024, the State of California’s Governor’s Office announced that \$9.7 million in Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant (FWHG) funds were awarded to Burbank Housing as part of the State’s Department of Housing and Community Development’s (HCD) Multifamily Finance Super NOFA (MFSN) Round 2. The notice of funding availability was issued on May 18th, 2023, of which Burbank Housing received a \$9,709,674 award. The funds will go towards financing the construction of Dry Creek Commons, a 58-unit multifamily housing project that is planned in north Healdsburg.

Located at 155 Dry Creek Road in Healdsburg, Dry Creek Commons is a partnership with the City of Healdsburg to develop the 3.5 acre vacant undeveloped, city-owned site into affordable housing for local families and workforce housing in the community making between 30% - 60% of the local Area Median Income. Supportive Housing services for six units at Dry Creek Commons will be provided by Healdsburg-based Reach for Home. The City of Healdsburg expressed gratitude for the State’s support of the City’s efforts to meet its housing goals.

“We deeply appreciate the state’s investment of \$9.7 million in the Dry Creek Commons project. This funding provides opportunities for our essential farmworkers to live and work in the community they help sustain,” said Healdsburg Mayor David Hagele. “We are fortunate to be partnering with Burbank Housing which has once again identified a creative funding approach to making workforce housing feasible.”

The awarded FWHG funds ensure that a significant portion of the new apartments at Dry Creek Commons will be dedicated to lower income agricultural workers, both current and retired.

“Burbank Housing recognizes that a pillar of community stability is the ability for people to live in the communities that they work in,” said Larry Florin, CEO & President of Burbank Housing. “This farmworker housing award from HCD not only plays a significant role in helping us meet our financing goals for the construction of Dry Creek Commons, but will guarantee affordable homes to those working in agriculture in the area.”

The apartment project is one of thirteen affordable housing projects in Healdsburg that Burbank Housing has been involved with over the years, and once completed will bring the total of affordable rental and homeownership units that Burbank has brought to Healdsburg to 378.

The Dry Creek Commons project is currently in the process of finalizing and submitting construction drawings for building plan review and permits as well as securing final funding commitments. Construction is currently anticipated to break ground Spring 2025.

About Burbank Housing

Burbank Housing is the North Bay’s leading affordable housing nonprofit. Since 1980, the organization has built, preserved, and managed safe, affordable rental and for-sale homes in the North Bay. It currently provides homes to over 9,400 people across more than 135 communities and has built over 1,000 ownership homes. Burbank Housing also has more than 730 affordable housing units in the construction and predevelopment stages.