

THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL, AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY	FROM: HARRY S. MAVROGENES DEBRA FIGONE
SUBJECT: SEE BELOW	DATE: OCTOBER 8, 2008

INFORMATION

SUBJECT: NEIGHBORWORKS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE


The Congressionally-chartered NeighborWorks America, one of the country's largest housing and community development organizations since 1978, is bringing its first national Community Leadership Institute (CLI) conference to San Jose, October 23-26, 2008. Workshops and group activities will be held at the Fairmont Hotel and the San Jose McEnery Convention Center. Co-produced by Neighborhood Housing Services Silicon Valley (NHSSV), the City and the Redevelopment Agency, this conference will draw nearly 1,000 community leaders from across the United States to San Jose.

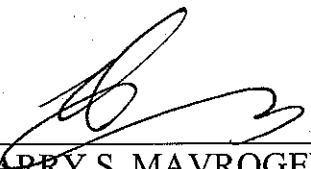
NeighborWorks America is a national nonprofit organization created and partially funded by Congress and offers financial support, technical assistance and training for people to improve their lives and strengthen their communities by providing access to affordable homeownership and to safe and affordable rental housing. NeighborWorks America has grown into a network of more than 230 member organizations working in over 4,400 urban, suburban and rural communities. More information about NeighborWorks and the CLI is available at www.nw.org.

NHSSV, founded in 1995 through the joint efforts of the City's Housing Department, NeighborWorks America and local residents, is a member of the National NeighborWorks Network. NHSSV opened its San Jose Home Ownership Center in August 2000 with support from the City and Redevelopment Agency. As California's first and only non-profit community-based organization to win approval from the California Housing Finance Agency as a direct lender, NHSSV has developed a sterling track record.

CLI participants have signed up for workshops focused on improving their neighborhoods. Working in teams, they will develop action plans to take back to their communities. On October 25th, the CLI will offer participants a chance to visit dozens of San Jose's community-driven projects by bus tours and a walking tour of 18 Strong Neighborhoods Initiative areas. The tours will bring 500 CLI participants into San Jose neighborhoods to get a close-up view of SNI accomplishments and works in progress. The tours will be guided by neighborhood leaders and residents will be at tour stops to describe the projects and discuss their experiences.

The CLI training event features an opening reception and a breakfast that will offer local officials a chance to interact with NeighborWorks America members and participants. City Council members will soon receive invitations to these events from Neighborhood Housing Services Silicon Valley.


DEBRA FIGONE
City Manager


HARRY S. MAVROGENES
Executive Director