

For Immediate Release:

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Santa Clara County Housing Authority Secures Funding for Electrification of Buena Vista Mobile Home Park in Palo Alto

PALO ALTO, Calif. (March 13, 2024) - [The Santa Clara County Housing Authority](http://www.scchousingauthority.org) (SCCHA) has secured \$850,000 in Federal infrastructure funding for the electrification of the Buena Vista Mobile Home Park in Palo Alto, CA. This funding, part of the broader revitalization project, marks a significant step towards creating a safer, more environmentally conscious community for its residents.

With the support of federal funds through an Economic Development Initiative (EDI) grant secured in the federal appropriations process by the U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo, U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, and the late-U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, the park will undergo a complete conversion to 100% electrification, including the replacement of aging utility systems, design and engineering costs, and the installation of new electrical infrastructure such as solar panels and electrical lines.

“I’m very proud to have secured \$850,000 to replace the aging natural gas line at Buena Vista Mobile Home Park with an electric system, converting these affordable homes into a safe and environmentally conscious all-electric community,” said Rep. Eshoo. **“Having spearheaded the charge to save and upgrade Buena Vista in 2017, I’m thrilled to continue making the investments necessary to ensure its 250 residents can continue to call this community home.”**

This transformation ensures the safety and well-being of current residents and lays the foundation for developing more than 100 additional affordable housing units to serve more than 300 low-income residents.

"The electrification funding for Buena Vista Mobile Home Park represents a significant milestone in our commitment to providing a safe, affordable, and environmentally conscious, all-electric community," said Preston Prince, Executive Director of the Santa Clara County Housing Authority. **"This project embodies our dedication to preserving existing communities while creating quality housing options. We look forward to advancing our shared vision with the community, and most importantly, the residents at Buena Vista."**

The Buena Vista Mobile Home Park, home to approximately 259 residents, including 67 children and 52 seniors, has long been a beacon of affordability in an increasingly challenging housing landscape. Recognizing the urgent need for infrastructure improvements, SCCHA embarked on a mission to convert the park into a fully electric, sustainable community as part of a larger plan to refurbish and revitalize the location.

The Buena Vista Mobile Home Park has been a testament to community resilience, with residents organizing to save their homes in the face of potential closure in 2016. Since its acquisition by SCCHA in 2017, the Park has undergone stabilization efforts, paving the way for comprehensive redevelopment projects like the electrification initiative. Throughout the process, SCCHA has engaged residents with their feedback on the new community design and their housing options through resident town hall meetings.

“The City of Palo Alto continues to partner with Santa Clara County Housing Authority to preserve affordable housing at Buena Vista through this important redevelopment project,” said Greer Stone, Palo Alto mayor. “Thanks to Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, Senator Alex Padilla, and the late Senator Dianne Feinstein securing this federal funding is key to advancing home electrification at Buena Vista. It promotes environmental equity and furthers the City’s sustainability and climate action efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”

The mobile home park, which covers 4.5 acres, is a significant affordable housing resource in one of the most affluent neighborhoods in the Bay Area. Unfortunately, it fell into disrepair due to decades of disinvestment by previous ownership. The unsafe conditions of the Park, especially the utilities and coaches, urgently need attention.

As the Park progresses with redevelopment plans, SCCHA remains steadfast in its dedication to creating a safe, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable community for all its residents. SCCHA has committed over \$30 million to this project. The City of Palo Alto (\$14.5mm), the County of Santa Clara (\$14.5mm), and the State of California (\$30mm) have contributed additional funds beyond this federal grant.



Rendering of Buena Vista Mobile Home Park.

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