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# News Release

**For Immediate Release**

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## **LAUSD CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF SAGE PARK AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS FOR FAMILIES**

LOS ANGELES—Los Angeles Unified School District officials, together with BRIDGE Housing and other special guests, today celebrated the grand opening of the Sage Park Apartments in Gardena.

Sage Park features 90 affordable one-, two-, and three-bedroom rental apartments for families on a 3.5-acre site located on the north side of the Gardena Senior High School campus. The property was developed through a partnership between the L.A. Unified, nonprofit BRIDGE Housing and the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department. Of the 90 apartments, 62 have been rented by District employees. The remaining apartments were expected to be rented by District employees as well.

"I am thrilled to celebrate this ribbon-cutting event today," the District's Board President Dr. Richard Vladovic said. "With the support of our partner, BRIDGE Housing, we made this innovative idea a reality. We are proud that LAUSD employees and their families are living here. Not only will these new apartments change lives, they will also truly revitalize this entire neighborhood."

Rents are set to be affordable to residents with annual incomes ranging from \$16,541 to \$49,800 for a four-person household (30 to 60 percent of area median income). Monthly rents will range from \$425 to \$1,222 depending on factors such as income, household and apartment size.

Amenities include a fitness room, community room, laundry facilities, a community garden and landscaped courtyards. The complex's landscaping includes plantings and sustainable materials that respect the existing environment.

On a one-acre parcel adjacent to Sage Park, the partnership developed additional community amenities, including a joint-use facility with two multipurpose rooms, outdoor patio and community garden, along with an obstacle training course that will be used by the Los Angeles Police Department for its Juvenile Impact Training program.

"The Los Angeles area is one of the most expensive rental markets in the country, where people with moderate- and lower-wage jobs cannot afford a place to live," President and CEO of BRIDGE Housing Cynthia A. Parker said. "At Sage Park, we are thrilled to be part of transforming an underutilized site into new, affordable homes and community spaces."

Financing for the \$28-million property is provided by L.A. Unified, Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department, California Tax Credit Allocation Committee, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, California Community Reinvestment Corp., and New Generation Fund. Sage Park was designed by Steinberg Architects, and the general contractor was Portrait Construction, Inc.

Two additional affordable housing joint venture development projects – Selma Community Housing and Norwood Learning Village, located at Selma and Norwood Elementary schools respectively – are currently in the District's pipeline. They are expected to be completed within the next two years.

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