



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

**MAYOR LONDON BREED, SUPERVISOR VALLIE BROWN,
AND COMMUNITY LEADERS CELEBRATE THE REOPENING
OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SENIORS AND PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES**

97 units of permanently affordable housing were rehabilitated under the RAD program, without displacement of existing residents

San Francisco, CA — Mayor London N. Breed, Supervisor Vallie Brown, and community leaders today celebrated the grand reopening and rededication of 1750 McAllister Street, a recently acquired and rehabilitated residence serving seniors and people with disabilities.

The 1750 McAllister project is a 12-story, 97-unit property that is being renovated under the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which allows for a voluntary, permanent conversion of public housing to privately-owned, permanently affordable housing. The project is part of the City's commitment to preserving and revitalizing over 3,500 distressed public housing units across San Francisco. To date, more than 2,500 units have been renovated under the program.

"As someone who grew up in public housing, I am proud of the progress we continue to make renovating our public housing in San Francisco," said Mayor Breed. "This project ensures that 120 of our seniors and people with disabilities have beautiful new homes that meet their individual needs. I want to thank all of our partner organizations for their continued support and efforts to make this project a reality."

The renovation included the replacement of unit interior fixtures and finishes, the reconfiguration of management and staff offices, building system upgrades including elevator modernization and fire/life safety, accessibility upgrades, and new exterior landscaping. In addition, building maintenance and operations were improved. No residents were permanently relocated during the renovation.

"It's essential that our community be able to stay and age gracefully in the neighborhoods they've helped raise, in homes that are safe and that they can securely call their own," said Supervisor Vallie Brown. "I'm so thrilled the renovated 1750 McAllister will enable more of our elders and people living with disabilities to find all of this in a supportive environment right here in the Western Addition."

"We are grateful for the collaboration with Community Housing Partnership, HUD, the San Francisco Housing Authority and Bank of America to bring 1750 McAllister up to current

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standards of safety and design and to provide 97 senior and disabled households with the homes and services they need and deserve," said Kate Hartley, Director of the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development.

Under the RAD program structure, Community Housing Partnership owns, maintains, and provides resident and clinical service programs for a total of 120 seniors and individuals with disabilities who reside at 1750 McAllister. These programs – spanning from case management, one-on-one counseling, community workshops, health assessments, treatment planning, crisis intervention, and more – are aimed at supporting residents aging in place and promoting self-sufficiency.

"Revitalizing properties like 1750 McAllister Street make a profound impact when it comes to better supporting our community's most vulnerable residents," said Gail Gilman, Chief Executive Officer of Community Housing Partnership. "Through the late Mayor Lee's vision to rehabilitate San Francisco public housing and transition properties to non-profit developers, Community Housing Partnership is now able to give 120 seniors and individuals with disabilities a home where they can safely and comfortably live and age in place. Today's event feels especially powerful as we honor Rachel Townsend. We are proud that the rededicated Rachel Townsend Apartments will stand tall and serve our community for many years to come."

The building will be renamed and dedicated in memory of Rachel Townsend, daughter of Reverend Arnold Townsend, in recognition of her impactful work throughout the Bay Area. Rachel was devoted to giving back to her community, ensuring people of color were represented and engaged civically, working on many political campaigns in Oakland and San Francisco, and helping provide a voice to the voiceless. Notably, Rachel was the driving force behind San Francisco's annual Juneteenth celebration which commemorates the 1865 abolishment of slavery in the United States.

"Rachel had her challenges just like everyone else, but nothing ever stopped her," said Rev. Townsend. "She was a real fighter, was passionate, and had an intense concern for others. Her legacy will be carried on through the Rachel Townsend Apartments by giving those in need a safe place to live and true sense of community."

The rehabilitation architect overseeing these renovations was Levy Design Partners, and FineLine Construction served as the general contractor. Financial partners included Bank of America Merrill Lynch, the Mayor's Office of Housing & Community Development, San Francisco Housing Authority, Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco, and Freddie Mac Multifamily. California Housing Partnership Corporation provided financial consulting and Community Housing Partnership was represented by Armando Vasquez for construction management services.

"Bank of America Merrill Lynch is pleased to provide a \$30 million construction loan, \$9.6 million in permanent debt through Freddie Mac and \$24 million in equity to help revitalize much-needed affordable housing for senior and disabled residents at 1750 McAllister," said Ari Beliak, senior vice president of Community Development Banking at Bank of America Merrill

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Lynch. "It is gratifying to see the transformative impact made on lives of our fellow San Franciscans, and the power of private-public partnerships through our \$2.1 billion investment in SF-RAD."

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