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HANO and Industrial Development Board Reach 40 Percent Local Hire Target

Partners Launch PILOT Employment Website

New Orleans, LA (September 22, 2011) –Today, the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) and the Industrial Development Board of the City of New Orleans (IDB) announced its success in achieving the 40 percent local hire goal as part of the Crescent City Job Match Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) web-based employment program. Officials from the IDB attended the New Orleans City Council meeting to present success stories and the programs next steps.

HANO in partnership with the IDB launched this program in June to assist job seekers with employment placement and training opportunities. In an effort to strengthen local job placement, HANO and the IDB have targeted a minimum of 40 percent Orleans Parish hiring as a requirement with the issuance of the tax incentives by the IDB.

"The IDB deemed it very necessary for our residents to have a strong opportunity for work on projects which have received tax abatement incentives by the City of New Orleans," said IDB President Walter Flower. "This will help in strengthening the economic base of the City providing opportunity for those who most need it, as well as helping to move citizens away from crime and into meaningful and productive employment."

As part of HANO's commitment to providing positions for local residents, the agency's developers, contractors and subcontractors are required to submit new open positions to the site upon availability. "HANO will continue to assist its residents in job placement opportunities so that skilled, motivated workers are connected to potential employers," said Administrative Receiver David Gilmore. "We're working with key organizations to develop innovative programs that will ultimately increase employment opportunities and mentor residents through training programs." HANO also views this as an opportunity to ensure Section 3 participants are utilized during construction of developments.

HANO and the IDB jointly funded the development of the website created by The Canary Collective, and work closely with the Central City Partnership, LLC to seek qualified applicants. The applicants are assigned counselors that will guide and facilitate the hiring process. The collaborative partners hope to expand the program incorporating all potential employers in the city.

Potential applicants can visit www.crescentcityjobmatch.com, www.hano.org, or call 504-568-5500 to register for the program. Central City Partnership will provide on-site counselors to contact, interview and place applicants in available positions. To date, approximately 60 applicants have been successfully placed in jobs associated with HANO-related construction developments.

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