



TACOMA HOUSING AUTHORITY



Tacoma
Urban League

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2017

Media Contacts:

Michael Mirra, Tacoma Housing Authority
(253) 207-4429; mmirra@tacomahousing.org

Carmetrus Parker, Tacoma Urban League
(253) 383-2007; cparker@thetacomeurbanleague.org

THA to SHOWCASE RENOVATION and REDEDICATION of DIXON VILLAGE APARTMENTS in the SOUTH TACOMA NEIGHBORHOOD

Wednesday, January 25th, 2017; 3 to 4:30 PM

5420 S. Stevens St., Tacoma, WA 98409

[Entrance is on South 56th Street, up the slope, just west of South Tyler]

TACOMA – January 13, 2017 – Please join Tacoma Housing Authority (THA) and the Tacoma Urban League, residents and neighbors to celebrate the renovation of Dixon Village Apartments in the South Tacoma Neighborhood.

The event will also rededicate the community to its namesake, Thomas Dixon, and to celebrate his life and achievements. Mr. Dixon has been an influential community voice for over 40 years who helped bring Tacoma into the civil rights era. As part of that work, he led the Tacoma Urban League as its Executive Director for three decades.



The celebration will take place on **Wednesday, January 25, 2017, from 3 to 4:30 PM at 5420 S. Stevens St., Tacoma, WA 98409**. The program will include remarks from Dixon Village residents, community leaders and THA Commissioners, along with a ribbon cutting, open house and refreshments from local artisans.

Dixon Village is a 32-unit duplex community originally built in 1995. It provides high-quality affordable housing for low-income families. The renovation at Dixon Village cost \$4.1 million. It began in August 2016. It includes:

- new windows, siding and roofing, attic insulation, whole-house exhaust fans, exterior doors and hardware
- exterior work includes landscaping, new sidewalks, playground, a new refuse/recycle enclosure, new street lighting and security cameras
- community building interior upgrades and expanded parking
- unit interior upgrades include energy-efficient lighting and plumbing fixtures and flooring

This renovation is part of an ambitious \$36 million construction project renovating nine THA communities. This construction is part of an \$80 million refinancing that will attend to the capital needs of that portfolio for the next 15 years and help fund still other projects. The financing comes largely from private sources.

Construction Manager/General Contractor: Walsh Construction Company

Architect: Casey + DeChant Architects, LLC

Financing: CitiBank and RBC Capital Markets

About The Tacoma Urban League

Founded in 1968, the Tacoma Urban League's mission is to assist African Americans, other ethnic minorities and economically disadvantaged individuals and families in the achievement of social equality and economic independence. The Tacoma Urban League remains devoted to empowering African Americans and other disenfranchised groups to enter the economic and social mainstream. From its earliest days in the civil rights movement, through years of partnership with government and public agencies, the Tacoma Urban League has been a beacon of hope and a catalyst in the South Puget Sound community. For more information about the Tacoma Urban League and its work, go to www.thetacomaurbanleague.org.

About Tacoma Housing Authority

Established in 1940, Tacoma Housing Authority provides high-quality, stable and sustainable housing and supportive services to people in need. It does this in ways that help them prosper and help our communities develop equitably. THA develops and manages real estate and provides rental housing. In partnership with thousands of private landlords, it helps families pay the rent in the private rental market. It delivers supportive services to help families succeed as "tenants, parents, students, wage earners and builders of assets who can live without assistance". THA seeks to do its work in ways that help our community be an "attractive place to live, work, attend school, shop and play," and that help Tacoma be "safe, vibrant, prosperous, attractive and just." For more information about THA and its work, go to www.tacomahousing.org.