



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# **Affirmed Housing and MTS Celebrate Groundbreaking on Critical, Affordable, Transit-Oriented Housing Development**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**San Diego-** Affirmed Housing, a leading provider of affordable housing throughout California, in collaboration with the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), announced the groundbreaking of ShoreLINE, a new, 100% affordable, transit-oriented development located at the Grantville Trolley Station on Alvarado Canyon Road.

“ShoreLINE is a great example of MTS taking a leadership role to address the region’s housing shortage, build sustainable, affordable communities, and increase transit ridership,” said Nathan Fletcher, MTS Board Chair, and Chair, San Diego County Board of Supervisors. “We appreciate the partnership with Affirmed Housing and look forward to seeing families thriving in this community for years to come.”

“This kind of transit-oriented affordable housing is exactly what we need more of here in San Diego,” said San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria. “More housing options near transit are a win for our city, our community and our environment. When people live near convenient and reliable travel options like transit, there is less overall travel by car in the city, which reduces greenhouse gas emissions and enhances quality of life for all of us.”



The new, five-story ShoreLINE building features 124 studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom units reserved for households earning 30 – 60% of the area median income (AMI). Residential units and laundry facilities are located on every level, and the ground floor includes parking, bike storage, office space for property management, and community room with gathering space, a computer lab and a kitchen. Residents also have access to an expansive 5,800-square-foot courtyard, outdoor gardens and gathering spaces with built-in seating, an enclosed tot lot play area and a barbecue station. Access to the building will be monitored 24/7 and restricted to residents only. Designed to encourage pedestrian and bike activity, the new development features a lush, 26-foot-wide paseo that leads to the main entrance and several paths through and around the building connect to the trolley/bus station.

ShoreLINE is part of a larger effort MTS is advancing to redevelop its top-tier park and ride locations into transit-oriented developments. Other top-tier properties MTS is in the process of redeveloping or actively looking to redevelop include:

- Palm Avenue Trolley Station – 390 units
- Rancho Bernardo Transit Center – 100 estimated units
- 12th & Imperial Transit Center – 500 estimated units
- El Cajon Transit Center – 400 estimated units
- E Street Transit Center – 170-390 estimated units
- Beyer Boulevard Transit Center – 100 estimated units

A full inventory of properties can be accessed on the MTS Real Estate webpage [here](#).

“ShoreLINE is a shared vision to bring forward-looking solutions that address urgent, urban livability challenges and deliver long term, positive impacts,” said Jimmy Silverwood, executive vice president for Affirmed Housing. “Ensuring housing security is good, but it’s not enough – providing a little extra support and a welcoming environment where people are proud to live is significant for boosting the overall health and wellness of the entire community. We’re grateful to work with our partners who embrace these methods that benefit us all.”



Affirmed Housing leveraged various types of funding and credit sources for ShoreLINE's development, including transit-oriented development funds from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD); project-based vouchers, tax-exempt and taxable bonds issued by the San Diego Housing Commission; ground lease from MTS; and federal and state tax equity.

Land use for the project site is regulated by the Navajo Community Plan, which was adopted in 2015 and encourages multifamily residential development to boost housing availability in the region. Although ShoreLINE's plans follow the guidelines set forth in the Plan and do not require discretionary planning approvals, Affirmed Housing still engaged the San Diego Development Services Department (DSD) in a preliminary review process to move the project forward. The site replaces an existing MTS parking lot, with ShoreLINE situated on the western half, and a separate, neighboring development, comprised of market-rate housing for students, Union Grantville, is located on the eastern side of the lot.

In addition to delivering much-needed affordable housing to the region, ShoreLINE will offer on-site supportive services tailored to aid and empower residents to live their best lives. The supportive services plan includes after school programs for children and adult education programs that focus on health and wellness, skills and career building, computer education, human services, contract management, civic involvement and community leadership. Affirmed Housing will regularly survey residents to confirm that programs and services offered are appropriate to the needs of the resident population.

**About MTS:**

MTS operates more than 100 bus routes and three Trolley lines in 10 cities and unincorporated areas of San Diego. Frequencies and spans have been restored to near-pre-COVID-19 levels. Updated schedules can be accessed on the MTS [website](#). MTS asks that people wear face coverings at all times and practice physical distancing when possible.



### **About Affirmed Housing**

Affirmed Housing is a leader in affordable, multifamily housing development, delivering safe, sustainable, high-quality communities for families, veterans, seniors and people experiencing homelessness. The company works with municipalities and private owners throughout California to promote housing stability and neighborhood well-being by leveraging deep expertise in public finance, low-income housing tax credits, and tax-exempt bond finance, as well as site selection, engineering, architecture, construction, relocation and marketing. Since 1992, Affirmed Housing has financed more than \$2 billion in affordable and supportive development, with 5,000 units developed or under development in 64 communities. The company has offices in San Diego and San Jose. Visit: [www.affirmedhousing.com](http://www.affirmedhousing.com).

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Group photo from left to right: Jim Silverwood, President & CEO of Affirmed Housing, Mark Wolf, Senior Vice President of California Bank & Trust, Laura Surdel, Senior Vice President of Boston Financial, Todd Gloria, Mayor of San Diego, Lt. Eleni Kounalakis, Lieutenant Governor of California, Nathan Fletcher, MTS Board Chair, Todd Gloria, Mayor of San Diego, Raul Campillo, San Diego City Councilmember, Marie Allen, Senior Project Manager of Affirmed Housing, Emily Jacobs, EVP of SDHC.