



## NEWS RELEASE

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### Security grant awarded to protect San Bernardino residents

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The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded a \$225,000 safety and security grant to the Housing Authority– the only agency in the state to receive this grant. Nationally, HUD awarded \$5 million across 24 public housing authorities. The grant funding is providing security fencing, lighting, and surveillance equipment for the Waterman Gardens Housing Community in San Bernardino.

“This grant will allow San Bernardino County to complete important security upgrades and improve the quality of life for hundreds of families in Waterman Gardens. Fencing, lighting and surveillance equipment will be installed. All of us deserve to feel safe and secure in our homes, and this grant will help achieve that goal for this community,” states Senator Dianne Feinstein.

The Housing Authority has had success in minimizing criminal activities on site in the past by deploying armed security guards as well as utilizing proactive property management techniques in collaboration with local law enforcement under the Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing Program. The neighborhood adjacent to Waterman Gardens is a recipient of the Department of Justice’s Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Grant, and has made inroads toward building neighborhood capacity to combat crime.

“I’m glad to see these critical federal funds come back to San Bernardino to help revitalize the area and improve the safety of this community,” said Representative Pete Aguilar. He added, “It’s important that we empower our local agencies with the tools they need to help Inland Empire families access safe and affordable housing.”

The Housing Authority and city leaders continue to aggressively pursue strategies intended to stimulate neighborhood-wide revitalization. The Waterman Gardens site is where the most intense redevelopment work is already underway. This grant funding will help ensure the safety of the Waterman Gardens residents and those in the surrounding neighborhood.

“We are very grateful for this grant award; it gives us and our resident’s peace of mind that additional safety resources are being invested in this much needed community,” states Maria Razo, HACSB’s Interim Executive Director.

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