

## **NEWS RELEASE**

SAN DIEGO COUNTY BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL FAMILY HOUSING CORPORATION dba NATIONAL CITY PARKS APARTMENTS

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Tom Lemmon Phone: 619-521-2914 Email: tomlemmon@sdcbctc.org

## San Diego County Building Trades Council Family Housing Corporation Hires Policy Director for Redevelopment

The San Diego County Building Trades Council's Family Housing Corporation announces the hiring of Dr. Murtaza Baxamusa as Director of Planning and Development. Dr. Baxamusa will be responsible for guiding the San Diego County Building Trades Family Housing Corporation as it makes plans to develop an addition to the National City Park Apartments for Veterans Housing. Dr. Baxamusa will also work on redevelopment funding and affordable housing issues in light of Governor Brown's proposed budget cuts along with continuing his research and policy work on building a stronger middle class.

"We are excited to add Murtaza to our team," said Tom Lemmon, Chairman of the Family Housing Corporation. "As we expand our commitment to providing affordable housing to low and moderate income families in our community, Murtaza's experience and background will help us pave the way to a brighter future for working families."

Dr. Baxamusa has a PhD in Planning from the University of Southern California. His study on community benefit agreements received the award for Best Doctoral Dissertation in Planning at USC. He received his Master's Degree in Planning at USC and a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from the Indian Institute of Technology. He comes to the Corporation from the Center on Policy Initiatives where he served as its Deputy Director. Dr. Baxamusa worked on sustainable development strategies for Southern California cities while working as a researcher at the USC Center for Economics. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the San Diego City-County Reinvestment Taskforce, a position he has held since 2007. Dr. Baxamus lives in La Jolla with his wife and two daughters.

The Family Housing Corporation owns and operates the National City Parks Apartments. Located at 2323 D Avenue in National City, this 456-unit "garden-type" apartment community is spread over 24 acres. The apartment community is designed for families with children. The on-site daycare facility is centrally located and operated by a "Non-Profit for Public-Good" Corporation.

The Building Trades Council, through its Family Housing Corporation, has owned the apartment community for 43 years. Recently, the Corporation paid off the last HUD guaranteed mortgage on the property. At that time, the Corporation's Board of Directors unanimously voted to maintain its low income housing for working families in the community.