

*****Press Release*****

DHCD SUPPORTS DC HABITAT'S "HOMES FOR VETS" CAMPAIGN

The District agency transferred vacant lots to the organization to erect six sustainable homes for veterans.

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MEDIA CONTACT Marcus A. Williams | DHCD Public Information Officer/ Communications Director
(P) 202-442-7253 (E-mail) marcus.williams@dc.gov

Heather Phibbs | Habitat for Humanity of Washington, DC Director of Marketing
(P) 202-882-4600, x233 (E-mail) heather.phibbs@dchabitat.org

WASHINGTON, DC – The D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) held a public hearing on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the agency's Housing Resource Center to announce the transfer of a vacant lot, in the Randle Heights community, to Habitat for Humanity of Washington, DC (DC Habitat). The non-profit, affordable housing organization will erect six sustainable single family homes on the lot as part of the "Homes for Vets" campaign.

DHCD will work closely with DC Habitat to develop the structures, and ensure that these homes are affordable for interested veterans.

"DC Habitat and DHCD share a common mission and compassion – to build and sustain affordable homes for those in need and to develop vibrant diverse communities throughout the nation's capital," said DHCD Director Kelly. "There are three major impacts of the 'Homes for Vets 2013' campaign; the sustainable designs will allow homeowners to have a smaller carbon footprint, veterans will have more affordable housing opportunities, and they will help to address homelessness among veterans in our nation's capital."

In June 2013, Habitat for Humanity held a Veterans Build on the Mall event on the National Mall. At this event, six frames were constructed by volunteers representing each of the U.S. military branches. Three of these frames were moved to permanent sites in Deanwood neighborhood in Northeast DC and are being fully constructed as affordable homes for local veterans and their families.

"We highly value our partnership with DC's Department of Housing and Community Development. Their programs, under Director Kelly's extraordinary leadership, enable us to address the severe shortage of affordable homes in the nation's capital," said Susanne Slater, President and CEO of DC Habitat. "We are grateful that DHCD shares our commitment to providing housing solutions for the District's large veteran population."

Following the property disposition public hearing, DHCD and DC Habitat will finalize the Property Disposition Agreement and the transfer of the property to DC Habitat for future development.

Media seeking interviews with the DHCD Director Michael P. Kelly, DC Habitat CEO Susanne Slater or the DHCD Spokesperson should coordinate with the media contact, listed above, as soon as possible.

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The mission of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is to create and preserve opportunities for affordable housing and economic development and to revitalize underserved communities in the District of Columbia.