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**Lewis A. Jordan**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

**Scott W. Ammarell**  
*General Counsel*

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Contact: Bryant Payne, MK Communications  
312-822-0505; bryant@mkcpr.com

## Lathrop Homes to be Developed as Chicago's Most "Sustainable Community"

*Alderman Flores/CEO Lewis Jordan say LEED ND Certification a Goal  
Proven Ability to address Employment, Education, Historic Preservation,  
Affordability Cited as Qualities Necessary for All Competing Teams*

CHICAGO (January 7, 2010) – Setting what the framers believe will be a new standard for sustainable community-based development projects, Lewis Jordan, CEO of the Chicago Housing Authority and Alderman Manny Flores (1<sup>st</sup> Ward) today announced the release of a Request for Qualifications from developers hoping to participate in the redevelopment of Lathrop Homes that specifies their willingness and ability to achieve national certification as a LEED ND sustainable community.

LEED ND is a new designation, created by the U.S. Green Building Council that is awarded to development projects that are not only environmentally sound and employ energy saving technology, but also sustainable in their use of development dollars to encourage job training in innovative, cutting edge technologies, extensive community involvement and attention to the total livability of urban communities, including attention to parks, schools, shopping and transportation.

"While all the Plan for Transformation communities have incorporated elements of sustainability, working with Alderman Flores we have envisioned a development that is a virtual culmination of all we have done and learned," said CEO Lewis Jordan. As contemplated the redeveloped Lathrop will be a model urban community, involving adaptive reuse and historic preservation of structures, use and training and employment of residents in cutting edge 'clean' technology, the offering of housing that is affordable to a broad spectrum of families and the inclusion of schools, parks, community space and accessible retail all within close proximity."

"Given the unique characteristics of this site – the historic character of its buildings, its proximity to the Chicago River, a range of job opportunities and the thriving west Lakeview community, the request for qualifications mirrors in its standards for the team the qualities that we are looking to realize in the development," said Alderman Manny Flores. Specifically – beyond the basics, we are looking for a team that has demonstrated the ability to provide housing that is affordable to a broad spectrum of people; is committed to and has expertise in historic preservation, is experienced in "green building" and as important understands and can implement a community vision that is engaging, provides sustainable education, employment and civic engagement opportunities. In doing so, we can set a new benchmark for quality and sustainability for the next generation of CHA mixed income developments – and all other developments in our great city."

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The LEED ND (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Neighborhood Development) certification that is mandated for all applicants provides a comprehensive community building framework that includes not only environmental issues, but also a focus on job creation, technology, sustainability and expanded economic opportunity. In addition, the applicants will need to demonstrate the ability to complete complex housing development projects that incorporate elements of historic preservation while facilitating the type of public process that involves multiple stakeholders.

“It is quite fitting that we are releasing the Lathrop Homes RFQ just as we are celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Plan for Transformation” said Jordan. This RFQ reflects the many lessons we have learned over the years as to what it takes to build a sustainable community. From its insistence on environmental integrity and sustainability to its focus on on-time, on-budget performance, to its call for applicants to demonstrate mastery of the community engagement process and accommodation of a broad spectrum of owners and renters, this RFQ represents our best thinking to date.”

Officials at the CHA and The Habitat Company, in its role as the court appointed receiver, which are responsible for releasing and collectively handling the RFQ process, said that notification of the opportunity will be widely distributed, with notices going out not only to known developers, but also through the American Institute of Architects, the U.S. Green Building Council, the Hispanic American Construction Industry Association (HACIA), community organizations and historic preservation organizations.

Responses to the RFQ will be due Monday, March 8, 2010 at which time they will be evaluated by the Working Group, and the selected respondent will be asked to lead a community planning process that will result in a development proposal.

“We want to be certain that the revitalized Lathrop Homes will become a showcase for the City of Chicago and a model for urban development around the country,” said Flores.”

The Lathrop Homes, constructed in the late 1930s, includes 27 low-rise buildings. Lathrop Homes is expected to be redeveloped into a mix of new and rehabilitated, low-income, affordable and market-rate housing units. The next stage of the planning process will commence in the Spring of 2010.

The present members of the Lathrop Homes Working Group, which is an advisory group to the CHA, are Anna Booth, City of Chicago Department of Community Development; Craig Sieben, North Center Community Resident; Jeff Head, The Habitat Company; Robert Davidson, Lathrop LAC President; Julie Brown, Business and Professional People for the Public Interest; Manuel Flores; Alderman 1<sup>st</sup> Ward; Mildred Pagan, Lathrop LAC; John McDermott, Logan Square Neighborhood Association; Oneida Pate; City of Chicago Department of Community Development; Veronica Gonzalez, Chicago Housing Authority.

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