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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CHA makes recommendation on Lathrop Homes, enters negotiations with five-component development team**

*Team would oversee planning, design, financing, construction, management and social service provision for new mixed-income community*

CHICAGO (October 21, 2010) – Following six months of extensive evaluation, the Chicago Housing Authority’s (CHA) Board of Commissioners this week agreed to accept the recommendation of the Lathrop Working Group for CHA to enter into negotiations with Lathrop Community Partners, a five-party development team, for the revitalization of Lathrop Homes.

The development team, comprised of Related Midwest, Heartland Housing, Bickerdike Redevelopment Corp., Magellan Development Group and Ardmore Associates, is charged with leading a planning process and ultimately the multi-year, multi-phase redevelopment to create a sustainable mixed income community on the current Lathrop site in west Lakeview at Diversey and Clybourn.

One of the primary goals for the development is attaining Gold or Platinum level certification from the United States Green Building Council for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND)

As envisioned, the redeveloped site will be a model urban community, offering housing that is affordable to families across a broad income spectrum – along with schools, parks, community space and accessible retail – all within close proximity.

“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,” Lewis A. Jordan, CEO of the Chicago Housing Authority, said. “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.”

Kerry Dickson, Senior Vice President of Related Midwest, said: “On behalf of the entire Lathrop Community Partners team, we are thrilled to be selected for this important site. We look forward to bringing our team’s expertise in housing, education, historic and sustainable development and employment to the community planning process, to lead the discussions and arrive at the best possible solution for the neighborhood.”

The recommendation comes at the end of a lengthy process involving residents of the Lathrop Development, current First Ward Alderman Proco “Joe” Moreno, former

First Ward Alderman Manuel Flores and 32nd Ward Alderman Scott Waguespack, community leaders, and advocacy groups that resulted in the solicitation of Requests for Qualification that was made public earlier this year.

Particular to the Lathrop RFQ, respondents were required to detail their experience not only in multi- and single family housing development, but also their experience with historic preservation and sustainable development -- hallmarks of the Lathrop Working Group's vision.

Six responses were received and evaluated by the Lathrop Homes Working Group, CHA staff and The Habitat Company, CHA's court appointed Gautreaux Development Manager.

"According to the Working Group Evaluation Committee, Lathrop Community Partners was the highest ranked team, providing a well-articulated, holistic and qualified team presentation," Jordan said. "The team is ready and excited to initiate the planning process with the residents, community and stakeholders to detail and bring to fruition the redevelopment vision."

Six firms submitted qualifications in response to the RFQ. The nine-person Lathrop Homes Working Group served as the Evaluation Committee. The Committee reviewed all six proposals and submitted scores and comments to the Habitat Company, the court-appointed Gautreaux Development Manager.

Five respondents qualified for oral presentations before the Committee.

At the conclusion of the presentations, the Evaluation Committee reviewed transcripts of each oral presentation and responses to follow-up questions considering the following factors: The teams':

- track record for closing deals;
- innovative approaches to mixed-income development;
- capacity to competitively pursue various federal and state funding;
- comparable experience in both size and complexity to Lathrop Homes; and
- ability to provide social service programming for all age groups and to build community across the full income spectrum.

The Committee members reached a broad consensus that Lathrop Community Partners best presented an approach to achieving the vision for the Lathrop redevelopment. Lathrop Community Partners received the highest total score among the six written proposal as well as the highest total score among the five firms selected to make oral presentations. In addition to the partners named above, the Lathrop Community Partners' community team includes Growing Power, Illinois Facilities Fund, Heartland Human Care Services and Related Management.

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