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### **Cambridge Housing Authority Celebrates the Completion of the Newly Renovated Lyndon B. Johnson Apartments**

**Cambridge, MA. – December 2, 2013...** On Thursday, December 12, 2013, Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) will present the newly renovated Lyndon B. Johnson Apartments, at 150 Erie Street, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. A ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration for the residents and Cambridge Housing Authority partners will take place in the community room. Speakers will include State Representatives Jay Livingstone, and Marjorie Decker, HUD Regional Administrator Barbara Fields as well as other political, financial and development partners.

The revitalization efforts at Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) Apartments embody a major step forward in CHA's energy efficiency goals. It took \$32 million in comprehensive modernization work to complete the Lyndon B. Johnson apartments, thanks in part to a \$10 million grant received through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

CHA joined with the following partners to make this renovation possible:

- The Residents of Lyndon B. Johnson Apartments
- City of Cambridge
- Boston Private Bank & Trust
- Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development
- US Department of Housing & Urban Development
- MassDevelopment
- RBC Tax Credit Equity Group & Capital Markets
- Boston Community Capital
- Skanska USA Building
- Tise Design Associates

"I am grateful for the tireless cooperation and efforts from our residents, staff and the many partners, whose collaboration made this unprecedented work possible. LBJ has brought innovation, sustainability and vitality to both our residents and the larger Cambridge community" said Gregory Russ, Executive Director of Cambridge Housing Authority. "The transformation of LBJ Apartments has set a new standard for CHA – a standard we will continue to use as we improve the remainder of our portfolio." Russ added.

CHA is proud of the sustainable and energy goals achieved with the LBJ renovations. The project has achieved annual cost savings in excess of \$250,000, driven by the conversion from electric to high efficiency gas heating, the implementation of a passive solar wall, a combined heat and power plant, and a large rooftop solar array. Particularly of note, is that the project attained this level of savings while adding central air conditioning and augmenting ventilation throughout the building. Beyond cost savings, these improvements also reduce carbon emissions by over 2,200 metric tons per year – the equivalent to the energy use of 403 US homes.



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In addition to the core energy system improvements, CHA converted 69 studio units into one-bedroom apartments by enclosing balconies and more than doubling the original number of fully accessible units. LBJ apartments now include 67 studios, 109 one-bedroom units, and one two-bedroom unit. Each unit is newly designed and equipped with Energy Star appliances, water-saving fixtures, and cabinets and flooring from sustainable sources.

The common area improvements include refurbished elevators, entrances and common corridors, new intercom and security system as well as high quality, multi-use community rooms.

The exterior improvements include a newly designed courtyard with fresh landscaping and social areas as well as improved parking areas, walkways and site lighting.

**About Cambridge Housing Authority:** Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) is a national leader in the development, management and administration of subsidizing affordable housing for low-income elderly, family, and disabled households. Established under state law on December 9, 1935, by the City of Cambridge, CHA's mission is to develop and manage safe, good quality, affordable housing for low-income individuals and families in a manner which promotes citizenship, community and self-reliance.



**PHOTO CAPTION:** The newly renovated Lyndon B. Johnson apartment complex at 150 Erie Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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