



NEWS

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas ***L.A. County Board of Supervisors, 2nd District***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RIDLEY-THOMAS SECURES TEAM OF NATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED DEVELOPMENT EXPERTS TO ASSIST IN GOAL TO DEVELOP MARTIN LUTHER KING CAMPUS

Urban Land Institute will assemble nationally-recognized experts in a one-day intensive charette to brainstorm on how to develop the 38 acre site

LOS ANGELES COUNTY – In pursuit of his promise to reopen “a new and vastly improved Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Center with quality patient care,” Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas today announced that the Urban Land Institute (ULI) will assemble nationally-recognized experts in a one-day intensive charette to brainstorm ideas on how to develop the 38 acre site.

The announcement follows today’s release of a framework for the re-opening of the hospital as a private, non-profit facility with 120 beds in conjunction with the University of California by late 2012.

“We intend to establish a Technical Advisory Panel of experts representing the entire spectrum of land use and real estate development disciplines to discuss the possibilities associated with this site,” said Supervisor Ridley-Thomas. “The re-opening of a Martin Luther King Medical Center -- devoted to the delivery of quality patient care -- is happening against the backdrop of a national discussion about health care reform, universal health care access, health information technology, disease management and preventive care.

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"ULI Los Angeles looks forward to working in partnership with Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' office and LA PLAN on this project," said ULI Executive Director Katherine Perez. "There is great potential for this site. ULI LA will bring our best talent of real estate professionals and industry experts to this effort."

"The Martin Luther King hospital revitalization project best represents what can be achieved when the community unites toward one common goal: providing a better quality of life for the residents of Los Angeles County," said Rob Gilmore, President of the L.A. County Public Landowners Assistance Network, a subsidiary of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. "By providing access to quality healthcare and investing in one of our core regional assets, we are ensuring that our current and future citizens continue to contribute to the economic health of the region."

"This moment can be transformative in ways we have yet to imagine by contributing to the economic and social health of the region," Supervisor Ridley-Thomas explained. "The Urban Land Institute has a record of facilitating the open exchange of ideas, information and experience among local, national and international industry leaders and policy makers, in ways that can benefit the process of re-envisioning this facility and campus as a magnet for economic development and research, as well as the delivery of quality health services."

According to Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, the scope of work for the ULI Technical Advisory Panel will include the following:

- Preparing a summary of current conditions for the site;
- Recommending financially feasible and compatible land uses;
- Identifying the economic development potential of these uses;
- Preparing a schematic site plan;
- Proposing alternative delivery methods for implementation of projects; and
- Identifying next steps.

“The health care industry is a dynamic sector in our economy and the County of Los Angeles needs to take full advantage of its growth opportunities. The Urban Land Institute can bring leadership in imagining and creating sustainable, thriving communities that can match the quality of patient care that will be delivered at the Medical Center,” Supervisor Ridley-Thomas concluded.

The Urban Land Institute is a 501(c) 3 non-profit research and education organization supported by its 40,000 members working in private enterprise and public service worldwide.

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