PRESS RELEASE
DEPARTMENT OF METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT

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Mayor tours newly-constructed green home
City continues sustainability pilot project

INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Greg Ballard toured one of two newly-constructed green homes on the near northeast side this morning. The Green HOME Program is part of a pilot project to build energy efficient homes with healthy indoor air quality.

The homes (2820 N. Delaware and 2838 N. Washington Blvd.) are part of the Delaware Street Initiative, a multi-year revitalization project taken on by Mapleton-Fall Creek Development Corporation in 2000. This eight-year, $3 million project involved 37 new or renovated houses and has made a significant impact on three blocks.

Construction is scheduled to be completed in January, and the homes are available for purchase by qualified families earning 80 percent of the area’s median income.

Additional partners on the two pilot homes include Clarian Health, Citizens Energy Group, LISC, Center Township Trustee, HUD, Mapleton-Fall Creek Neighborhood Association and Haywood Park Neighbor’s Association.

Community Development Corporations (CDCs) are ideal partners for the Green HOME Program due to their commitment to providing safe, affordable housing opportunities. By increasing local capacity to develop affordable green homes through CDCs and other organizations, the city is helping build value in the community and create opportunities for low-to-moderate income homebuyers and affordable housing developers.

“By building the base of affordable housing developers that can successfully deliver green projects, we’re seeing more high-quality, affordable housing, and we’re becoming a city in which sustainable development is the norm,” said Mayor Ballard.

The centerpiece of the Green HOME Program is the Prescriptive Green Building Guidelines, which are specific to Indianapolis’ climate zone, tailored to local building practices, and uniquely geared toward builders who may be unfamiliar with green building. The DMD Green HOME Program guidelines are compatible with the United
States Green Building Council LEED for Homes (USGBC LEED-H) standard as well as the US Department of Energy (DOE) Energy Star Homes program.

DMD has agreed to provide an additional HOME development subsidy to cover the incremental costs of green construction. The city has also committed to providing an additional $5,000 in operating support to CHDOs (Community Housing Development Organizations) that agree to participate in the Green HOME Program.

By providing incentives for affordable housing developers to build green, the city is helping to propel green building practices to the mainstream and creating value for homebuyers at every income level. The DMD Green HOME Program will be finalized early next year based on feedback from pilot program participants.

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