FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Little Tokyo Service Center to Start Construction on Santa Monica Vermont Apartments, Bringing Much-Needed Affordable Housing to East Hollywood

EAST HOLLYWOOD, February 28, 2022: Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC) has successfully secured all financing for the Santa Monica Vermont Apartments, a much-needed affordable and permanent supportive housing project in the East Hollywood neighborhood of Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell’s district, CD-13. A groundbreaking ceremony and construction will commence shortly. This project is built in partnership with the Los Angeles County Metro Transit Authority and is located at the Vermont/Santa Monica Metro station. The project’s 187 units will be affordable for low income households, with half of the units reserved as permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals. The project will also include on-site supportive services for residents, provided by Housing Works.

“The need for affordable and permanent supportive housing has never been more urgent as market rate developments continue to crop up in East Hollywood and the homelessness crisis continues to worsen with the ongoing pandemic,” said Debbie Chen, Director of Real Estate Development at LTSC.

The ground floor of Santa Monica Vermont Apartments will include community-serving retail space with plans for a health center and a food court, prioritizing local and legacy small businesses as tenants. The project also includes transit improvements to the surrounding area such as Metro station and plaza enhancements, a bike/mobility hub and new and improved transit shelters. Throughout the development process, LTSC collaborated with the East Hollywood community to ensure the project leaves a positive impact on the health of the neighborhood.

“This is another example showing Metro’s continued commitment in delivering on our Board’s mandate to have a total of 10,000 housing units as part of our agency’s Joint Development portfolio by 2031, with 5,000 of those units being affordable,” said Metro Board Chair Hilda L. Solis and L.A. County Supervisor, representing the First District. “East Hollywood is a community in the First Supervisorial District that is in dire need of more housing options. Transit-oriented development on Metro-owned land near transit stops helps families reduce the two largest household expenses, housing and transportation. I thank LTSC for their continued commitment to meet the needs of our most vulnerable Angelenos.”
In addition to the Santa Monica Vermont Apartments, LTSC has two other affordable housing projects in the community development pipeline: First Street North Apartments in Little Tokyo and Crocker Apartments in Skid Row.

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ABOUT LTSC
Little Tokyo Service Center is a social service and community development organization that has been creating positive change for the people and places in Southern California for 40 years. Starting with its home in Little Tokyo, LTSC preserves and strengthens the unique ethnic communities of the region where people, culture and collective future matter.