



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CityCraft and EcoDistricts Announce Strategic Collaboration on City Revitalization Projects

Denver, CO; June 25, 2014 - Both individually known for their distinctive and highly successful approach to the revitalization of North American cities, CityCraft Ventures and EcoDistricts announce a two-year strategic partnership in support of the EcoDistricts **Target Cities Program**. Launched at the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) conference on June 24 in Denver, Target Cities will accelerate district-scale community regeneration and create replicable models for next-generation urban revitalization in seven cities across North America. Target Cities is a CGI Commitment, a reflection of the strong team, reproducibility, and vital need for this new city rejuvenation framework.

The Target Cities Program selected its first projects in seven diverse cities: Atlanta, Boston, Cambridge, Denver, Los Angeles, Ottawa, and Washington DC.

CityCraft Ventures is best known for the outstanding results achieved in its revitalization of the Noisette Community in North Charleston, South Carolina. CityCraft partners with communities to craft a resilient, robust and sustainable future. CityCraft will act as a strategic resource and implementation partner for the Target Cities Program and the respective project teams. Each project will require a unique combination of resources and CityCraft's role will be customized to fit those specific needs.

EcoDistricts also brings a track record of success in neighbourhood-level renewal with its three "ecodistrict" revitalization projects in Portland, Oregon. EcoDistricts will act as a strategic partner to each of the project teams, helping them build robust governance models that will spur deep political and technical change, perform integrated assessment and goal setting tasks and accelerate the deployment of strategies to deepen their impact.

"CityCraft is delighted to be a Target Cities partner and apply our experience in urban regeneration to such a wide variety of neighbourhoods. We see these projects as an opportunity to demonstrate that our combination of community-based investment, social justice, and environmental sustainability can be applied throughout North America to create regenerative and resilient cities," says John Knott, CEO of CityCraft. Mr. Knott also sits on the EcoDistricts Board of Directors.

Led by EcoDistricts, CityCraft will join more than 60 project partners, collaborators, research institutions, think tanks, and technical experts uniting to transform existing neighborhoods, downtown areas, business districts, historical precincts, brownfield sites, and university campuses.

The flagship Target Cities projects, which begin this year, are described below:



- Atlanta – AUC Vine City Ecodistrict, a community situated within the Proctor Creek Catchment, which includes the world’s largest consortium of African American private institutions that are seeking to restore ecological health and social opportunity for the area.
- Boston—Talbot Norfolk Triangle Eco-Innovation District, a community-driven effort to secure greater equity and prosperity throughout the 42-acre neighborhood, including energy efficient housing retrofits, community-owned renewable energy systems, and transit oriented development.
- Cambridge—Kendall Square, a 10-acre, high-density commercial, innovation and transportation hub with carbon reduction goals that seek to take the City beyond net zero.
- Denver—Sun Valley, an effort driven by the Denver Housing Authority to revitalize Colorado’s poorest neighborhood and reconnect residents to the larger city.
- Los Angeles—Little Tokyo, a culturally rich 20-acre neighborhood, seeking to accelerate investments in transit-oriented development, green infrastructure and community-driven projects that promote identity and prosperity.
- Ottawa, Ontario—The Isles, a 37-acre historically rich brownfield site on the Ottawa River that will be developed into a vibrant mixed use walkable village, integrate sustainable infrastructure into the historic fabric of the site and strengthen the connection between the cities of Ottawa and Gatineau.
- Washington—Downtown Business Improvement District, an 138-block area comprising 90 million square feet of real estate with ambitious energy efficiency and green infrastructure goals to help develop Downtown Washington, D.C. into the world’s most sustainable financial district.
- Washington—Southwest EcoDistrict, a long-range plan to turn an isolated neighborhood defined by massive federal office buildings into a lively, ecologically progressive neighborhood.
- Washington—St. Elizabeth’s/Congress Heights, a mixed-use campus and low income neighborhood of more than 350 acres, with an opportunity to leverage federal investment dollars in a manner that creates economic opportunity for area residents.

The Target Cities model is founded on setting rigorous goals and institutionalizing good “process management” to support project development. The integrated design process aligns key stakeholder and investor interests, builds robust governance, oversees holistic assessment, and accelerates district-scale projects. Each step of the approach is built around an interrelated set of environmental, economic, and social performance areas: energy; equitable development; health and wellbeing; community identity; transportation; water; habitat and ecosystem functionality; and optimized materials management.

About CityCraft Ventures

CityCraft Ventures, LLC partners with cities to revitalize and restore their distressed areas, utilizing the CityCrafting approach. This approach focuses on regenerating and restoring our economic, social and ecological systems. Based in Charleston, South Carolina, CityCraft’s team of experts play the role of mentor for cities in the implementation of long-term, neighbourhood-driven growth and improvement.

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