

## DENVER HOMEOWNER PROGRAM KEEPS WINTER AT BAY

### *Denver Urban Renewal Authority Provides 1% Interest Loans for Energy Efficiency, Heating Repairs and Other Home Improvements*

Denver, CO – October 8 2007 - People say there's nothing you can do about the weather. Well, in this case, they are wrong. As winter approaches, more and more Denver homeowners are faced with rising heating and energy bills; yet a solution to lowering these costs may only be a phone call away.

The Denver Urban Renewal Authority (DURA) directs two City of Denver programs which enable qualifying Denver homeowners to use low and zero-interest loans to make emergency home repairs and essential improvements. DURA's Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program helps homes become more energy efficient; saving the homeowner money and, in turn, improving the property's safety and value. Furthermore, DURA obtains three bids from certified contractors and oversees all construction including schedules, permits, payments and approvals.

DURA, the redevelopment agency engaged in commercial revitalization and housing rehabilitation throughout the City and County of Denver, has managed the City's Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program for over 30 years. In addition to helping homes become more energy efficient, the program allows for repairs to be made to heating, electrical and plumbing systems, roofs, kitchens, baths, handicapped access, floors, windows, and much more.

"These low-cost loans help families make needed home repairs or improvements which otherwise might jeopardize the family's health and safety", said Tracy Huggins, DURA's Executive Director. "In addition to the funding, DURA oversees the entire project from start to finish; giving the homeowners peace of mind knowing the job will be properly handled."

In 2006, over \$2.5 million in loans were provided to Denver homeowners; with more than 15,000 residents receiving assistance since the programs began. The funding source for this activity is the City and County of Denver, Division of Housing and Neighborhood Development and HUD Community Development Block Grant. Without DURA's involvement, these individuals may not have been able to make the needed repairs.

These loans are available throughout Denver to qualifying low-to-moderate income homeowners. For more information, homeowners can contact Julie Robbins at (303) 534-3872 (se habla español).

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#### **For more information:**

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**About DURA:** The Denver Urban Renewal Authority is a full-service redevelopment agency engaged in neighborhood and downtown revitalization, economic redevelopment and housing rehabilitation throughout the City and County of Denver. DURA projects include Stapleton, the Adams Mark Hotel, Lowry, Lowenstein Theater, the Pepsi Center, Denver Pavilions, Dahlia Square, Highlands' Garden Village, the historic Denver Dry building, Elitch Gardens, Cherokee urban redevelopment area, and others.