



DHA E-NEWS CLIP – MAY 2010

HUD SECRETARY SHAUN DONOVAN WALKING TOUR OF DHA BENEDICT PARK PLACE – GREEN BUILDING PROJECT

HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan, Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper, Rep. Ed Perlmutter toured the Denver Housing Authorities' [Benedict Park Place](#) last week. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan said that the Benedict Park Place community on 15 acres adjacent to the Denver City Center, is a prime example of the type of projects that the Obama Administration wants to see take shape nationwide.



“It absolutely will serve as a model for what we will do across the country,” Donovan stated following the May 14th morning press conference.



He said few other government housing projects in the U.S. include all of the “cutting edge” features of Benedict Park, which will include a geothermal system, solar arrays and water conservation measures. It also benefits from its proximity to light rail and the central business district, officials said.

DHA will incorporate a 100kw photovoltaic solar program on its upcoming phase. Using SunPower T5 Roof Tile system 96-cell solar panels, the project will be the site of the first all-in-one, non-penetrating

photovoltaic rooftop at a public housing authority in the United States (U.S. DOE Solar America Initiative).

As a demonstration project, this phase of the project will reduce consumption of electricity by 437,138 kwh, which is a 50% reduction (over ASHRAE baseline), and reduce carbon emissions by 797,256 lbs per year. It is also projected that this phase will reduce the HUD utility subsidy by approximately \$18,250 per year, according to Ismael Guerrero, DHA Executive Director.

Benedict Park Place was, in the late 1980-90's, Denver's Five Points neighborhood. It was one of the top five high-crime neighborhoods in the city. Originally developed as housing for the 1976 Olympics that never came, it was converted to low-income family housing. By 1999, because of poor construction, management, maintenance and site design, many units were abandoned. Most had life safety issues, and several were beyond repair.