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For Immediate Release

Contact: Tina McDaniel

410-772-2780 (office)

443-472-1479 (cell)

tmcdaniel@enterprisecommunity.org

**STATEMENT FROM
DORIS W. KOO, PRESIDENT AND CEO,
ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

***Enterprise Applauds Confirmation of Mercedes Márquez as Assistant Secretary,
HUD Office of Community Planning & Development***

Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. applauds President Barack Obama and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan for the nomination and the United States Senate for the confirmation of Mercedes Márquez to serve as an assistant secretary for HUD. In her new role, Ms. Márquez will lead HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development, which administers nearly \$8 billion in programs designed to stimulate community development and affordable housing as well as a variety of special needs assistance programs.

As a champion of affordable housing and with an outstanding breadth of experience in both the private and public sectors, Ms. Márquez is poised to take on the new position. In her most recent role as the general manager of the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD), Ms. Márquez was responsible for the direction, development and implementation of citywide housing production and preservation programs in Los Angeles.

As a nationally recognized organization whose mission it is to create opportunity for low- and moderate-income people through fit, affordable housing and diverse, thriving communities, Enterprise is a longtime partner to LAHD and the city of Los Angeles. Since 2004 when Ms. Márquez took her post at LAHD, Enterprise has witnessed her leadership firsthand on several major affordable housing initiatives in Southern California.

Under Ms. Márquez's leadership, in July 2008, Mayor Villaraigosa, LAHD and Enterprise joined to launch the New Generation Fund—the first multimillion dollar financing tool for the creation and preservation of affordable housing in Los Angeles. The \$100 million predevelopment and acquisition fund was designed to combat homelessness and reduce the housing burden on poor and working families by offering affordable housing developers early-stage financing for properties intended for low- and moderate- income residents.

Most recently, Enterprise partnered with LAHD and the city of Los Angeles to unveil a collaborative effort to implement the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) through the creation of Restore Neighborhoods L.A. (RNLA). With the intent to strengthen and stabilize communities in Los Angeles, RNLA is a community-based development entity that will acquire and rehabilitate bank real-estate owned (REO) properties and turn them around for productive use for low-income housing.

Enterprise looks forward to continuing to work with Ms. Márquez in her new role with HUD and is confident knowing that this talented and committed public servant will be guiding the agency during these difficult times.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Housing and policy experts are available to discuss the Mercedes Márquez appointment in further detail. For more information, please contact Tina McDaniel at 410-772-2780.

Enterprise is a leading provider of the development capital and expertise it takes to create decent, affordable homes and rebuild communities. For 25 years, Enterprise has pioneered neighborhood solutions through public-private partnerships with financial institutions, governments, community organizations and others that share our vision. Enterprise has raised and invested \$9 billion in equity, grants and loans to help build or preserve 225,000 affordable rental and for-sale homes to create vital communities. Enterprise is currently investing in communities at a rate of \$1 billion a year. Visit www.enterprisecommunity.org and www.enterprisecommunity.com to learn more about Enterprise's efforts to build communities and opportunity, and to meet some of the half a million people we have helped.