



DSHA Highlights

Delaware Affordable Housing News and Events
August 16, 2016

Downtown Development Districts Program Expands!



On August 10 Governor Jack Markell announced a statewide expansion of [Delaware's Downtown Development Districts program](#), significantly building on the state's efforts to redevelop Delaware's commercial business districts and drive private investment in our towns and cities.

Governor Markell officially designated [five new](#)

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[Downtown Development Districts](#) - in Smyrna, Harrington, Milford, Georgetown and Laurel. Qualified investors who develop residential, commercial or industrial properties those districts now may qualify for state and local development incentives, including 20 percent state grant rebates.

Since early 2015, the [Downtown Development Districts program](#) has helped finance major new private development in the original districts in Wilmington, Dover and Seaford, with \$14 million in state grants leveraging more than \$290 million of private investment. Governor Markell made the expansion announcement at Commerce and Main Street in Downtown Smyrna.

"We are excited about the transformation that will occur in the next few years in Downtown Smyrna. Smyrna has been working hard to grow our Downtown, and the Downtown Development District designation will help ignite even more progress and at a quicker pace," said Smyrna Mayor Joanne Masten.

"The grant program will open doors for our wide range of developers and business owners with opportunities to further strengthen our town. We're grateful that Governor Markell has made this initiative available to so many wonderful downtowns in Delaware."

Register for the 2016 Governor's Conference on Housing!



2016 Governor's Conference on Housing

Our 2016 Governor's Conference on Housing is less than a month away. [Register now!](#)

Sessions are planned throughout the day on September 8 at Dover Downs. Here's a preview:

The National View

-What does the future hold at the federal level? Hear the latest on federal housing policy issues and programs.

Moderator: Peter Knight, FHLBank Pittsburgh
Jamie Gregory, Deputy Chief Lobbyist, National Association of Realtors

Garth Rieman, Director of Housing Advocacy and Strategic Initiatives, National Council of State Housing Agencies

John Bohm, Acting CEO, NAHRO

[Register now](#) for the Conference!

Students can now [register](#) for free!

DSHA Helps Build CDHFH Home!



We want to thank everyone who came out on August 11 to help with Delaware State Housing Authority's annual Habitat for Humanity Build.

DSHA volunteers helped raise the walls of Mr. and Mrs. Bowman's house on Queen Street in Dover.

[Central Delaware Habitat for Humanity](#) homeowners are required to contribute 250 volunteer hours to the construction of their home and in return get a 30-year interest-free mortgage.

It's the third of eight homes scheduled to be built in 2016. Mr. and Mrs. Bowman and their seven children are excited to move in.

Thanks to all the volunteers, sponsors and contributors for making this build possible!

