Community Strategies in Gentrifying Neighborhoods: A Los Angeles Perspective

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ABODE COMMUNITIES
Abode Communities
A Social Enterprise

Established in 1968 as all volunteer architects

One of two remaining architecture firms in the US stemming out of CDC

Architecture
Development
Property Management
Resident Services

Rio Vista Apartments + Hope Street Family Center
Engage and empower communities and stakeholders to create responsive architectural programs that consider the cultural diversity of each neighborhood in which we work.

Improve the fabric of culturally and economically diverse neighborhoods through high-quality architectural planning and design.
12 residential communities
1,249 affordable homes
18 acre wellness complex
2 community health clinics
Service Enhanced housing

Housing + Health

Education + Recreation

Joshua House Health Center + 649 Lofts
Community Based Architecture

Work that is Socially beneficial

Joshua House Health Center + 649 Lofts
Engagement

Community Outreach – renters

Stakeholders involvement – businesses

Organizations – neighborhood council
PLANNING

Study Precedent and its Impact

Community Stakeholders Charrette
DEVELOPMENT
+
DESIGN APPROACH

DESIGN

Innovative and Relevant – Context

Cultural Values – Symbolism

Community Identity - Aesthetics
DEVELOPMENT + DESIGN APPROACH

Rolland Curtis Gardens affordable housing
Abode Communities/Trust South Los Angeles
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT + DIALOGUE

Listen to the Neighborhood

La Veranda Community Meeting – Boyle Heights
La Veranda Affordable Housing – Boyle Heights

ABODE COMMUNITIES | ARCHITECTURE
LA VERANDA  A vibrant mixed-use transit oriented development guided by our understanding of the culture, context and amenities of the community

Focus:
- transit oriented development
- alignment with context and the culture of the Boyle Heights community
- integration of the commercial corridor with multifamily housing
ALIGNMENT WITH COMMUNITY...
- compatibility with adjacent uses

ALIGNMENT WITH CULTURE...
- sense of place

ALIGNMENT WITH CONTEXT...
- create a sense of place
La Veranda Affordable Housing – Boyle Heights

NORTHEAST VIEW AT MATTHEWS STREET AND CESAR CHAVEZ AVENUE
La Veranda Affordable Housing – Boyle Heights

NORTHWEST VIEW AT CESAR CHAVEZ AVENUE AND SOTO STREET
MITIGATIONS TO RESOLVE GENTRIFICATION
Understanding the culture of an established community

Complement rather than re-invent

Balanced sustainable community

La Veranda Affordable Housing – Boyle Heights