

CITY OF PALMDALE

MEDIA ALERT

CONTACT: John Mlynar

PHONE: 661/267-5115

DATE: August 27, 2014

PHOTO/INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES

WHAT: Members of “Bike and Build” to make a stop in Palmdale. They are currently on a cross country ride from Maine to Santa Barbara.

WHEN **TODAY, Wednesday, August 27.** Media interviews at 1 pm.

WHERE: AV YouthBuild’s Supportive Housing Site, 38518 5th Street East, Palmdale (on the corner of Q-5.)

WHO: Palmdale City Councilmembers; members of “Bike and Build,” an independent nonprofit organization that works with young adults to produce cross-country fundraising cycling trips; Rossie Johnson, Executive Director of AV Youth Build; and Youth Build team members.

WHY: Bike and Build cyclists will join Antelope Valley Youth Build in working on a project in Palmdale’s Focus Neighborhood #3 on AVYB housing project on 5th St. East. The property will be used as affordable student housing for students 18 and older who are enrolled in Youth Build and working to receive their high school diploma.

BACKGROUND: **Palmdale’s Neighborhood Houses** are part of Palmdale’s Neighborhood Improvement Program, which was developed by the Housing Division of the Economic Development Department to improve homes where low- to moderate- income families live in specifically targeted areas. The Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) selects targeted areas to assist low- to moderate-income families to rehabilitate their homes. Qualified residents living in a focus neighborhood can receive grants for exterior paint, landscape improvements, tool loan vouchers and trash dumpster service.

Antelope Valley Youth Build is a youth and community development program that simultaneously addresses core issues facing low-income communities: housing, education, employment, crime prevention, and leadership development. In Youth Build programs, low-income young people ages 16-24 work toward their GEDs or high school diplomas, learn job skills and serve their communities by building affordable housing, and transform their own lives and roles in society.

Bike & Build is a 501(c)(3) independent nonprofit organization that works with young adults to produce cross-country fundraising cycling trips, open to participants ages 18 to 25. The proceeds from the events are disbursed to affordable housing organizations to underwrite projects chiefly planned and executed by young adults in this age group.

Palmdale is one of the stops on their “Maine to Santa Barbara 2014” bike trip. For details on the trip, visit www.bikeandbuild.org.

INFO: For more information: Rossie Johnson at 661/317-8310;
Olivia Altamirano – 661/317-8308.

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Communications Department • 38300 Sierra Highway • Palmdale, CA 93550
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