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Twin Rivers public housing area wins federal planning grant

By Tony Bizjak

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A Sacramento neighborhood is one of 13 nationwide to win a $300,000 federal planning grant for community improvements.

The 72-year-old Twin Rivers public housing area near 12th Street and Richards Boulevard north of downtown will use the Housing and Urban Development grant to create a blueprint for improving housing stock, schooling and communtiy services in the area.

Officials also will study how to connect the neighborhood better with the emerging downtown railyard and River District areas, according to Rep. Doris Matsui, D-Sacramento, who participated in the announcement Tuesday along with officials from the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency. One consideration is a light rail transit stop.

The funds are from a federal Choice Neighborhoods grant for "distressed" areas, and were hailed Tuesday by redevelopment head La Shelle Dozier as a step toward renewing what has become obsolete housing.