



2407 First Avenue, Suite 200, Seattle, WA 98121

For Immediate Release:

## **Denny Park Apartments Wins Series of Awards for Design, Construction and Funding**



The Low Income Housing Institute's Denny Park Apartments in Seattle's South Lake Union neighborhood recently won 3 prestigious awards for different aspects of its design and construction. A "Gold Nugget Award of Merit" was awarded on June 22, 2006 from the Pacific Coast Builder's Conference for the Best Affordable Project for 30 dwelling units or more per acre. In addition to LIHI, Rafn Construction and Runberg Architecture Group were recognized for their achievements at Denny Park Apartments. The other two awards included a "Charles A. Edson Honorable Mention" for tax credit excellence from the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Coalition; and an Excellence in Construction Award from the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC).

The "Gold Nugget Award" is given annually by the Pacific Coast Builder's Conference to honor creative achievements in architectural design and land use planning for residential, commercial and industrial projects. Gold Nugget awards recognize excellence

and innovation in addressing complex design/build issues. The Charles A. Edson Award is presented annually by the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Coalition to outstanding low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) developments in each of four categories. Denny Park Apartments was recognized as an outstanding project located in a metropolitan area. Senator Patty Murray attended the award ceremony in Washington, D.C. on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The Excellence in Construction Award is given annually by the Associated Builders & Contractors of Western Washington. ABC represents over 430 companies and their employees from open and union general contractors, subcontractors, professional service firms and suppliers supporting the construction industry. The award honors exceptional accomplishments in management, engineering, quality control and safety.

The 50-unit Denny Park Apartments, located at 230 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue N., was completed by the Low Income Housing Institute at the end of December 2005, and was fully leased by April. Denny Park Apartments is the first project in the country to have received funds from the Green Communities Initiative, a five-year, \$555 million initiative sponsored by Enterprise and the Natural Resources Defense Council to build more than 8,500 homes that provide significant health, economic and environmental benefits to low-income families and communities across the country.

The 55,000-square-foot building at 230 Eighth Avenue North has 26 studio apartments, 11 one-bedroom units, eight two-bedroom and five three-bedroom units. Ground floor commercial space and parking are located below the housing. Eight of the units provide transitional housing for homeless families with children. Over 50 % of the units serve the working poor making 30% of area median income. The balance serves households up to 60% of AML.

Sharon Lee, the Executive Director of LIHI, said: “It’s great that green affordable housing is getting the national recognition it deserves. Low-income families and people on limited incomes have the most to gain from energy efficiency and a healthy environment.”

Photograph courtesy of Runberg Architecture.

**For more information:** please contact Sharon Lee, LIHI Executive Director, (206) 443-9935 ext. 111, [sharonl@lihi.org](mailto:sharonl@lihi.org) or Joshua Okrent, LIHI Fund Developer, [josho@lihi.org](mailto:josho@lihi.org).