



SWOPE COMMUNITY BUILDERSSM

Member Swope Community Enterprises

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Swope Community Builders Announces New Plans, New Leader Strategic Plan Includes New “Communities of Choice” Model

(Kansas City, MO)... Swope Community Enterprises (SCE) has named a veteran real estate development professional to lead Swope Community Builders (SCB)—and a new business model that will direct its operations in the future.

William “Bill” Jones has more than 30 years experience in public and private real estate development organizations.

Jones joined SCB recently after serving for several months as a consultant to restructure the company’s business model. He describes a new “Communities of Choice” model as an approach that will allow the organization to transform specific targeted communities for development. He said neighborhoods in Kansas City, Ks. and Kansas City, Mo. will be chosen based on specific criteria. Jones is restructuring the SCB staff to respond to the new initiatives. One major feature of the new model will be to attract new private capital to revitalize inner city neighborhoods.

Jones’ plan envisions a privately capitalized fund that will provide equity for its real estate deals.

“The SCB team will continue to work with city, county, and state officials to improve the quality of life in the in undervalued neighborhoods in both communities,” Jones said.

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“We look forward also to strengthening SCB’s relationships with all of the other community development corporations so that we can work together where it makes sense to do so.”

The Communities of Choice model is intended to build community momentum and attract long-term growth, Jones said.

“It’s an interesting fact that the current economic downturn may prove our secret weapon,” Jones continued.

“The gas crisis and mortgage crisis, coupled with the undervaluation of real estate in the urban core, have already begun to strengthen the urban rental market and we believe the ‘for sale’ market is likely just around the corner.

“We know that a certain group of investors look for opportunities in this kind of economic climate because over the long term they bring great returns on investment.”

Jones serves on the boards of several community development and social service organizations. He is a Board Member of the National Community Security Initiative Task Force of LISC in New York. LISC has a local office in Kansas City, Mo.

He also is Chairman of the Board of Trustee’s of the Abraham Lincoln Center and a member of the Regional Planning Committee of the Metropolitan Planning Council, both in Chicago, as well as a past director of the Illinois Facilities Fund.

“We look forward to great contributions from Bill and his team at SCB,” said E. Frank Ellis, Chairman at SCE. “His deep knowledge and experience will extend the organization’s ability to make a positive long-term impact on the development this community.”

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Swope Community Enterprises (SCE) and its member companies are dedicated to providing solutions to improve the physical, behavioral, and economic well being of individuals, families and communities.

Swope Community Builders is a member of the Swope Community Enterprises family of companies. The not-for-profit community development corporation’s mission is to improve the general well-being of communities by engaging in the physical redevelopment of targeted areas, while connecting residents to social, economic and health services offered by affiliates and other organizations.