



PRESS RELEASE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
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For Immediate Release
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CASA HONDURAS RESTAURANT HAS A NEW LOOK

County Celebrates a Grand Re-Opening in Athens-Westmont

Los Angeles, CA, December 16, 2017 -
Officials from the Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles (CDC) joined Second District Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, friends, and neighbors



to celebrate the Grand Re-Opening of the Casa Honduras Restaurant (Casa Honduras).

Formerly a Waffle Factory restaurant and Stan Kite Coffee Shop, Casa Honduras was converted into a Latin American restaurant serving the Athens-Westmont community. The CDC provided a RENOVATE grant of over \$207,000 for the restaurant's exterior façade improvements.

Monique King-Viehland, Acting Executive Director said, "This is the first RENOVATE project completed in the Second District and I hope it demonstrates the value the County can provide to help businesses grow. We have programs to help businesses large and small; it just takes a call to our office and we're ready to help!"

Funded by Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas' Economic Development Trust Fund Initiative, the Casa Honduras façade improvement project continues the CDC's vision of revitalizing commercial corridors. For example, in order to create an inviting outdoor space for the local Athens-Westmont community, the CDC designed a new patio area for festive gatherings. Not only will this enable the Casa Honduras Restaurant to expand its clientele, but will also provide an enhanced sit-down dining experience to benefit the

adjacent neighborhood. The enhancements also included new windows, doors, painting, lighting, signage, and a new accessible ramp along the main entry with landing surface and railings. The CDC's RENOVATE



program provides business owners architectural design services, environmental testing and abatement, and construction project management.

Jose Alvarado and Jose Marin, Casa Honduras Owners, stated, "I am truly thankful to the CDC for my restaurant being selected as one of the first RENOVATE projects for Los Angeles County. I am very excited to see how my business and the Athens-Westmont community will improve through these enhancements. Thank you to the CDC and Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas for this distinct honor!"

For additional information on the RENOVATE Program, please contact Fernando Oliveros, Project Manager, at (626) 586-1813. All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, CDC Public Information Officer, at (626) 586-1762 for additional information on the event.

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