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—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—

## Community Development Advocates of Detroit Releases Strategic Framework for Reinventing Detroit

**DETROIT, MI – March 3, 2010** – Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD), Detroit’s trade association of community development organizations, has released a “**Neighborhood Revitalization Strategic Framework.**” In December of 2008, CDAD launched a process that would ultimately result in this unique strategic framework. CDAD’s work is based on the premise that right-sizing must begin with a vision for the *entire* city – utilizing a system of classifications that are based on indicators and data. This vision **acknowledges that Detroit will not reverse the loss of population** within the foreseeable future, and that the current conditions in Detroit’s neighborhoods are socially, economically and environmentally no longer sustainable.

Tim Thorland, Chairperson of the CDAD Board and Executive Director of Southwest Housing Solutions, notes that CDAD’s work has been forward thinking. “The framework developed by CDAD contains an inspirational vision of what Detroit *can* be, and then leads us toward a realistic future, with suggested strategies for how we get there. It’s a very innovative piece of work.”

Kurt Metzger, Director of Data Driven Detroit, participated in the 15-month process, and applauds the work of CDAD. “CDAD’s framework is the best document of its kind that I’ve seen,” he states.

CDAD’s **Neighborhood Revitalization Strategic Framework** was developed out of a conviction that Detroit requires a **bold new vision** for its neighborhoods. Detroit must truly reinvent itself – from the downtown core to the city limits. Mr. Thorland states that “It is only when we understand the conditions and strategies necessary for the *entire* city, that we can begin to make decisions about specific neighborhoods. Furthermore, we can’t simply ignore areas of the City without understanding what their new purpose might be. We must determine what entity should own and manage that land. Otherwise crime, environmental dumping and other negative factors will surely result.”

CDAD’s recommendations are a potential starting point for what CDAD believes must be a process to **collectively** create a plan for the *entire* City. CDAD believes this process must be led by the Mayor, but with the involvement of community development organizations— and the residents and local businesses they represent—along with the foundation community, intermediaries and other stakeholder groups. Within this framework, CDAD calls for the creation of a **Community Development Stakeholders Consortium** to develop this collaborative vision.

The **Neighborhood Revitalization Strategic Framework** is a set of neighborhood revitalization recommendations that is the work of a unique, multi-sector collaborative representing over 85 community development organizations, government, funding institutions, businesses, educational institutions, and city-wide and regional nonprofit organizations. CDAD Futures Task Force members have worked diligently to inspire a vision in which *all* Detroiters can participate. CDAD’s framework is a vision for a **new** Detroit—one that is spacious, gracious, green and industrious.

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*Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD) is a nonprofit organization created in 1997, and serves as the citywide collaborative of over 80 community development organizations(CDOs) and supporters who share a common commitment to community-based sustainable development in Detroit’s neighborhoods.*

To download or view the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategic Framework, visit:  
[http://detroitcommunitydevelopment.org/CDAD\\_Revitalization\\_Framework\\_2010.pdf](http://detroitcommunitydevelopment.org/CDAD_Revitalization_Framework_2010.pdf). For more information regarding CDAD, call 313.964.2888 or visit [www.DetroitCommunityDevelopment.org](http://www.DetroitCommunityDevelopment.org).

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