



For Immediate Release

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**WORK IS UNDERWAY ON HISTORIC CENTRAL SHOPS
AT DOWNTOWN SACRAMENTO RAILYARDS**

Sacramento, CA (November 9, 2009)

Work is now underway on six of the historic Central Shops buildings at the downtown Sacramento Railyards. Over 50 workers have been employed to begin the first phase of rehabilitating the buildings, which involves the removal of asbestos and lead paint from the structures. "The Central Shops will play a critical role in the overall future of the Railyard Project and I'm hopeful these first 50 jobs are a sign of thousands more to come," said Mayor Kevin Johnson. The Central Shops are the heart of the redevelopment of the Railyards and will soon house vibrant cultural and entertainment facilities.

The Central Shops project is the fourth infrastructure project to break ground at The Railyards this year. The funding for this project is being provided by the California Pollution Control Financing Authority (CPCFA) under Proposition 1C. "The Railyards project is vital to Sacramento's economic recovery and the community's future," said State of California Treasurer Bill Lockyer who chairs the CPCFA Board. "Cleaning up decades of environmental damage to the Central Shops is the first step toward creating new jobs and housing, and I'm glad my office could play a part."

The media is invited to get a rare glimpse inside these magnificent historic structures on Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. During the tour, Michael Paparian, Executive Director of the CPCFA, along with representatives of Thomas Enterprises will be on hand to answer questions. Please contact Leslie Valpey at lvalpey@thomasent.com or (916) 290-3678 if you are interested in participating.

The 244-acre Railyards redevelopment project is located at the former Union Pacific railyard in downtown Sacramento, and is the largest urban infill project in

the country. The Railyards is a public-private partnership between Thomas Enterprises, Inc., the City of Sacramento, the State of California and the United States government. The Railyards will create 19,000 permanent jobs, 2,800 hundred annual construction jobs and result in an ongoing annual positive economic impact of \$2.7 billion. Private investment in the project will exceed \$5 billion.

For more information, please visit www.sacramentorailyards.com

Thomas Enterprises, Inc. is an Atlanta based real estate development company known for its innovative real estate projects. In the last decade, Thomas Enterprises has developed in excess of 20 million square feet of commercial/retail projects valued at more than \$2 billion.

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