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**\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\***

## **Assessor-Recorder Ting Announces Plan to Certify, Record Energy Efficiency Improvements for Homeowners**

*ASR Partnering with Department of Environment  
to Promote, Record Upgrades*

*Recent ASR Report Shows Homes Increase in Value with Upgrades and  
City Gets More in Revenues When Homes "Go Green"*

**(San Francisco, CA)** – To support and enhance a new San Francisco Department of Environment (SFE) program incentivizing homeowners to improve the energy efficiency of their homes, Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting announces plans to document conservation improvements made to homes in the City and that these improvements will be added to the property records his office maintains.

SFE began SF Home Improvement & Performance (SFHIP) in April 2011 and partnered with the Assessor-Recorder's office to notify every homeowner of the program. Information about the program and rebates are going out in the Notices of Assessed Value provided to every homeowner in San Francisco by the Assessor-Recorder's office.

The deadline to receive the full \$7,000 in rebates is August 31<sup>st</sup>, after which the maximum incentive is \$6,000. Information about SFHIP is online at [http://www.sfenvironment.org/our\\_programs/interests.html?ssi=6&ti=14&ii=50](http://www.sfenvironment.org/our_programs/interests.html?ssi=6&ti=14&ii=50)

The Assessor-Recorder's announcement comes after the office recently released a report showing homes that get environmentally-friendly upgrades sell for more than comparable homes without environmental improvements. The report can be found on the Assessor-Recorder's website: <http://sfassessor.org/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=876>

"Helping the Department of Environment get the word out to San Franciscans about improving the energy efficiency and reducing the environmental footprint of homes is a no brainer," says Assessor-Recorder Ting. "Simply put: when homeowners go green, they get green. Not only do homeowners save money right away on their energy bills, but they will see an increase in their home values."



The SF Home Improvement & Performance is part of Energy Upgrade California (EUC), a statewide program run by the utility companies and funded by the public goods charge. The EUC program represents \$4,000 of the possible \$7,000 that SF homeowners can receive. The \$3,000 contributed by SFHIP are stimulus funds that come from the federal Department of Energy.

In an effort to help City homeowners afford energy-efficient home improvements, SFE has partnered with Energy Upgrade California to develop the San Francisco Home Improvement & Performance program. Making home energy improvements helps save money on electricity and gas bills, make your home more comfortable and healthful and increase the overall value of your home.

The first step to take advantage of this program is to call one of our specially trained contractors and schedule a home assessment. The contractor will recommend customized, cost-effective measures that will make homes as energy-efficient as possible. The more energy a homeowner saves, then the more in rebates they can receive. Some of the projects that qualify include:

- Adding insulation
- Air sealing around windows, walls and crawl spaces
- Upgrading or installing high efficiency heating and cooling systems
- Upgrading a water heater or boiler

Certified SFHIP contractors will ensure homeowners get the most out of home energy upgrades and that homeowners receive the highest incentive for which they are eligible. Contractors also do all the paperwork so homeowners don't have to.

Once the work is complete the contractor will test again for home safety and to confirm energy savings. The contractor will complete the paperwork so that the incentives are received and deducted from the amount you owe the contractor.

To be eligible for the incentives you must own and live in a single family home and be a PG&E gas and electric customer.

“Residential properties represent more than one-fifth of the City’s carbon footprint, so we need to do everything we can to encourage homeowners to save and conserve energy,” says Department of Environment Director Melanie Nutter. “The Home Improvement and Performance program further demonstrates San Francisco’s commitment to conservation and will drive growth of green businesses and creation of more green jobs.”

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