

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Wendy Danks, Director of Marketing

651.697.7565, wendy@batc.org

Joshua Fowler, Executive Vice President

651.697.7561, joshua@batc.org

Twin Cities Residential Construction Activity Remains Stable

Roseville, MN (September 6, 2009) – Reflecting the overall economy, the Twin Cities new construction market showed a slight drop in September, but overall remains stable. Residential permits issued in the region were down by ten percent over last month, but up about five percent over September 2008.

According to statistics compiled by the Keystone Report for the Builders Association of the Twin Cities (BATC), there were 437 units permitted during the month of September 2009, and a total of 2,953 units have been permitted year-to-date in 2009.

In September, planned units were the third-highest of any month in the past year. And permits, which reflect single-family construction levels, surpassed the previous year's monthly total for the first time since February 2006.

"For the first time in well over two years, the year-over-year monthly permit comparisons have entered positive territory," says BATC President Mike Swanson. "Combined with positive reports from our fall Parade of HomesSM, this is definitely a good indication for 2010."

"Certainly the first-time homebuyer tax credits have had an impact on sales at the lower end, and we hope it will be extended as is being discussed in Washington now." Swanson says.

Maplewood led the metro in building activity for the month with 158 units permitted in September (which included one multi-family project at 150 units). Shakopee followed with 60 units, Hugo was next with 43, followed by Woodbury with 21 and Farmington with 15.

MORE

September 2009 Building Activity

Past Twelve Months

	Permits	Permitted Units	Permit Value
September 2008	224	447	82,119,343
October 2008	212	628	116,991,808
November 2008	206	420	84,035,773
December 2008	158	223	53,916,054
January 2009	127	340	57,966,957
February 2009	107	118	34,803,836
March 2009	113	143	38,660,696
April 2009	118	419	53,563,471
May 2008	187	233	54,132,420
June 2009	238	332	77,741,321
July 2008	238	269	60,752,708
August 2009	264	542	93,071,986
September 2009	235	437	49,788,000

Five-Year Comparisons

	Permits	Permitted Units	Permit Value
September 2005	814	1,445	286,976,283
September 2006	417	759	163,138,877
September 2007	298	732	117,717,331
September 2008	224	447	82,119,343
September 2009	235	437	49,788,000

	Permits	Permitted Units	Permit Value
YTD 2005	7,655	13,153	2,422,911,048
YTD 2006	5,909	10,168	2,041,143,121
YTD 2007	3,931	7,140	1,423,522,563
YTD 2008	2,223	4,126	853,167,083
YTD 2009	1,708	2,953	574,335,306

Multifamily Construction as a Percentage of Total Activity

Oct - 08	Nov - 08	Dec - 08	Jan - 09	Feb - 09	Mar - 09	Apr - 09	May - 09	Jun - 09	Jul - 09	Aug - 09	Sep - 09	YTD - 09
76	58	36	63	14	24	72	22	33	21	53	49	45

Top Cities for Building Activity

September				2009 Year-to-Date			
Permits		Permitted Units		Permits		Permitted Units	
Shakopee	53	Maplewood	158	Shakopee	210	Shakopee	225
Woodbury	16	Shakopee	60	Blaine	128	St. Paul.	180
Farmington	15	Hugo	43	Maple Grove	120	Maplewood	179
Hugo	13	Woodbury	21	Woodbury	120	Blaine	165
Maple Grove	13	Farmington	15	Lakeville	89	Woodbury	165

The Builders Association of the Twin Cities has contracted with Keystone Report, a local research firm, to maintain a database with information about new residential construction permits around the metropolitan area. After a builder has picked up the permit from a city, Keystone Report compiles and updates weekly residential housing permits by city for 70 percent of the metropolitan-area municipalities in the greater 13-county region. Planned units are the total number of housing units planned to be built under the permits issued (one permit is issued per building which may include more than one housing unit). Permit value does not include the land/lot costs.