



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**McCormack Baron Salazar and the HHEDC to Propose
Commercial Development for Hill District**
Kuhn's Market Would Anchor Project with Full-Service Grocery Store

June 25, 2008, Pittsburgh – McCormack Baron Salazar and the HHEDC (Hill House Economic Development Corporation) announced today plans to submit a proposal to Pittsburgh's Urban Redevelopment Authority for a 100,000 square-foot commercial development in the Hill District. McCormack Baron Salazar was the lead developer of the Lower Hill District's last major community revitalization project – Crawford Square, and is currently completing the Bedford HOPE VI revitalization plan.

Kuhn's Market would serve as the anchor of the development, providing a 50,000 square-foot full-service grocery store. Kuhn's is a Pittsburgh-based, family-owned grocer operating seven stores in the Greater Pittsburgh area.

McCormack Baron Salazar and the HHEDC have met a couple of times with community stakeholders of the Hill District Consensus Group to share details of the initial plan and secure feedback. Stakeholders have responded favorably to the initial proposal which includes a full-service grocery store with amenities that include a pharmacy, dry cleaner drop-off service, bakery, deli and flower kiosk. The development partners are working to secure additional retail providers such as a bank, restaurant and other retail outlets. The developers plan to host community meetings to educate residents and encourage input about the proposed project. Residents who wish to tour one of Kuhn's other seven stores will be provided with shuttle bus transportation. Dates for these meetings and tours will be announced over the next couple of weeks.

According to Joe Dentici, president of Franklin Square, Inc., which operates Kuhn's Market in the Pittsburgh region, the Hill District presents a favorable business opportunity for a full-service grocer.

"The Hill District is an up-and-coming neighborhood with a promising future and a specific market need that Kuhn's is prepared to meet," Dentici said. "We hope to have

the opportunity to provide this community with the high quality, full-service grocery store that it needs and deserves,” he added.

Evan Frazier, president & CEO of the HHEDC noted the critical timing of the development efforts to revitalize the Hill District.

“This development would not only address the community’s current needs for a full-service grocery store, it would have long and lasting impact on the Hill District’s efforts to attract new businesses, helping to restore a main street that was once a bustling center of retail activity,” he said.

“We believe in the future of the Hill District,” said Karl Schlachter, senior vice president of McCormack Baron Salazar. “We’ve worked closely with our development partners to insure a plan that will benefit this historic community for many years to come,” he added.

A number of Hill District residents have expressed enthusiasm for the plan.

“It’s a bright proposition for this community when our older citizens won’t have to take a bus to the grocery store,” said resident Dwayne Cooper. “We have a long history of family-owned businesses in the Hill. We hope this is the start of many new small business ventures for the neighborhood.”

“Our neighborhood has been cut off for so long. A project like this can truly bring the Hill District to life. And it’s something that can benefit the residents of Downtown and other neighboring communities,” noted Thelma W. Lovette.

McCormack Baron Salazar is one of the nation’s leading for-profit developers specializing in the revitalization of urban neighborhoods. Since 1973 MBS has developed 125 projects in 33 cities. In partnership with local community leaders, grassroots organizations, and major institutions, McCormack Baron Salazar has created successful economically diverse communities through the development of more than 13,895 housing units of attractive, high-quality housing for families, seniors, singles, and young couples and over 1,000,000 square feet of related neighborhood-based commercial development.

Kuhn’s Markets is a Pittsburgh-based, family-owned grocer operating seven stores in the Greater Pittsburgh Region. Kuhn’s Market employs 600 people. Its seven stores offer full-service departments for produce, meat, dairy, canned goods, frozen foods and in-store bakeries. Kuhn’s Market maintains a commitment to its customers with high quality goods and services with an emphasis on value, providing customer discounts, in-store specials and rebate offers.

The Hill House Economic Development Corporation (HHEDC), formerly the Hill House Housing Development Corporation, has had a relationship with the Hill House Association since 1970. HHEDC's name change and expanded focus from housing to economic development was the result of a strategic planning process that identified an opportunity to have broader impact on urban growth. HHEDC now promotes business and residential development in the Hill District and surrounding communities helping re-landscape them as places of growth and possibility.

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