Homes sold for SDS to be recycled

Colorado Springs donates materials to Pueblo Habitat for Humanity.

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Colorado Springs Utilities will donate materials from homes it is buying in Pueblo West to the Pueblo Habitat for Humanity.

Utilities officials are staging a media event today at 10 a.m. in Pueblo West to announce the donation.

Colorado Springs acquired six houses in Pueblo West along the route of a pipeline that will provide water for the city, Security and Fountain as part of the Southern Delivery System. Pueblo West would tap into the line.

Colorado Springs spent more than $1 million acquiring property and easements in Pueblo West, including the six homes.

"We are very appreciative of how cooperative these property owners have been in the land acquisition process. They have all been great to work with. And now it is even more gratifying to see the materials from these homes reused for such a positive purpose," said John Fredell, SDS Project Director.

Pueblo Habitat for Humanity staff and volunteers experienced in salvage work will remove usable items as each house is vacated. It takes about two weeks to prepare and set up each house and another week to perform the work.

Items that Habitat can salvage include appliances, doors, garage doors, cabinets, light fixtures, sinks, toilets, blinds, curtains, hardware from doors and cabinets.

The first priority for the salvaged material will be use in future Habitat homes in Pueblo County. If that isn't possible, the material will go to Habitat's ReStore to be sold.

"Often, materials from homes purchased for municipal construction projects end up in a landfill," said Leonard Andrews, President of the Pueblo Habitat Board of Directors. "We were pleased Colorado Springs Utilities was willing to donate these items for reuse. This helps us by not having to purchase new materials, which reduces the cost of the homes for customers."