



Office of the Mayor



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YONKERS MARKS GROUNDBREAKING FOR GRANT PARK II, LATEST PHASE OF ASHBURTON AVENUE REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

Yonkers today celebrated the groundbreaking for Grant Park II, which will add 56 new units of affordable housing on the site of the former Mulford Gardens in the Ashburton Avenue corridor.

Grant Park II is the fourth phase of the redevelopment of the public housing complex, and consists of two four-story buildings that will contain a mix of one, two and three bedroom apartments. They are being made available to individuals and households earning at or below 60 percent of the Area Median Income.

“This is the latest phase of transforming the deteriorated Mulford Gardens into modern and desirable homes for the people of Yonkers,” said Mayor Mike Spano, “We’re not just providing better homes for people who need them, but we’re providing a better neighborhood, and that helps the entire city. This is another step forward for the City of Yonkers.”

Grant Park II is a public-private partnership led by the Richman Group Development Corporation, the Landex Companies, the Municipal Housing Authority of the City of Yonkers, New York State Homes and Community Renewal, and the Yonkers Industrial Development Agency.

The Richman Group is proud to continue its commitment to the revitalization of Mulford Gardens and the Ashburton Avenue Corridor with the second phase of Grant Park,” said Kristin Miller, President of The Richman Group Development Corporation, adding “We are so proud to be continuing this work with an impressive list of partners that are integral in bringing more beautiful, new housing to this neighborhood.”

Peter Siegel, CEO of Landex, stated, “We are very excited to begin work on this next phase of the development and on the remaining phases. The redevelopment of the former Mulford Gardens public housing complex is a great example of how government and the private sector work together to revitalize our communities. These mixed-income developments cannot be done without the hard work and dedication of the City and State staff and leaders.”

Darryl C. Towns, Commissioner/CEO of New York State Homes and Community Renewal said, “HCR is proud to be part of the Ashburton Avenue revitalization plan that replaces the dilapidated Mulford Gardens with quality housing and a more vibrant community. Grant Park II will provide affordable homes and add to the stability of the neighborhood. Governor Cuomo has made

affordable housing a priority in New York State because he knows safe, decent housing and strong communities go hand-in-hand. Thank you to The Richman Group and to all the partners who are bringing Ashburton Avenue back to life.”

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Yonkers YIDA President Ken Jenkins said, “The lack of affordable housing is a continuing crisis in Westchester County. This is exactly the kind of effort we need to make to provide housing, strengthen neighborhoods, and provide a brighter future for Westchester’s working people, families and children.”

“The continuing transformation of this site into high-quality affordable housing is a huge step in the ongoing revitalization of Yonkers,” said Daron Tubian, Senior Vice President and Lead Lender at Bank of America Merrill Lynch for Community Development Banking in New York, adding “As a leader in community development banking, Bank of America Merrill Lynch is committed to providing financing for affordable housing in underserved communities. Grant Park II is a great example of that commitment.”

Residents of the new apartments will have access to the community facilities on the adjacent 100 unit Grant Park I housing, which opened in 2012 and includes a playground and community center. The new apartments were built in accordance with LEED (Leadership in Energy Efficiency and Design) standards, including energy efficient HVAC systems and appliances.

“This is an enormous step forward in providing modern and affordable housing,” said Yonkers Housing Authority Executive Director Joseph Shuldiner, “It demonstrates what can be accomplished when the private and public sectors work together as a team.”

Funding was provided by New York State Homes and Community Renewal, Bank of America, Community Development Trust, and the Richman Group Affordable Housing Corporation. In addition the City of Yonkers, through its Industrial Development Agency, provided tax incentives for the project.

The \$23 million project is expected to be completed in September of 2015

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