Partnership plans affordable housing for seniors on site of Raleigh church

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A project slated for east Raleigh calls for a new 150-unit affordable senior-living complex, after a collection of area institutions teamed up for their latest collaboration in the city.

On Thursday, representatives of The Presbytery of New Hope, The Presbyterian Homes, Inc. and DHIC, Inc. announced a joint project to build a the complex at the site of the now-closed Milner Memorial Presbyterian Church.

The property is situated in 4.6 acres at 1950 New Bern Ave., and on Thursday the partnership signed on to a 75-year ground lease with the Presbytery.

Construction is planned to start in 2021 and is expected to cost over $20 million. Units will be reserved for low-income seniors in the area making 60 percent or below the area's median income.

DHIC President Greg Warren says some units may be priced even lower, though that will be decided later on in the planning and development process.

Raleigh Mayor Mary-Ann Baldwin spoke at the event, lauding the partners for their efforts in bringing more affordable housing to the city.

“I am thrilled all of you have come together to make this happen,” Baldwin says. “I just want you to know on behalf of the city how much we support this and how enthusiastic we are.”

The property will have to be rezoned for the project and next steps will include a neighborhood meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at the Washington Terrace community building at 1951 Booker Drive in Raleigh.

The joint venture expects to present plans to the East Raleigh CAC in the coming months.
The project is the second partnership between Presbyterian Homes and DHIC. The organizations are also working together for the rehabilitation of the Capital Towers Apartments on Six Forks Road.

That property features 297 units, and renovations are expected to be completed next year.

Founded in 1974, DHIC is a Raleigh-based developer of affordable housing, with projects throughout the Triangle. Over the decades, the organization has built more than 2,700 rental apartment homes and more than 400 residential homes.

Presbyterian Homes Inc. has spent more than 65 years developing senior living homes. The organization serves around 2,000 seniors throughout the state.

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