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Major Affordable Housing Redevelopment Begins Final Phase

Construction is underway on the third and final phase of the 11-acre Village at Westerly Creek (VWC), the Aurora Housing Authority's (AHA) largest senior affordable housing site. VWC3 completes AHA's long-term plan to redevelop the former Buckingham Gardens public housing site into a high quality, accessible, and energy efficient community.

VWC3, funded through a variety of federal, state, and local affordable housing mechanisms, will add 24 senior units to the two existing phases' 120 units. An additional 50 townhome-style, two to four bedroom units will provide much-needed housing to working families with children. VWC3 looks to continue the successes of the entire Village at Westerly Creek development, which has thus far won several national and regional awards for its design and innovative redevelopment of the 1970s era public housing site.

The completion of all phases of the Village at Westerly Creek signifies a step forward in addressing the growing housing issue in our community. As the number of seniors is predicted to increase in the coming years, so too will the demand for homes where people of all incomes can age in place. Through VWC, AHA aims to ensure that our seniors are able to live independently for as long as they are able without fear of financial burden. The first-time addition of family units into the redevelopment also aims to address the broader issues of affordability impacting Aurora and the entire metro region.

"We're not aware of another project quite like this in the Western U.S," says AHA Executive Director Craig Maraschky. "It's exciting to see this project we've been working on for over 10 years come to fruition."

AHA anticipates the \$53 million project to be completed in late 2018. Residents will be able to access amenities such as, community gardens, outdoor recreation space for both adults and children, common rooms for events, and community builders for both seniors and families.

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