

NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC

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**Mayor John E. McCormac, Ingerman & BCM Affordable Housing,
Woodbridge Redevelopment Agency and Woodbridge Housing Authority
Announce Start of Phase III Construction at
Jacob's Landing Residential Community**



[Woodbridge] Mayor John E. McCormac today announced the start of Phase III construction at the Jacob's Landing Residential Community as on-site construction engineers began demolition of the last standing building – the former office and community building for the former Woodbridge Garden Apartments Complex at Bunns Lane.

“Today stands as the end of the former Woodbridge Gardens and the beginning of the final phase of construction of the all-new Jacobs Landing Residential Community,” said Mayor McCormac.

“Today's announcement represents yet another milestone toward achieving our goal of ensuring that Woodbridge Township residents have access to quality residential options that allow them to affordably continue to live in the Woodbridge community. It is important to note that no taxpayer funds have been used to construct Jacob's Landing – the entire project is funded through federal and state grants, housing development programs and private investment.”

Joining Mayor McCormac to announce the end of the old and the beginning of the new were Bruce Morgan, President, BCM Affordable Housing; Caroline Ehrlich, Executive Director, Woodbridge Redevelopment Agency; Donna Brightman, Executive Director, Woodbridge Housing Authority; Marta Lefsky, Director, Woodbridge Department of Planning & Development; Municipal Councilman Greg Ficarra, Chairman of the Woodbridge Housing Authority and Philip Hall, Commissioner, Woodbridge Housing Authority. Additionally, the staff of the Woodbridge Housing Authority and residents of the Jacobs Landing residential community were in attendance.

According to Mayor McCormac, the Jacobs Landing Residential Community transformed the Woodbridge Garden Apartments - an outdated 150-unit public housing complex constructed in 1952 – into a \$56.7 million vibrant new community of 204 units of residential affordable housing. Phase I construction, located at the northern portion of the property, got underway in mid-2017 and opened in April 2018 with 84 units - 18 one-bedroom, 42 two-bedroom, 21 three-bedroom and three four-bedroom apartments in seven three-story buildings. Phase I also included the community building and management offices

Phase II, located at the southern end of the site, opened in mid-2019 with another 60 units. Phase III, when completed in early 2021, will consist of 60 residential units.

“I first met Mayor McCormac roughly 20 years ago when he was the Woodbridge Township Business Administrator. At that time, he told me that his number one priority for redevelopment in Woodbridge was to redevelop the Bunns Lane public housing complex. Well, it has taken longer than I would have preferred to get to this day, but no one can say that we gave up on our goal,” said Bruce Morgan, President, BCM Affordable Housing. “Today is the beginning of the end with the start of great things to come for the residents of Jacobs Landing and I could not be happier to finally see this project come to fruition.”

The entire community offers residents ample parking, community space and community social services including mental health counseling, substance abuse programs and a host of medical and legal advocacy services. All of the apartments feature spacious layouts, oversized windows, HVAC systems, tile in the kitchen and foyer, ceramic tile baths, vinyl floors in the living rooms and wall-to-wall carpeting throughout the remainder. Kitchens will feature a full appliance package including a dishwasher and a garbage disposal. There will be both fully accessible and adaptable units, as well as fully-furnished supportive housing units in the community.

Jacobs Landing was made possible via a creative and unique public/private partnership with financing provided through a combination of equity from the syndication of the Low Income Housing Tax Credits from the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, transferred reserves from the Woodbridge Housing Authority, an Affordable Housing Trust Fund contribution from the Woodbridge Affordable Housing Corporation, HOME funds from Middlesex County and a permanent mortgage from the NJHMFA. No municipal or taxpayer funds were used to construct Jacobs Landing.

PHOTO CAPTION: Joining Woodbridge Mayor John E. McCormac to announce the start of construction of Phase III of the Jacobs Landing Residential Community were: (l-r) Gregg Ficarra, Municipal Councilman and Chairman of the Woodbridge Housing Authority; Donna Brightman, Executive Director, Woodbridge Housing Authority; Bruce Morgan, President, BCM Affordable Housing; Marta Lefsky, Director, Woodbridge Department of Planning and John Logorda, Superintendent, BCM Affordable Housing.

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