

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Dracut officials break ground on Greenmont Senior Housing Project



Officials broke ground Tuesday morning on the 56-unit Greemont Senior Housing development on Greenmont Street in Dracut Feb. 4, 2025. PETER CURRIER — LOWELL SUN



From left: Massachusetts Housing and Livable Communities Secretary Edward Aug.us, state Rep. Colleen Gary, Dracut Select Board Chair Tony Archinski, state Sen. Edward Kennedy's Chief of Staff Patti Kirwin-Keilty and state Rep. Rodney Elliott during the Feb. 4, 2025 groundbreaking ceremony for the Greenmont Senior Housing development in Dracut. PETER CURRIER — LOWELL SUN

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DRACUT >> Local and Community Teamwork officials ceremonially broke ground Tuesday morning on an affordable housing development for seniors on Greenmont Avenue in Dracut.

When completed, the Greenmont Senior Housing development will give Dracut 56 one-bedroom housing units for people over the age of 62 in households earning 60% of the average area median income or less.

“In Dracut, over 60% of renters are cost-burdened, meaning they spend more than 30% of their income on housing. This issue is even more pronounced among seniors on fixed

incomes, making them particularly vulnerable to housing instability,” said Community Teamwork CEO Carl Howell during the ceremony Monday.

In Dracut, Howell said CTI has served more than 3,000 people in just the last year through fuel and food assistance.

“This project is a testament to the strong partnerships we have cultivated with investors, state development departments, local municipalities and commissions,” said Howell. “By working together, we can not only strengthen affordable housing, but also strengthen the fabric of our community.”

When completed, the three-story building will include an outdoor seating area, a fenced-in area for pets, laundry on each floor, on-site management and extra storage space for residents. The project is being developed by CTI’s subsidiary Common Ground Development. Massachusetts Housing and Livable Communities Secretary Edward Augustus said the project “really meets a need.”

“The fastest growing part of our individual homeless population is senior citizens,” said Augustus. “So folks when they are in their 70s or their 80s, when they should be enjoying life and be secure, are finding themselves housing insecure because their income is fixed, and the rents are going up, the electric bill is going up and the grocery bill is going up, and they can’t meet those increases. Projects like this are directly designed to deal with that.”

Augustus noted this project has been the beneficiary of \$9 million in state subsidies, \$2.5 million in state tax credits and a \$650,000 MassWorks grant.

“That is a lot of state resources in this project,” said Augustus.

State Rep. Colleen Gary said “it is amazing what Dracut can do when they put their heart and soul into something.”

“One of the biggest issues we have besides housing for seniors is isolation, and now these seniors will be in a community, and I think that is just wonderful,” said Gary.

Dracut Select Board Chair Tony Archinski joked about how the project has been talked about for long enough that he is the only remaining member of the Select Board remaining from when it was first brought up, and how the town has been through three town managers in that time.

“We are looking forward to doing anything we can to make sure this project is successful. We do believe in affordable housing,” said Archinski.

The contractor for the project is Consigli Construction Co., Inc.

“Consigli is grateful to partner with Community Teamwork and Common Ground Development Corporation on this impactful project, which will address a vital need and

offer critically important resources to the community,” said Consigli Construction Vice President and Regional Director Ryan Jennette. “We look forward to welcoming local seniors and residents to their new safe, affordable, and accessible homes with Greenmont Senior Housing.”