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Affordable Units for Seniors Planned for Mount Laurel

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MOUNT LAUREL – A nonprofit developer has proposed 71 affordable units for senior citizens here.

Fair Share Housing Development Inc., an affiliate of a housing advocacy nonprofit in Cherry Hill, seeks to build the complex at Ark Road and Hovtech Boulevard.

The Mount Laurel planning board considered the proposal for Phase 1 of the project at its meeting on Thursday.

The organization has filed an application with the planning board for property designated as block 302.15, lots 2 and 3 on the municipal tax map.

According to a legal ad, Fair Share Housing Development seeks minor subdivision approval and preliminary major site plan approval to adjust the lot lines between lots 2 and 3 and to construct the affordable housing units with supportive common space on the property. Two of the units will be for on-site staff and 69 for senior citizens.

The applicant also is seeking approval for 71 on-site parking spaces instead of the 130 parking spaces that are required.

The proposed site, which is a partially wooded field, sits in between the Shop Rite of Mount Laurel and the ISC Mount Laurel. It's across from the Renaissance Club condominiums, a 55 and older adult community.



The Fair Share Housing Development website says it has plans to build an age-restricted affordable housing project for low-income seniors at the location with a total of 184 units built on 14 acres at Ark and Hovtech. Plans have been designed for 146 one-bedroom apartments and 38 two-bedroom units, it says. Plans call for eight units for on-site staff as well as a community center and dining and supportive program space for both independent and assisted-living units. This location at Hovtech Boulevard and Ark Road in Mount Laurel is the site a nonprofit housing developer has proposed to build an affordable senior housing complex. (Photo: Celeste E. Whittaker/Staff Photographer)

As the Courier-Post previously <u>reported</u>, the township reached an agreement with the Fair Share Housing Center, which will result in the creation of hundreds of affordable housing units.

With bonus credits for previously approved developments, the number was reduced from 1,074 to 879, with more than half of those deferred until the 2025-35 compliance period under the agreement.

And of those 879 units, which will be completed in two phases, some of those units have already been built.

Jim Walsh contributed to this report