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Developer asks public for stories of housing problems

JOYCE SWANSON

RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Posted: 10/3/2006

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Residents struggling to find affordable housing in the North Lake Tahoe area are encouraged to share their stories at a public hearing Oct. 11 in Kings Beach. Those stories will help shape a proposed affordable housing project in Tahoe Vista.

With a name change, from Cedar Grove to Vista Village, and a new developer onboard, the project could be finished in roughly two years, said Andrea Clark, vice president of Pacific West Communities, Inc., the new development firm.

Vista Village is proposed for land just west of National Avenue in Tahoe Vista. The site currently is being evaluated for an Environmental Impact Statement, which should be ready by late fall or winter, and the proposal is working its way through the regulatory processes of Placer County and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Clark said.

When it was called Cedar Grove, the project was slated to provide 152 housing units. "We'll probably end up with something less than that,

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with some rentals and some for sale," Clark said last week. The types of units to be built "" apartments, duplexes, townhomes, or a mix of those "" have not been determined yet, although the project probably would include all those options, she said.

"What we've found in resort communities is that we learn the most when the public comes to us," Clark said. "It's those personal stories that help us design the project and shape the design."

Clark estimated the project eventually will house between 70 and 150 residents.

In addition to taking information from the public, the meeting also will provide some general information about the Vista Village project.

Pacific West Communities also is working with East West Partners to develop affordable housing at Gray's Crossing in Truckee.

Truckee family in Argentina loses dog, finds new friends

at a glance

What: Public hearing to take comments on a proposed affordable housing project called Vista Village in Tahoe Vista.

When: 6 p.m. Oct. 11.

Where: Kings Beach Elementary School Auditorium, 8125 Steelhead Road, Kings Beach.

Details: Call the Workforce Housing Association of Truckee Tahoe at 530-587-7567.

Pacific West Communities: www.tpchousing.com.

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