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September 26, 2006

Plan for housing applauded by advisory council

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June 12, 2006

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Prospective affordable housing developer Alex Mourelatos was applauded by North Tahoe officials for his efforts to alter an affordable housing project in Tahoe Vista to take in the concerns of local citizens.

Mourelatos owns 12 acres near National Avenue, which was proposed to hold 152 affordable units as part of the Cedar Grove project. However, Cedar Grove failed because of increased construction costs and delays. But Mourelatos is back at it again, wrapping up plans for fewer affordable housing units that offer both rental and for-sale options to locals. Cedar Grove will be renamed — either Vista Village or The Woods at Tahoe Vista — and resubmitted soon with anywhere between 30 and 120 housing units, Mourelatos said.

Members of the North Tahoe Regional Advisory Council, which reviews issues before they go to the Placer County Board of Supervisors for a final decision, liked the changes to the project so far.

Mourelatos is also running ideas by a group of North Tahoe citizens as the project changes.

“You’re making all the right moves,” said council member Don Barrientos. “I like what you are doing with the project.”

The project will be built by Pacific West Communities, which is building two affordable housing projects in Truckee.

The developer still has to finish an environmental impact report, and noise levels may become a problem in the development, but Mourelatos is confident that a revised affordable housing project will be on the ground soon.

“This is going to be one heck of an asset if we all work together as a community,” Mourelatos said.

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