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Habitat for Humanity of Omaha Breaks Ground On First of its Kind Bluestem Prairie Development

Former Wintergreen Site to Become 85-home Multigenerational Community

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OMAHA, Nebraska – A groundbreaking ceremony by Habitat for Humanity of Omaha and its partners began a new frontier of affordable housing as development begins today on Bluestem Prairie near 52nd and Sorensen Parkway.

The 19-acre Bluestem Prairie site replaces the 15-year vacant former Wintergreen Apartments property with an 85-home multi-generational community. The \$25 million project will include villas for empty nesters, multiple generation homes with attached accessory dwelling units as well as homes for young and growing families. Up to 15 nearby homes may be renovated as part of the project.

All homes will be affordable, and all owners will qualify as mortgage ready as well as provide “sweat equity” to build their homes.

“This is an important first-of-its-kind project in building communities for Habitat Omaha,” said CEO Amanda Brewer. “There is a serious affordable housing crisis for families in Omaha, with a shortage of 80,000 units. We are pleased and honored to redevelop this site to create homes for people and to build community.”

Dignitaries including Omaha Mayor Jean Stothert, Omaha City Councilmember Juanita Johnson, Nebraska State Senator Justin Wayne, and First National Bank of Omaha (FNBO) Vice President of Community Development Spencer Danner (former Wintergreen resident) attended the event.

Editor’s Note: Downloadable images and other resources are available at www.habitatomaha.org/bluestem-prairie/.

The project will be complete in 2025 with the first 50 homes built in 2023, and will include a rejuvenated city park, bike and walking paths and access to multiple modes of transportation to connect the neighborhood to surrounding community assets.

About Habitat for Humanity of Omaha

Founded in 1984, Habitat for Humanity of Omaha builds and renovates homes, repairs existing houses, takes down blighted structures and advocates for better laws and systems. We also work with individuals and families to help them acquire the access, skills and financial education necessary to become successful



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homeowners. In 2021, Habitat Omaha homeowners contributed almost \$900,000 to Douglas County in property taxes. This year Habitat Omaha will help 300 families become mortgage ready and purchase a

Habitat home or a house on the open market. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower. To learn more, visit [habitatomaha.org](https://www.habitatomaha.org).

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