

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Rebecca Garcia, City of Morgan Hill
rebecca.garcia@morganhill.ca.gov
408.607.0918

First Farmworker Apartment Complex to Break Ground in Morgan Hill



The Royal Oak Village groundbreaking ceremony will take place on Thursday, August 11 at 1:00 pm on Watsonville Road near the intersection of Monterey Road.

Morgan Hill, Calif., (July 27, 2022)— On Thursday, August 11, the first affordable apartment housing project to offer dedicated farmworker housing in Santa Clara County will break ground in Morgan Hill. This apartment project is a 73-unit multi-family complex called Royal Oak Village.

The project designates 30 units for farmworker accommodations, 18 units for rapid rehousing of people experiencing homelessness and families with special needs, 24 units for low-income families, and one manager's unit. This affordable housing project, by Blieu Companies, formerly known as Urban Housing Communities (UHC), will consist of three (3) three-story buildings and one (1) two-story building, offering one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and three-bedroom townhome-style apartments. The complex will be constructed on a 3.7-acre site located on Watsonville Road near the intersection of Monterey Road, anticipated to be completed by late 2023.

The agricultural industry in Santa Clara County employs more than 8,000 residents and contributes approximately \$830 million annually to the economy. There is an estimated shortfall of 1,400 seasonal and 700 long-term housing units to support the employment demands of the industry. The cost of living is so high in Santa Clara County that a single individual who makes up to \$92,250 annually or a family of four who makes up to \$131,750 annually could be eligible for 'affordable' *rental* housing. "The Royal Oak Village will deliver much-needed affordable housing units to South County's agricultural workforce and our unhoused families, both of which struggle disproportionately with housing instability," said City of Morgan Hill Housing Director Rebecca Garcia. "I am grateful to the County of Santa Clara and Blieu Companies for investing in housing opportunities for our most vulnerable families," she added.

This will be the City's fourth affordable housing community built by Blieu Companies (UHC), bringing a total of 185 affordable units to Morgan Hill.

About Housing in the City of Morgan Hill

Morgan Hill is a community of approximately 46,454 residents located in South Silicon Valley. The City has a robust housing program focusing on affordable ownership and rental housing production. Morgan Hill is one of the fastest growing cities in Santa Clara County, with 1 in 8 units in the City deed-restricted as affordable and deeply committed to being part of the solution to the housing crisis.