

NEWS RELEASE

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Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA)

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*****Digital images available upon request*****

Community members, elected officials celebrate completion of HACA's Chalmers Courts community

398 mixed-income apartment homes officially debut in the heart of East Austin

AUSTIN, TEXAS – An 8-year, resident-focused redevelopment of the Pathways at Chalmers Courts neighborhood in East Austin culminated Friday with a celebration to mark the completion of one of the largest projects to date for the [Housing Authority of the City of Austin \(HACA\)](#).

The third – and final – phase, the 156-unit Pathways at Chalmers Courts West, was recently completed. Earlier phases – the 86-unit Pathways at Chalmers Courts South and the 156-unit Pathways at Chalmers Courts East – debuted in 2019 and 2021, respectively.

Completing the project in phases minimized resident displacement during the construction process. Combined, the three phases offer 398 mixed-income units. Unit sizes range from 1-bedroom to 4-bedrooms, allowing HACA to serve more families with children who enjoy convenient access to neighborhood schools.

The new Pathways at Chalmers Courts replaces a former HACA office building dating back to the 1980s, as well as the original, 158-unit Chalmers Courts public housing community, which was initially built between 1938 and 1942 as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal.

“This is a tremendous day for HACA – and for the entire community,” HACA President and CEO Michael Gerber said. “We have more than doubled the total number of units, making it possible to house more of Austin’s families most in need.”

“We’ve never rebuilt an entire neighborhood before. HACA worked incredibly hard to get to this point and we’re proud to be able to provide Chalmers Courts residents with beautiful new homes with energy efficient appliances, central air, washer/dryer hookups, free Google Fiber internet and a number of other amenities.”

Community features include a first-of-its-kind on-site CommUnity Care medical and dental clinic, expanded Boys & Girls Club, rooftop solar panels, a splash pad and basketball court.

Local and federal officials were on hand for the celebration, including U.S. Rep. Greg Casar, U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett, Austin Mayor Kirk Watson and District 3 Austin City Councilmember José Velásquez.

Pathways at Chalmers Courts is located in Velásquez’s Council district.

“Affordability is the most pressing issue facing the City of Austin. The urgency cannot be minimized,” Velásquez said. “I’m grateful to see Pathways at Chalmers Courts going up in District 3, helping the Austinites I serve each day by offering 300-plus units of affordable housing. We need more of it – and that’s what I’m fighting for.”

Other officials on hand included new Austin City Manager T.C. Broadnax, U.S. Housing and Urban Development Regional Administrator Candace Valenzuela and HACA Board of Commissioners Chairman Carl S. Richie Jr. and Board Member Mary Apostolou.

“It has been an honor and a pleasure to watch the transformation of Chalmers Courts,” Richie said. “We’re not stopping here though. We’re committed to East Austin. We’ve got the Rosewood Courts redevelopment already under way, with Santa Rita Courts set to follow soon after.”

Innovative federal housing programs made it possible to expand and modernize Chalmers Courts. Texas-based [Carleton Companies](#) was HACA’s development partner for all three Pathways at Chalmers Courts phases. Austin-based Nelsen Partners served as architect for the Chalmers Courts redevelopment.

“The new construction at Chalmers Courts substantially improves overall living conditions, making it possible for children to continue attending their neighborhood schools, and further helps strengthen the community ties among all the residents,” said Printice Gary, Managing Partner for Carleton Companies. “Carleton Companies couldn’t be happier to be a part of the neighborhood renaissance at Chalmers Courts.”

To learn more about Pathways at Chalmers Courts West, visit chalmerscourtswest.com or call (737) 377-0435.

ABOUT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN

Established in 1937, the Housing Authority of the City of Austin works to cultivate sustainable, affordable housing communities that inspire self-reliance, growth, and optimism for those we serve: families, seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons experiencing homelessness.

HACA envisions neighborhoods where poverty is alleviated, residents are healthy and safe, and all people have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

The agency serves nearly 37,000 Austinites through 21 Project-Based Rental Assistance Properties, Voucher Programs, and the Austin Affordable Housing Corporation.

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