

NEWS RELEASE



Homebuying Comes to MerryPlace Through First Public-Private Partnership of its Kind in WPB

The West Palm Beach Housing Authority and PulteGroup team up to create 36 affordable residences; June 17 event marks completion of first four homes and first move-ins

WEST PALM BEACH, FL (June 2, 2021-- For three local families, the dream of affordable homeownership has come true – in MerryPlace Estates. These initial buyers have taken possession of newly built townhomes in the Pleasant City neighborhood as part of the first public-private partnership of its kind in West Palm Beach. The fourth buyer is expected to close on the purchase later in June.

The residences sit on a quiet side street a few blocks south of Pleasant City Elementary School on land owned by the West Palm Beach Housing Authority. All residences will be sold through the Housing Center of the Palm Beaches and constructed by PulteGroup, one of the nation’s leading homebuilders, as part of Palm Beach County’s Workforce Housing Program. The West Palm Beach Housing Authority’s Housing Counseling Agency will also help prepare the first-time homebuyers’ transition from renting to homeownership.

“It has been a dream of mine to become a homeowner and I’m overjoyed that my dream has come true,” said Bernita Banks, the first of three new owners to close on a home purchase. Banks will take part in a special ceremony at MerryPlace Estates on June 17 celebrating the new home deliveries and public-private partnership. A fourth buyer is expected to finalize the purchase of his home towards the end of June.

MerryPlace Estates is West Palm Beach’s first partnership in which a private company constructs the residences under the Workforce Housing Program. PulteGroup is building these homes to express its commitment to supporting communities in Palm Beach County, especially at a time when home prices are soaring, and many homes are out of reach for working-class families.

“With the unprecedented challenges to building affordable housing, the West Palm Beach Housing Authority is delighted that this public-private partnership made the dream of

homeownership possible for these families,” said Linda Odum, Interim Executive Director for the West Palm Beach Housing Authority and President of the Housing Center of the Palm Beaches.

When completed, this unique partnership will produce two single-family homes and 34 townhomes. Pricing starts at \$166,100 for the smaller three-bedroom townhomes and \$213,570 for a single-family home. All buyers must occupy the residences and qualify based on income. Once approved, buyers can become eligible for down payment assistance and special mortgage financing. The residences will remain affordable for 15 years.

“We are proud to contribute to the quality of life in Pleasant City,” said Brent Baker, President of PulteGroup’s Southeast Florida division. “We chose to partner with the City and County because we want to contribute to the well-being of the community and to fulfill the critical need for workforce housing for local residents.”

Anyone interested in applying to buy one of the homes in MerryPlace Estates should contact Mercedes Rodas at the West Palm Beach Housing Authority at 561-655-8530 ext. 1203 or email at mrodas@wpbha.org.

ABOUT THE WEST PALM BEACH HOUSING AUTHORITY

The West Palm Beach Housing Authority is a leading provider of affordable housing in Palm Beach County. Its mission is to provide safe, decent and affordable housing to persons and families with limited financial resources and to provide residents with access to programs, which will assist them in making the transition to greater financial security. For more information, visit <http://www.wpbha.org>.

ABOUT PULTEGROUP

PulteGroup, Inc. (NYSE: PHM), based in Atlanta, Georgia, is one of America’s largest homebuilding companies with operations in more than 40 markets throughout the country. Through its brand portfolio that includes Centex, Pulte Homes, Del Webb, DiVosta Homes, John Wieland Homes and Neighborhoods and American West, the company is one of the industry’s most versatile homebuilders able to meet the needs of multiple buyer groups and respond to changing consumer demand. PulteGroup conducts extensive research to provide homebuyers with innovative solutions and consumer inspired homes and communities to make lives better.

For more information about PulteGroup, Inc. and PulteGroup brands, go to pultegroup.com; www.pulte.com; www.centex.com; www.delwebb.com; www.divosta.com; www.jwhomes.com; and www.americanwesthomes.com. Follow PulteGroup, Inc. on Twitter: [@PulteGroupNews](https://twitter.com/PulteGroupNews).

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