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LET'S TALK



Rendering of LGBT senior housing development in Bay Shore / Courtesy of D&F Development

## Islip approves LGBT housing plan

∎ By: David Winzelberg ⊙ October 6, 2017 . 1 Comment

The Islip Town Board last week approved the first-ever LGBT senior citizen housing complex in the New York metro area.

The proposed 70,000-square-foot, \$30 million development will bring 75 rental apartments to a 2-acre site on the corner of Park Avenue and Mechanicsville Road in Bay Shore, just down the block from the Bay Shore Long Island Rail Road station. The project, first pitched four years ago, has a new developer, Levittown-based D&F Development, which is working in concert with the Long Island LGBT Network and the Long Island Housing Partnership.

The apartments will be restricted to people, aged 55 and over, who meet the income eligibility requirements with annual incomes of roughly \$35,000 to \$85,000. Consisting of mostly one-bedroom apartments and a few twobedroom units, rents will range from \$1,000 to \$1,600 per month.

The four-story complex will feature a new 8,000-square-foot LGBT community center on the ground floor, replacing the existing 4,200-square-foot community center that's been in Bay Shore for the last 15 years.

Once all approvals are secured, construction is expected to begin in June 2018 with an anticipated completion date sometime in May 2020, according to Peter Florey, principal of D&F, which took over the project from Port Chester, N.Y.-based developer Poko Management.

"We are very pleased that the Islip Town Board decided to overwhelmingly approve the first-ever LGBT affordable housing complex in the New York tri-state area," LGBT Network CEO David Kilmnick said in a written statement. "The need for affordable LGBT-friendly senior housing is exponential, particularly for LGBT older adults who have faced a lifetime of stigma and discrimination."

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