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Affordable housing apartment complex breaks ground in Schenectady

by Emani Payne
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Mosaic Apartments groundbreaking (WRGB)

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SCHENECTADY, N.Y. — The housing crisis in the Capital Region is moving closer to some relief.

Shovels in the dirt signified the start of construction on a new apartment complex in Schenectady on Wednesday, while also signifying something bigger, more affordable housing options on the way.

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"This project is a major investment in this neighborhood," Schenectady Mayor Gary McCarthy said. "It continues that transformation of the community, where we're building out of downtown and strengthening the neighborhoods."



The two building Mosaic Apartments will create 60 apartments in Schenectady's Mont Pleasant neighborhood, geared towards households earning at or below 60 percent of the area median income.

"My parents when they first arrived in the United States as immigrants, they came to call Mont Pleasant their new home," Assemblymember Angelo Santabarbara said. "I grew up here so to see investments like this in this neighborhood is very special for me but also it serves a tremendous need."

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The move comes at a time when affordable housing for many across New York State is becoming increasingly hard to find. It's also part of Governor Kathy Hochul's \$25 billion comprehensive housing plan that will create or preserve 100,000 affordable homes across New York.

The development will also feature free high-speed internet and laundry facilities in each building, alongside 30 apartments with onsite support services for seniors and those with disabilities.

"This project is a revitalization of the whole area and the areas around it," said Mark Fuller, DePaul President. "They named it the Mosaic Apartments because of the blend of cultures in the area and coming together, so we're very excited about this project."

Everyone excited about what it could mean for the Capital Region as a whole moving forward.

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"It's going to be an example that I'm going to bring back to the Capitol and say, 'Hey we need to do more of this because here's what's happening in Schenectady and it's making a difference for our community. We're addressing the housing shortage, we're setting an example.'

"This project for me is about more than just buildings, it's a symbol of our commitment showing that we're a community that cares, that we want to make sure that everyone has a place to call home."

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The project is expected to be complete by Spring of 2025.

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