

## Hanover affordable housing project is underway

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HANOVER -- A redevelopment project that will create sorely needed affordable housing in Hanover got its official start on Oct. 23.

Cardinal Sean O'Malley and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito joined a ceremonial groundbreaking Monday morning at a former dormitory at the Cardinal Cushing Centers.

The \$8.5 million project will convert the dorm into the 37-unit Bethany Apartments. The site is at 405 Washington St. (Route 53), near the Route 139 intersection.

Before the ceremony, Cardinal O'Malley gave his thanks to everyone involved in the project, including town officials and the bank lenders. He said the new apartments will fulfill the Boston Archdiocese's mission to help create "true communities where people with a wide range of incomes and abilities can live together with dignity and respect."

Like most other South Shore communities, Hanover is looking for ways to provide more affordable housing. For a city or town to meet at state-set requirement, at least 10 percent of its housing stock must be classified as affordable

apartments will include one-, two- and three-bedroom units for families, individuals with a range of incomes – from \$23,000 to \$103,000.

Thirty-seven units are planned. Twenty-three of those will be for those with annual incomes of up to \$65,000 and Hanover residents will be given priority. Ten will be for those with incomes up to \$103,000, and four will be for those with incomes up to \$23,000. The four lowest-income units will be rented with a preference for state Department of Mental Health clients. Archdiocese spokesman Terrence Donilon said that policy is in keeping with the Cushing Centers' mission to support people with intellectual disabilities.

The redevelopment project has been in the works since 2012, and has been strongly supported by the town. It is being financed with federal and private bank loans, state and federal tax credits, state housing subsidies, and town Community Preservation Act funding.



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