

Developers break ground on Sharon housing project

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Developers [Beacon Communities Development LLC](#), Frontier Enterprises Inc., and a other groups have broken ground on a \$29-million project to revitalize the vacant Charles R. Wilber School property into a mixed-income housing complex in Sharon, said [MassDevelopment](#), the state's finance and development authority.

When completed, something expected to happen in spring 2010, the project will feature 75 units of housing for families earning a mix of incomes, said MassDevelopment, which added that some of the financing for the project comes from federal and state low-income housing tax credits and historic rehabilitation tax credits.

The project is located near Sharon's downtown business district, the commuter rail, and major interstate transit routes, MassDevelopment noted.

MassDevelopment's press release included a statement from Beacon Communities president Pam Goodman.

"This project will serve as a critical economic driver for Sharon," Goodman said. "The Charles R. Wilber School – recognized for its historic significance by the Massachusetts Historical Commission – sat vacant for nearly 30 years before we acquired the property. Our project is a model for smart growth, transit oriented development."

Frontier Enterprises Inc., located in Canton, is a firm with a concentration on housing opportunities through a combination of creative rehab and new construction, MassDevelopment said.

(By Chris Reidy, Globe staff)