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WEST PALM BEACH

What's next for Nora District: Hundreds of apartments, condos coming



Nora District is opening fall of 2025. H&H Bagels, Celis juice bar and more

The Nora District, a \$1B development rooted in West Palm Beach's historic railroad corridor, is set to open with dining, shopping, and entertainment.

With West Palm Beach's [new Nora District](#) bustling with shoppers and diners, developers are focusing attention on the neighborhood's next phase: a cluster of large-scale buildings with what could be more than 1,000 apartments and condominiums.

The developers of the 13-acre urban revitalization project plan to transform what was once a blighted stretch of industrial buildings and aging homes into a dense downtown community, with five residential buildings in a two-block span between Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard and Tenth Street.

The evolving vision for the neighborhood was presented to city leaders on Jan. 5, just a few months after restaurants, cafes and shops began opening in Nora's new [entertainment district](#) along North Railroad Avenue, just north of the city's downtown center.

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Sneak peak of new Nora District for shopping, dining being built in West Palm Beach

The Nora District is under construction in West Palm Beach and will feature dining, shopping and entertainment.

The first residential building, a 12-story, 350-apartment building along Tenth at North Railroad, is already on the runway, with a groundbreaking expected by this summer. The project will contain 52 rent-controlled workforce residences.

Alongside it, at 1105 N. Dixie Highway, will be a 277-apartment building, this one with 47 workforce residences. The project is still in the planning stage, but builders are expected to break ground next year.



An artistic rendering of a planned residential building in West Palm Beach's NORA District. *NORA District*

Also in near-term plans is a building with 117 for-sale condos, which could begin presales in the next few months.

The NORA District is being developed by NDT Development, Place Projects and Wheelock Street Capital.

All three buildings are projected to be completed in 2029, Joe Furst, founder and managing principal of Place Projects, told city commissioners on Jan. 5.

And developers are already planning two more large-scale projects in the same two-block stretch: a condo building and another complex that mixes rentals and condos together in what Furst said would be “our most intense site.”



An artistic rendering of a planned residential building (on left) in West Palm Beach's Nora District. *City Of West Palm Beach*

Construction of those two projects is at least three years off, Furst said, with completion more than five years away.

All told, the five buildings could include more than 1,200 apartments and condos, plus large amounts of office space.

Nora's development aided by \$20 million in city incentives

Meanwhile, work is continuing on the [201-room Nora Hotel](#), which is expected to open this year.

"The hotel will open this October, latest November," Furst said. "That'll be exciting."

All together, the Nora District's [development](#) is the largest urban renewal project in city since CityPlace was developed a quarter-century ago.

In an interview, Furst said that he expects the need for housing downtown to continue growing as more Class-A office buildings open in the city center.

"Absolutely we'll need more opportunities for urban housing in vertical developments," he said. "The city center is not that large geographically, and in my view, the more the merrier."

The first phases of the Nora District were aided by financial support from the city's Community Redevelopment Agency, which is giving Nora's developers about \$20 million in tax incentives for developing the area and for making improvements to streets and infrastructure.



An illustration showing a developer's plans for residential buildings in West Palm Beach's Nora District. *City Of West Palm Beach*

Furst's outline of housing plans including 99 workforce and affordable apartments, but he indicated that more would be included in future plans.

"It will prove to be true that Nora will be the greatest provider of workforce affordable housing in the city," he said.

City leaders expressed their support for the undertaking and said they were happy to see the progress.

"It's a wonderful project, and it's good to see it becoming reality," Mayor Keith James said.