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Affordable Housing Associates wrap up 70-unit senior housing project in Oakland

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Affordable Housing Associates plans to welcome the first residents to its new senior housing community, the 70-unit Merritt Crossing building at 609 Oak St. in Oakland.

The \$28.4 million project is near the city's Chinatown neighborhood on a parcel that was previously a vacant lot.

The project will cater to people age 55 and up with incomes between 30 and 50 percent of the

area median income. Half of the units are reserved for residents with specific needs or situations such as being formerly homeless, living with HIV or AIDS, and suffering from mental illness.

Amenities include a large community room, computer lab, kitchen, landscaped courtyard and community gardens. High speed internet is also provided at no cost to the residents.

?Our properties are more than places to live -- they are places of support, growth and opportunity,? said Susan Friedland, executive director of Affordable Housing Associates.

The project was designed by Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects and built by Nibbi Brothers General Contractors.

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