



GDC breaks ground on NORA in Orlando, Fla.

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GDC Properties began construction of NORA, a six-story, 246-unit rental development located at 899 North Orange Blvd. in the North Quarter. Designed by Baker Barrios Architects, the building is expected to begin leasing in late 2013.

"With construction on the Aloft Orlando Downtown well underway, we are thrilled to begin another high-quality project in the city," said Adam Ginsburg, co-chairman of GDC, who hosted a groundbreaking ceremony at the site. "Demand for rental apartments in Downtown Orlando is surging as young professionals look to reduce their commutes and live in a walkable, 24-hour urban environment. We look forward to providing hip and environmentally conscious homes to prospective renters."

NORA, an acronym for North Orange Ave., will be Orlando's premiere eco-friendly residential development, featuring an extensive photovoltaic system on the rooftop to convert sunlight into electricity. GDC Properties expects NORA to consume about half the energy of a traditional apartment community, which will contribute to its LEED certification requirements.

"The NORA mixed-use residential development is another important sign that the local economy and housing market in Downtown continues to grow," said mayor Buddy Dyer. "I am proud that GDC Properties is constructing this project to LEED standards and joins us in our commitment to sustainability for the Orlando community."

Prospective renters can choose from a unique collection of one- and two-bedroom residences, ranging in size from 691 to over 1,400 square feet. All homes will feature either Juliette or walk-out balconies.

The building's glass-enclosed entrance will open into a dramatic two-story club room and lounge area. Other on-site amenities will include a resort-style courtyard featuring a large pool and barbeque grilling areas, with shaded structures for seating. An adjacent 400-space parking garage will have access to each of the building's six floors and bicycle storage will also be available.

Plans for NORA also include an on-site restaurant, gym and coffee shop as part of the 11,000 square feet of retail space.

NORA is located in Orlando's North Quarter District between Lake Ivanhoe and Colonial Drive, and is one of several new luxury apartment communities being constructed in the area. The influx of new residents contributes to the vibrancy of the North Quarter, already home to the fashionable Citrus restaurant, and is expected to support additional restaurants, bars and retail establishments in the future. For more information on the development please visit the company's website at

<http://www.gdcproperties.com/>.

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