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Arlington County Approves Site Plan for 90 New Affordable Apartments Three Blocks from Metro

(Arlington, VA) – The Arlington County Board unanimously approved the site plan for The Jordan, a new 90-unit affordable apartment building just three blocks from the Metro in the fast-growing Ballston area. AHC Inc., the largest nonprofit developer and owner of affordable housing in Northern Virginia, is the project’s owner and developer.

The project includes several innovative aspects, including a unique land swap between AHC and The JBG Companies that more than tripled the number of affordable homes, and also garnered more community support for the project. AHC also developed a site-specific transit package for residents to encourage the use of public transportation – a first in the County.



The design, which includes a variety of elements to unify the building’s urban and residential components, including a welcoming, light-filled inner courtyard with a recreation/play area and water feature for children, a BBQ grilling area, and room for chairs and tables, was created by DC-based Bonstra/Haresign Architects. Exterior elements, such as extra windows, street-level apartment doors, and enhanced landscaping also help the transition. “Finding land to build affordable housing close to the Metro is a challenge,” says Walter D. Webdale, AHC president and CEO. “We’ve worked hard to think out of the box to meet the needs of future residents, the community, and the County and make this work for everyone.”

County Board members applauded the project’s innovative aspects and appealing design. “This is an affordable housing project that looks fabulous!” said County Board member Jay Fisette. “There aren’t many communities in the country where you can build a building and you’d have no idea it was built for low- and moderate-income [residents]. That is part of this County’s goal, and I think AHC has reached that standard.”

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Founded in 1975, AHC Inc. is a private, nonprofit developer of low- and moderate-income housing. AHC produces and preserves affordable rental housing; provides homeownership opportunities; offers housing rehabilitation services; and provides on-site educational services to improve the quality of residents’ lives.

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