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COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

County could sell land for \$10 to residential developer -



Pointe Development Co. wants to build affordable housing in the Goulds area of Miami-Dade County.

POINTE DEVELOPMENT CO.



By Brian Bandell Senior Reporter, South Florida Business Journal 38 minutes ago

A developer wants to buy land from Miami-Dade County for \$10 to build workforce housing.

The County Commission will consider June 8 selling two parcels for a combined 9,147 square feet on the west side of Old Dixie Highway just south of Southwest 218th Street. It's in the Goulds area.

In recent years, the county has sold property to affordable and workforce housing developers for nominal amounts in order to address the lack affordable housing. A lower cost of acquisition makes it easier for developers to guarantee lower rents.

In the proposed deal with Surfside Pointe LLC, an affiliate of Bay Harbor Islands-based Pointe Development Co., all of the units would be restricted to people making no more than 120% of area median income. Some units would be for people making up to 80% of area median income, but the agreement didn't specify how many.

The pending agreement calls for the developer to complete construction within 48 months of buying the property.

The developer already owns a neighboring site of 27,007 square feet, which it acquired for \$520,000 in January. It was originally planning 56 apartments there. By adding the county land to its site, it could build 68 apartments.

The four-story building would have 17 studios, 32 one-bedroom units, 16 two-bedroom units, and three three-bedroom units.

<u>Maurice Egozi</u>, managing principal of Pointe Development, couldn't be reached for comment. His project would also need site plan approval from county administration.

The project would add to the influx of development near the South Dade TransitWay, where the county is planning a Bus Rapid Transit system. County officials are encouraging dense development around the transit line to spur more ridership.

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