

NEWS RELEASE

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HISTORIC HOTEL SET TO BEGIN NEW LEASE ON LIFE

FLINT, Mich. – Plans are currently underway to transform the 24,000 square foot Berridge Hotel -- constructed in 1928 near downtown Flint -- into a 21-unit condominium development.

The \$6.2-million Berridge Place Project will include a complete renovation of the former hotel's interior and restoration of its outside façade. Each of the units will average 1,000 square feet and will feature loft and townhouse-style living spaces (1, 2, and 3 bedroom units available), while commercial space in the building's first floor will provide needed amenities to local residents.

Also included will be the renovation of the historic Tinlinn House -- a 4,800 square foot facility immediately adjacent to the Berridge -- into four rental units.

Both buildings are located in the city's historic Carriage Town Neighborhood.

The project will kickoff with "Bringing Back the Berridge," a community and media informational event, at 11 a.m. on Monday, October 22nd, at 421 Garland Street. Tours will be available of both the Berridge and the Tinlinn.

The project is the result of collaborative efforts between the Genesee County Land Bank and Court Street Village Non-Profit Housing Corporation. Other partners include the City of Flint, the Charles Stewart Mott and Ruth Mott foundations, the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, Genesee County and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation.

Dan Kildee of the Land Bank noted that the project will help strengthen both the neighborhood and the greater Flint community.

"By 'bringing back the Berridge,' this project will further fuel a growing sense of hope and opportunity among area residents," said Kildee. "It will also re-use a jewel of Flint's past to create high quality, affordable housing that is so essential to the city's new future."

The project, expected to be completed in mid-2008, is one of several revitalization efforts currently underway in Flint. In September a "re-groundbreaking" was held to launch the construction of eight new homes and rehabilitation of five others in the Carriage Town Neighborhood's Stone Street area. That project is also expected to be completed by summer of next year.

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