

PROJECT UPDATE

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:

Starting with the City's core neighborhoods, the City has worked with citizens in three focus areas, since February 2012, to complete area action plans. The focus areas are North Florence, Northwest Florence and East Florence. These are some of the City's oldest and most challenged neighborhoods surrounding Downtown. Issues like vacant and abandoned properties, neglectful property maintenance and illegal activity must be improved in order for these areas to prosper. Therefore, in an effort to establish a revitalization plan that addresses these issues, the Neighborhood Action Plan was completed in January 2013. The plan is a result of the residents' concerns, and what they believe to be impediments to neighborhood vitality.

- Mayor Wukela

This initiative is supported by the Neighborhood Advisory Board: Dale Lockair, Annie Brown, Joyce Black, Marion McDowell, Rev. Henry Badie, Linward Edwards, II, Esq., Charles Smoot, Mary Grant, Scott Collins, Bill Dailey, Susan Bankson, and Tim Norwood



PROJECT PROGRESS SUMMARY

Florence NRS Vision and Goals

- Celebrate its proud history and heritage
- Be committed and engaging
- Affordability for all
- Architecturally significant homes

Overall Project Progress to Date:

It takes time to turn around years of neglect and disinvestment. While there may be no visible signs of redevelopment such as new construction that can be seen, many unseen steps had to be taken to set the revitalization plan in motion including:

- Master Plan and Development Guidelines
- Land assembly in priority development areas
- Creation of development incentives for buildings and homebuyers
- Preparation of new house plans
- Initiation of a marketing and branding strategy

We are now ready to launch the first initiative, Vista Place! The Vista Street area in North Florence will be the first target neighborhood where new homes will be built as part of this neighborhood initiative. The initial development will consist of 3 to 4 homes near the new school.

Homebuyer Program

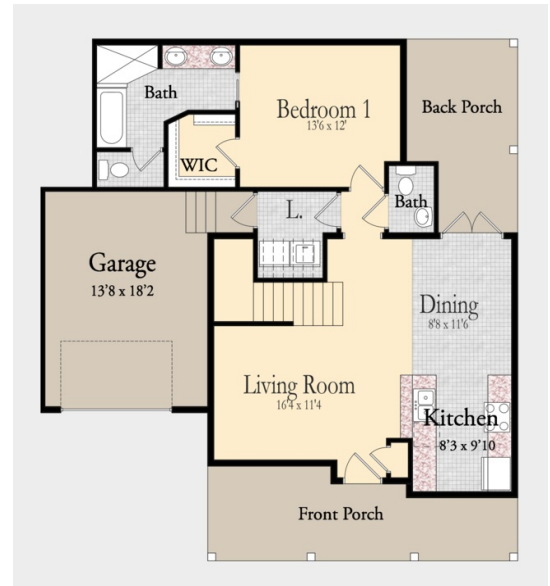
The City of Florence will provide down payment and closing cost assistance for qualified homebuyers to purchase new homes to be built at Vista Place. Program guidelines include:

- Homeowner has not owned a home in the last three years
- Program may provide up to 20% of purchase price up to \$20,000 in down payment and closing cost assistance
- Deferred, forgivable loans
- Purchaser must have \$1,000 of own funds
- Homebuyer Education Class required
- Homebuyer must live in new home for ten years

VISTA PLACE HOMES

New home features include:

- Craftsman architecture with open interior floor plans
- 3 bedrooms/2.5 baths
- One car garage
- Hardy Lap siding
- Granite countertops
- Tile bathroom and kitchen floors
- ENERGY STAR appliances
- Double pane insulated windows
- Motion sensor flood lights
- Security A/C cage
- Full front porch



Discover a neighborhood on the move. Your future home is waiting.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Liberty St. Neighborhood Meeting

Boys and Girls Club
1st Thursdays
5:00 pm

Greater Wilson Road Neighborhood Meeting

House of God Keith Dominion
1st Mondays
6:30 pm

Williams Heights Neighborhood Meeting

Harvest Presbyterian Church

1st Tuesdays

6:30 pm

East Florence Community Meeting

Levy Park Community Center

2nd Wednesdays

6:00 pm

Northwest Community Meeting

Northwest Community Center

3rd Tuesdays

6:00 pm

Timrod Park Neighborhood Meeting

Timrod Park

1st Tuesdays

7:00 pm

Woodmont Community Meeting

Maxwell Church

2nd Tuesdays

6:00 pm

Maple Park Meeting

1414 King Ave.

3rd Thursdays

7:00 pm

For more information on how you can purchase one of the Vista Place or any of the new homes in the Florence Neighborhood Revitalization Project, contact:

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