



Caption: This rendering shows the new energy-efficient “Litehouse” to be constructed at 210 W. Pease Ave. in West Carrollton. Photo provided by Ken Botts of Visual Marketing Associates.

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News Release

NEW ‘LITEHOUSE’ TO BE BUILT IN WEST CARROLLTON’S OLDE DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD

WEST CARROLLTON, Ohio – Construction is expected to begin this fall for a new energy-efficient home dubbed the “Litehouse” in the Olde-Downtown neighborhood of West Carrollton.

The city purchased the land at 210 W. Pease Ave. and donated it to the Partnership for Affordable Sustainability which is coordinating the energy-efficient home building project. The Partnership includes participation by CountyCorp and the municipalities of Dayton, Kettering, West Carrollton and Harrison Township.

“This program fit perfectly with one of our primary goals - to support the continued viability of West Carrollton’s neighborhoods,” said Greg Gaines, city planning director.

After submitting a request for proposals, the Partnership for Affordable Sustainability selected Rogero Buckman Architects, Visual Marketing Associates, Heapy Engineering and Burhill Financial Services as the team that will build and sell the “Litehouse” in each municipality.

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“We wanted to see if we could find a firm that could build an environmentally-friendly home at an affordable price for our mature communities,” Gaines said.

The house is expected to have low-maintenance exteriors, Energy-star appliances, solar reflective roofing and rain-harvesting technology. The homes will be open to the public in 2008.

“We have tried to design for various family sizes and site orientations, while always keeping efficiency and economy in mind,” said Barry Buckman, of Rogero Buckman Architects. “We wanted a house that would tread ‘lately’ on the earth, wisely using our ever diminishing resources and would tread ‘lately’ on a homeowner’s budget.”

Tracy Williams, West Carrollton city manager, said the city hopes to build on the positive momentum the city and CountyCorp have recently created in the Olde Downtown neighborhood by the renovation of seven homes in the area.

“I think that the seed money that we have put into this project will show a great return on our investment as we continue to see private investment in the area,” Williams said.

The Lighthouse plan will have long-term affordability for the homeowner through waste reduction, increased energy efficiency to minimize utility costs, and decreased water consumption. The project planners hope to showcase the many diverse ways to incorporate sustainable green building into new home construction and to demonstrate that single family homes can be friendly to the pocketbook and to the environment.

“Along with our partner communities, West Carrollton is taking the lead in the future of new home construction and providing an option we believe will be attractive to many prospective homeowners,” Gaines said.

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For media interviews, call **Tracy Williams**, city manager, at (937) 859-5183. Call **Greg Gaines**, city planning director, at (937) 859-5783.

For further information on the Lighthouse homes contact **Barry Buckman** at bbuckman@rbaoh.com.