

# GLASSBORO IN THE NEWS

BOROUGH OF GLASSBORO  
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## Developer Undertakes Revitalization Initiative: FORMER BENTLEY WOODS COMPLEX TO OFFER QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING CHOICES

Glassboro— Residents of the former Bentley Woods complex in Glassboro approached the governing body here three years ago, looking for help to make their troubled apartment complex safe. After three years of intense negotiations and red tape, Bordentown-based developer Community Investment Strategies now owns the complex, currently known as Whitney Crescent.

“We look forward to working with Community Investment Strategies, which has completed a similar successful community revitalization initiative at an affordable housing complex in Elizabeth,” said Borough Administrator Joseph A. Brigandi, Jr.

Borough officials, along with Community Investment Strategies, have been meeting with local tenants to develop a proactive relationship and rebuild the community in a way that will benefit everyone. The new management of the complex will assist in this effort, screening tenant applicants and transitioning out troublesome residents.

“Our goal in Glassboro, as with our other redevelopment projects, is to go beyond bricks and mortar to create a sense of pride in the community of Whitney Crescent,” said Community Investment Strategies President Christiana Foglio. “We want to build lifestyles--not just structures--that offer quality and affordable residential choices to people of modest means.”

“Finally, the good residents who came to the Borough looking for help in decreasing criminal activity at Bentley Woods will have the opportunity to live in an environment free of all of the annual shootings and rampant drug activity that has been a way of life for far too long,” said Glassboro Mayor Leo J. McCabe.

Borough officials negotiated with the former Bentley Woods owners under the Fair Housing Act and acquired the property through eminent domain last month before turning it over the same day to Community Investment Strategies.

The developer will manage the complex and later--with tax credit financing from the Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency--take down one building at a time to be replaced with new townhome-type units with individual parking lots.

Because the complex was built prior to 1980, the Borough does not receive any Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) credits. The newly developed complex would be eligible for COAH credits.

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