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HUD SECRETARY BEN CARSON CALLS CITY LIGHTS “A MODEL” FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN ATLANTA *Wingate Companies announce Phase II of Village of Bedford Pine redevelopment*

ATLANTA (Oct. 31, 2017) – Dr. Ben Carson, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, visited City Lights, an 80-unit, senior housing development in the Old Fourth Ward, today and called it a “model” for affordable housing. Carson was visiting HUD- assisted properties and Family Self-Sufficiency and Choice Neighborhood programs in Atlanta.

During Carson’s visit, Wingate Companies announced Phase II of the redevelopment of The Village of Bedford Pine. Mark Schuster, principal of Wingate, told Carson about the second phase of City Lights, called Station 464, a four-story, 96-unit affordable housing community that will be geared at families. The \$26 million development will break ground next year at 464 Boulevard.

“City Lights is serving as a template for the other phases” of the Village of Bedford Pine, Carson said. “It’s the right model. We’re very enthusiastic. It’s the kind of thing we can all get behind and support.”

Roderick W. Teachey, Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer for Wingate, said Station 464 will be of similar quality and construction as City Lights, but with an architectural character all its own.

“We’ll continue following the public-private partnership model,” Teachey said. “Station 464 will continue our commitment to preserve affordable housing in the Old Fourth Ward. Our intention is to do a one-for-one replacement of any affordable housing units we currently own and manage.”

Like City Lights, Station 464 will have a private, second floor, outdoor amenity deck to serve as a recreational and social area for the residents. The ground floor will have amenities and parking. In addition, Teachey says Wingate plans to move its Atlanta corporate regional office to Station 464.

Atlanta City Councilman Kwanza Hall, the mayoral candidate, praised the partnership and said Atlanta room for many more innovative projects like City Lights.

“It’s delightful to know we have additional phases coming to City Lights, which I think will help to further catalyze revitalization in properties that are owned by others along Boulevard,” Hall said. “The time, energy and investment that Wingate, Columbia Residential and HUD put into this public-private partnership continues to reap dividends for our city and those who are most in need of a basic and decent place to live. We want to expand that partnership as the need for affordable housing is all across the city of Atlanta.”

City Lights was supported by partnerships between the public and private sector, including HUD, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the City of Atlanta and Invest Atlanta. Wingate Companies and Columbia Residential developed the community and opened it in 2016 as part of a long-term plan to redevelop the Village of Bedford Pine.