

## Housing project first in Gardena since late '80s

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Star Wars may not be coming to the Vermont Drive-in, but several new homes will be.

During its regular meeting last week, the Gardena City Council approved two new housing developments, one of which will be at the vacated Vermont Drive-in lot, the other at the South Bay Crest site, also called Redondo Village.

Both projects were taken before the Planning and Environmental Quality Commission within the past couple of months and finally re-

ceived unanimous Council approval at the May 11 meeting. It will be the first major single-family residential development in Gardena in more than 10 years.

"I think this is an outstanding project," said Councilman Terry Terauchi, who held a position on the Commission during the projects' planning stages. "This will market to professional couples, basically; young families with small children or no children."

Representatives from Greystone Homes presented the Council with a full layout of its

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plans to build a gated community of 159 single-family houses on the 21.5-acre Vermont Drive-in lot.

Homes built at the location are expected to carry a price range of about \$240,000 to \$300,000. According to community development director Kathy Ikari, the homes will bring in an estimated 454 new residents to the city. The small gated community, Ikari said, will also have privately owned infrastructure such as roads, street lights, and perimeter

landscaping. In addition, the project will provide an extension to 177th Street, which will be the first new public street dedicated in more than 35 years. The houses' size will range from 1,830 to 2,860 square feet and will be centrally located between three major freeways.

"We hope that [the area's] accessibility will be a plus," Douglas Woodward, vice president of land acquisition for Greystone, said.

In addition, the City Council approved a plan for 65 new three- and four-bedroom homes at the Redondo Village North and South location. The site is already partially occupied by

the South Bay Crest condominium complex, a development that began in 1989 but has not been fully completed.

The site is located across the street from the Rodium Swap Meet on Redondo Beach Boulevard just west of Van Ness Avenue.

The homes will cost somewhere between \$250,000 and \$270,000, with construction beginning sometime in the next couple of months depending whatever assistance the city gives project, according to Jerry Marcil, managing member of Redondo Village LLC.

The City Council also approved the Redondo Village project unanimously.