











Client: Santa Clara County Developer Team: Mercy Housing & Abode Communities

Site Area: 1.5 acres
Total Units: 110 apartments:
24 studios
61 1-bedrooms

25 2-bedrooms

Completion: Summer 2025

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Enabling Educators to Cultivate Community Connections

Recognizing the difficulty of Santa Clara County communities to retain and recruit talented teachers, the County Board of Supervisors identified 231 Grant Avenue in Palo Alto as the future home for over 100 educators.

The building is structured as two c-shaped buildings connected by an open air bridge that offers views to major plazas and landscaped areas below. At street level, a series of three public living rooms are carefully crafted around trees along Grant Avenue. Those three public living rooms, combined with public access community spaces and stoops for ground level apartments, create an active streetscape for residents and other community members alike. Up above, a stand of mature redwoods plus three stories of apartments encircle three protected courtyards for residents to garden, gather and unwind.

This new community employs simple forms, warm materials, and public art to create a comfortable, lively, new neighborhood block just steps away from Palo Alto's California Avenue business district. All electric building systems and solar photovoltaic panels will help support clean energy and climate positive goals. 231 Grant seeks to continue the Palo Alto tradition of honoring existing natural elements, respecting neighborhood context, and providing for the greater good.

Design Features

- Three street level public plazas
- Publicly accessible community room
- Extensive use of photovoltaic panels
- Retail space along Park Bike Boulevard
- Three resident courtyards
- EV charging stations