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Wesley has big plans for senior campuses

By [BENJAMIN MINNICK](#)
Journal Construction Editor

Aging baby boomers are apparently creating a boom in retirement housing.

LCS Development is starting a \$145 million senior housing community in Gig Harbor; Life Care Services is in the midst of a \$154.5 million expansion at Timber Ridge in Issaquah; and Hearthstone recently opened a retirement complex in Seattle called The Village Cove at Green Lake.

Wesley Homes, a longtime senior housing provider, is also getting in on the action.

The nonprofit is affiliated with the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church. It is building a \$65 million senior community in Puyallup, adding a care center in Auburn and has major renovation plans for its 42-acre flagship community in Des Moines.



Photo from Wesley Homes [\[enlarge\]](#)

The Terrace in Des Moines was built in the 1960s and is due for a renovation. Wesley also plans to replace a number of structures on the Des Moines campus over seven to 10 years.

“We invested in (Puyallup because) it does not have a not-for-profit retirement community,” said Wesley President and CEO Kevin Anderson, in a news release.

Christine Tremain, vice president of marketing and development at Wesley, said the goal is to break ground early next year on the Puyallup project, which is called Wesley Homes Bradley Park. It is near Bradley Lake Park in the South Hill area.

Tremain said Bradley Park will have more than 400,000 square feet, including a main lodge with 100 independent-living and 65 assisted-living units; three brownstone buildings; and seven village homes. She said 18 assisted-living units will be for memory care.

Independent-living units will have a kitchen and laundry.

Each brownstone will be two stories, with 16 or 17 apartments. The village homes are two duplexes and one triplex.

Tremain said the configuration is preliminary and could change.

Residents can use an education center with a classroom/movie theater, three dining rooms, a bistro, library, art studio, beauty salon, exercise and fitness center, and underground parking. Walking trails will connect to Bradley Lake Park.



Wesley plans to open the Puyallup property in late 2017. Tremain said a 36-bed skilled nursing center and swimming pool could be added in a second phase.

Puyallup-based Absher Construction will build Bradley Park on 14 wooded acres.

InSite Architects is working with Wesley on all three of its retirement communities. Tremain said the St. Paul, Minnesota-based firm specializes in senior housing.

In the Lea Hill area of Auburn, Wesley is adding a 36-bed rehab and care center to the retirement community it built in 2007. BPCI Construction of Puyallup expects to finish the \$6.2 million, 33,550-square-foot addition early next year.

Wesley has been operating since 1944 in Des Moines, where it has 512 housing units and its headquarters on 42 acres along South 216th Street.

Tremain said the plan is to replace about half of the Des Moines campus in four phases over seven to 10 years. That work is expected to begin next year. No general contractor has been selected.

The Des Moines project will involve demolishing and replacing the 1950s building called The Gardens as well as 51 cottages and the 15-unit Wesley View building.

The Gardens contains about 120 independent-living units. The replacement will have about 130 independent-living units, 75 assisted-living units, 30 memory care units and 60 skilled nursing beds.

A 24-unit brownstone building and 43 new cottages will replace the old cottages and Wesley View building.

Tremain said the plans are preliminary and could change.

Wesley also wants to renovate common areas in The Terrace, which was built in the 1960s and houses 129 independent-living and about 40 assisted-living apartments. Work will start in January to remove the library and add a classroom, art room and bistro. The fitness center also will be renovated.

Sixty of 148 skilled nursing beds in a health center next to The Terrace would be relocated to The Gardens when it is rebuilt, and the rest will go to an undetermined off-campus location. Wesley hasn't decided what to do with the old health center.

Wesley's administrative offices in The Garden will be moved to a new location after that building is demolished.

Tremain said the big challenge of the Des Moines project is relocating residents while construction is underway.

Senior Housing Partners of Minneapolis is working with Wesley on both the Des Moines and Puyallup projects.

Photo from Wesley Homes [\[enlarge\]](#)

The Garden in Des Moines will be demolished and replaced.



Image from Wesley Homes [\[enlarge\]](#)

Wesley Homes is adding a \$6.2 million care center to the Lea Hill retirement community in Auburn.



Image from InSite Architects [\[enlarge\]](#)

Bradley Park in Puyallup will have a main lodge with 165 housing units.

Tremain said Wesley also has land in Renton for a future project, but has no plans yet.

Wesley has campuses so residents can avoid moving to a new facility or city as they age. It offers all levels of care, from independent housing to skilled nursing.

Benjamin Minnick can be reached by [email](#) or by phone at (206) 622-8272.

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