

# ¡ADELANTE! SANTA RITA



**2341 CORTA STREET**

Santa Rita Courts, the first public housing project in the country under the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, has been home to low-income residents in East Austin since 1939. While innovative when it first opened, the 84-year-old buildings have not kept pace with modern needs: the cinder block walls lack insulation, spaces do not accommodate persons with disabilities, and units have no central air conditioning or heating.

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) has plans to redevelop Santa Rita Courts. We rely on a strong connection with residents, neighbors, and community members to guide our planning to ensure we continue to help people on their journey to self-sufficiency.

Use the QR Code at right to sign up for our “Friends of Santa Rita” email list and stay informed on upcoming meetings and updates on the historic Santa Rita Courts redevelopment. Together, we can forge the best path forward for this historic jewel of East Austin.



**Your input and feedback is vital.**



HACA does not discriminate on the basis of disability status in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs and activities. The following person has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in HUD's regulations implementing Section 504: Compliance Analyst, Low Income Housing Department, 1124 S. IH 35, Austin, TX 78704, (512)477-4488; TTY: (800) 735-2989 or 711 Voice Relay.



# **¡ADELANTE!** **SANTA RITA**

Honoring the Legacy. Building for the Future



## **FAQs on Redevelopment of Pathways at Santa Rita Courts**

Santa Rita Courts was one of three Austin properties—Chalmers Courts, and Rosewood Courts were the others— that were among the first public housing projects in the United States created under the U.S. Housing Act of 1937. The developments represented an important aspect of FDR’s New Deal program and were championed by then-Congressman Lyndon Baines Johnson. They were built by HACA in two phases from 1938 to 1940.

### **Why is HACA redeveloping Santa Rita Courts?**

At the time, Santa Rita Courts was built with non-insulated cinder block walls, narrow doors too small for wheelchairs, and no central air conditioning or heating. This redevelopment allows HACA to expand and modernize the property for the residents while retaining the legacy of the complex for the community.

### **Who has been involved in the planning? What does the planning process look like?**

As with redevelopments at Chalmers Courts and Rosewood Courts, HACA is working closely with the community and civic leaders for a project that supports residents’ needs and preserves cultural identity.

### **What improvements can residents expect?**

The re-envisioned living spaces will meet current code regulations for accessibility and safety. Units will have amenities such as central air conditioning, energy-efficient appliances, and washer/dryer hookups.

### **What is the current project timeline?**

This will be determined by funding availability. The earliest construction would begin would be in 2025.

### **Will this project add to the number of affordable housing units on the site?**

Yes, the project will expand the number of affordable housing units. The total number of units has not been determined.

### **What will happen to the residents currently living in Santa Rita Courts?**

Residents will be temporarily relocated during this process. All current residents of Santa Rita Courts in good standing will have the first right to return to the new community once built. During construction, residents will be temporarily relocated. HACA has assigned a team to assist residents with relocation needs before, during, and after construction.

### **Will rent increase for current residents hoping to return back to the new community?**

For each resident, the rental amount is capped at no more than 30 percent of a resident’s income.

### **Where can I find more information about the project?**

Use the QR Code at right to sign up for our “Friends of Santa Rita” or visit <https://www.hacanet.org/santarita/> or use the QR Code at right to stay current on all updates about Pathways at Santa Rita Courts.

