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MLK mixed-use affordable housing project receives federal funding

By [JOURNAL STAFF](#)

The Low Income Housing Institute and Refugee Women's Alliance MLK mixed-use project, at 7544 Martin Luther King Jr. Way S., has been awarded \$1 million in federal funding after the House of Representatives passed the government spending package on March 9. The seven-story building will provide 148 affordable apartments for low-income and homeless families and an early learning center and play area operated by the Refugee Women's Alliance. Immigrant and refugee families will have access to bilingual and bicultural services and child care facilities at the approximately 10,000 square-foot early learning center. The transit orientated project is located just south of Othello Station but does include 20 parking stalls. Some apartments will be set-aside for young adults aging out of foster care.



Rendering by Runberg Architecture [\[enlarge\]](#)

Runberg Architecture designed the building.

“Our site is conveniently located just south of the Othello Light Rail Station and has great access to employment, shopping, recreation and amenities. This transit oriented development will help reduce car traffic, reduce household spending on transportation, reduce pollution and promote healthier lifestyles,” Sharon Lee, LIHI Executive Director, said in a press release.

The project site is currently home to the Othello Tiny House Village, which will be removed and its remaining residents re-housed before construction begins. Construction is set to start in September. Walsh Construction is the general contractor.

The MLK Mixed Use Affordable Housing and Early Learning Center was one of ten community housing projects to receive federal funding, secured by Rep. Adam Smith. The other projects are the African Diaspora Cultural Anchor Village, African Community Housing & Development in Tukwila, AiPACE Adult Day Center and Clinic, Aging in PACE Washington in Beacon Hill, Entrepreneurship Incubation Hub: Teaching & Commercial Kitchen for Refugee & Immigrant Community, World Relief Seattle in Kent, Youth Achievement Center, Africatown Community Land Trust in Columbia City, Wadajir Residences & Souq, Forterra NW in Tukwila, Maritime High School Highline Public Schools in South King County, Keiro Site Africatown Community Land Trust in the Central District and Health One Expansion, City of Seattle Family First Community Center – Health Clinic, HealthPoint in Renton.

“Thank you to Rep. Adam Smith for addressing Rainier Valley's affordable housing needs in the federal budget,” Lee added.