



Midway Manor Family Housing

In December 1999, the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic Division awarded a \$34.5 million contract to Hunt Building Corp., El Paso, Texas, to build 290 three-, four- and five-bedroom townhouses on the site of the former Carper Apartments at the intersection of Princess Anne Road and Windsor Oaks Blvd in Virginia Beach.

The new neighborhood includes a housing office, self help warehouse, privacy fencing, exterior storage sheds, and landscaping. The project also includes site improvements such as upgrading existing electrical, water, and gas utilities; storm drainage improvements, reworking the existing road network, and small play areas called tot lots. The first families moved in June 11, 2001 Midway Manor will be completed by the end of 2001.

The Carper Apartments, originally built in the 1970's, included 600 four- and five-bedroom townhouses on a congested 97-acre site. The high density caused problems for both residents and surrounding civilian neighborhoods. By the early 1990's, 245 of the units could not be occupied because of structural problems. A 1993 study by Public Works Center Norfolk determined it would be more cost-effective to replace the housing than to make needed repairs. The housing was demolished in 1996.

Funds for construction of replacement housing were appropriated in Fiscal Year 96, but the project was placed on hold pending a privatization initiative by the Navy. Military Construction funding was released in May 1999.

Midway Manor will have a maximum capacity of 1,464 residents versus 3,700 in the previous high-density arrangement. It will be built to Navy Neighborhoods of Excellence standards, similar to Ben Moreell Housing in Norfolk or Woodbridge Crossing in Newport News.

Midway Manor is named to commemorate the World War II Battle of Midway Island, a battle that highlighted the importance of naval air power and effectively turned the tide of the war in the Pacific in favor of the Allies. The streets throughout the neighborhood will be named for ships and aircraft that participated in the battle.