Port Gamble S'Klallam Housing Authority Chooses Clark Construction for Warrior Ridge Housing Project

Phase One to include 30 units expected to be ready for move-in by late 2023

The Port Gamble S'Klallam (PGST) Housing Authority has awarded Clark Construction the contract for the Tribe's Warrior Ridge housing complex project. Clark Construction is headquartered on Bainbridge Island.

Clark Construction's team began on-site work in mid-July. Warrior Ridge is located across the Little Boston Rd. from Gliding Eagle Marketplace on the PGST reservation. Initial infrastructure work and site prep began in 2021.

Clark's contract is for Phase One of the Warrior Ridge project. This includes 30 mixed units with duplexes and single-family homes, all for the exclusive use of Tribal members and their families. Fifteen units are earmarked for Elders and seven homes are reserved for low-income families.

Also included is transitional housing for homeless or other low-income individuals struggling to meet housing needs. Warrior Ridge's transitional housing will operate in addition to the shared living transitional homes that Court Services will open later this summer on behalf of their Welcome Home (Reentry) clients.

"There is a constant need for more housing on the reservation, especially for our lower income families who are particularly vulnerable in the current rental market. Warrior Ridge begins to address this problem," said Kara Wright, Director, PGST Housing Authority.

Warrior Ridge will employ an on-site case manager to help residents access other Tribal services.

Phase One units are expected to be ready for move in by late 2023. Planning for additional phases is under way and are expected to include additional housing and community recreation.

The first phase of Warrior Ridge is budgeted at \$9 million with funding coming from a partnership with Raymond James and grants awarded by the Department of Commerce, the Affordable Housing Program, Housing Trust Fund, and Indian Community Development Block Grant, among others. Warrior Ridge qualifies for a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit—the first such project the Housing Authority has pursued.

The Port Gamble S'Klallam Housing Authority helps Tribal members obtain attractive, appropriate, and culturally relevant housing. They work to increase housing opportunities among all Tribal members, including units for low-income individuals, families, and Elders.

The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, originally known as the Nux Sklai Yem or Strong People, are descendants of the Salish people who have been well-established in the Puget Sound basin and surrounding areas since 2400 B.C. In the late 1930s, the Port Gamble S'Klallam reservation, located on the northern tip of the Kitsap peninsula in Washington state, was established. Many of the Tribe's members, who total about 1200, still live there today.

For more information about the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, visit <u>www.pgst.nsn.us</u>.

#