

YOUR CENTRAL VALLEY

Farmersville breaks ground on first new subdivision in nearly 10 years

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FARMERSVILLE, Calif. ([KSEE/KGPE](#)) – Farmersville city leaders and developers broke ground on a 22.6-acre lot Friday.

Self Help Enterprises plans to build 101 new homes on West Walnut and North June avenues.

“Home ownership is the American dream, and also, critically, the main pathway to wealth creation and economic mobility in this country,” Self Help Enterprises President and CEO Tom Collishaw said.

Collishaw says these homes will meet a vital need for Farmersville families.

The entire development will qualify as affordable housing.

“Families work in groups of 10 to 12 at a time... to build their first home. And the way that works is everybody starts the same day, and nobody moves in until all the homes in that group are completed,” Collishaw said.

He says their sweat equity will take off tens of thousands of dollars from the price of the home.

“This is exciting for the City of Farmersville, because it has been a tremendous amount of years – since 2017, since we’ve had our last subdivision,” Farmersville Mayor Tina Hernandez said.

Hernandez says the small city has a lot to offer first-time home buyers.

It is minutes from Visalia, but the home prices are lower, and she would feel comfortable letting her kids walk home from school.

Nevertheless, it has been a long time since the city broke ground on new homes, and she thinks that has hurt its ability to attract businesses.

“I feel like we’re just stagnant. We’ve been stagnant for the last few years. Beyond a few years, but definitely stagnant. You know, we – I have big expectations for our city and you can’t do much if no one’s purchasing land and building homes,” Hernandez said.

She’s counting on this development to not only give low-income families a fresh start, but the city as a whole.

The developers say they plan to start construction this summer and wrap up six months after that.

Then Hernandez says the city has plans for at least three more subdivisions and a retirement community in the near future.