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Shorecrest redo in West Palm means more condo units but no more Temple Israel in base

By: Alexandra Clough Impressions: 1,871,589

Temple Israel will leave its longtime perch facing <u>North Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach</u> because it no longer will be <u>in the ground floor of a luxury condominium</u> planned for the site.

Instead, the Shorecrest condominium will feature only residences in the 28-story tower at 1901 N. Flagler Drive, said Bryan Cho, executive vice president of Related Ross, the project's developer. Related Ross is led by chairman Stephen Ross, a Palm Beach resident and the <u>owner of the NFL's Miami Dolphins football team.</u>

After 71 years facing Flagler Drive, Temple Israel will move elsewhere, to a still-unknown location but possibly to a site on the west side of the Shorecrest condo.

A meeting of Temple Israel congregants is set for Dec. 3 to discuss the temple's planned relocation.

In a statement issued Thursday, Marty List, a member of Temple Israel's board of directors, said temple leaders decided earlier this year "it was in our best interest" to move the congregation to a separate building.

Although the statement didn't elaborate, List told Temple Israel members in an email Thursday night that "owning and operating our own building gives us maximum flexibility and control over our future."



Temple Israel at 1901 N. Flagler Dr., and views of North Flagler Drive between Pine Street and Butler Street in West Palm Beach, Fla., on Tuesday, July 12, 2022. Thomas Cordy / The Palm Beach Post

The temple's departure from the Shorecrest tower allowed Related to redesign the condo, with more units, better views and a higher profile.

A new Shorecrest design means there will be 199 units, including penthouses, up from the 140 units previously planned.

Prices are lower, too, and now range from about \$1 million to \$6 million. Original prices had ranged from about \$2 million to more than \$10 million.

So far, buyer response to the new Shorecrest design is strong: "We have empty nesters and young families and everything in between," Cho said. "The response has been really encouraging."



Rendering of the new design for the Shorecrest condominium, planned for 1901 N. Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach. Photo provided by Related Ross.

Why Temple Israel picked Related to develop its West Palm Beach waterview land

Temple Israel is the oldest Jewish organization in Palm Beach County and the only Reform synagogue in West Palm Beach. It was founded 101 years ago, in 1923, by six Jewish families, according to the temple's website.

The temple acquired its prime North Flagler Drive property in 1950 and opened the sanctuary in 1953. Some 50 years later, in 1973, the temple celebrated its 50th anniversary with the burning of the mortgage.

<u>In October 2022</u>, temple members voted to authorize the sale of their 1.8-acre waterfront land to Related because the congregation wanted to build a larger religious school facility, according to members.

Although temple leaders considered other developers, they were impressed by Related's promise to include the temple in a new condo, plus build a new school.

The Shorecrest plan originally featured the temple's sanctuary and offices taking up the first two floors of the tower. A preschool would be built on the ground floor of a parking garage slated on land to the west of the condo tower.

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But Related <u>quietly pulled Shorecrest from the market soon after launching sales in February</u> with plans for a relaunch in the fall, The Palm Beach Post reported in July.

Although both Related and the temple said the decision was based on the temple's desire for greater autonomy, real estate agents who requested anonymity said would-be buyers shied away from the project.

In addition to security and traffic concerns about having a temple in their residence, buyers also didn't like the fact that the condo entrance was on Pine Street, a side street, real estate agents said.

With the project's redesign, Shorecrest's entrance now is on North Flagler Drive. As for Temple Israel, List said the temple wants to remain in the north area of West Palm Beach, and he said the temple will own and could develop land on the west side of the Shorecrest tower.

Cho said that site is one of several the temple is considering for relocation.

New Shorecrest condo in West Palm: Better views, lots of luxury touches

Shorecrest, in the works for the past two years, was designed by Roger Ferris, a notable contemporary architect.

Cho said the new design means units easily can be combined to form larger residences. Shorecrest will feature condos ranging from 1,013 to 2,832 square feet.

Shorecrest also was reoriented so the property better faces the water, allowing for about 90% of residences to have water views.

Parking will be by valet only, with a limited number of self-parking spots available for an extra charge, Cho said.

All residences feature White Oak wood plank flooring, and technology and wellness features, including Lutron home automation for lighting and thermostat controls. Kitchens offer custom White Oak European millwork, Gaggenau appliances and finishes of Cote D'Vaniglia and Calacatta Fioritto marble.

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As for amenities, Shorecrest will feature a 75-foot rooftop pool, lounging areas and a dining and grill area, all with views overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway, Palm Beach and the Atlantic Ocean.

The club level on the eighth floor will have a private dining room, a cocktail lounge with outdoor terrace, and a game room. Residents will have access to a private fitness center and spa facilities, and options for remote work include a co-working lounge with executive meeting suites.

Shorecrest's construction is slated to begin by the summer of 2026, with completion slated for the summer of 2028, Cho said.

Cho said Related believes Shorecrest will appeal to residents wanting to be on the waterfront but at a lower price than Related's other planned condo project, the ultra-luxury South Flagler House. That twin-tower complex is planned for 1355 S. Flagler Drive and mostly features units ranging from \$12 million to \$18 million, each. Cho expects demand for Related Ross' condos will grow with the city's increasing sophistication.

In just the past few months, <u>Vanderbilt University</u> secured city and county land to build a graduate business school campus in downtown West Palm Beach. More companies have inked leases <u>at new and planned office buildings</u> by Related Ross.

And the Nov. 5 election of Palm Beach resident Donald Trump as president once again is focusing attention on Palm Beach and West Palm Beach as a business and political hub during the next four years.

Cho said Related is encouraged by the demand for pricey residences seen with the company's new ultra-luxury apartment tower, The Laurel at CityPlace.

The 322-unit rental building, which opened this year, already is almost fully leased, and only one penthouse remains available: a three-bedroom-plus-den unit costing \$20,000 a month in rent.

https://www.palmbeachpost.com/story/news/local/westpb/2024/11/15/shorecrest-condo-redo-in-west-palm-adds-more-units-no-temple-israel/76317113007/