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## **The United Group of Companies, Inc. breaks ground on The Arbella at Bramble Hill - a new 55+ community**

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Shown (from left) are: Caitlin Lubelczyk of Worcester Chamber of Commerce; Aidan Giasson, aide to Worcester city council; Giselle Rivera-Flores with the office of senator Robyn Kennedy; United Group president and CEO Michael Uccellini; Jeff Smetana, United Group's chief development officer; Worcester mayor Joseph Petty; and United Group's chief operations officer Michael DiGiacomo.

Worcester, MA The Arbella at Bramble Hill (The Arbella) ownership was joined by city officials, development partners, Worcester Chamber members and staff to celebrate the start of the construction for The Arbella at Bramble Hill, the city's newest 55+ active adult community. The Arbella represents a new market-rate housing option for adults seeking class A, community-focused, and maintenance-free living.

Representatives from the community's ownership group, Troy, NY-based The United Group of Companies, Inc. (United Group), city and state officials including mayor Joseph Petty, Giselle Rivera-Flores with the office of senator Robyn Kennedy, and Aidian Giasson with the city council and business community representatives from the Worcester Chamber of Commerce were all in attendance for the day's festivities.

"The housing is needed," mayor Petty said. "It's one of the big priorities of the state. And all types of housing are needed."

The event allowed county residents and community stakeholders to learn more about the soon-to-be constructed 123-unit community. The Arbella at Bramble Hill will be one of the city's only active adult communities spanning 17 acres of land along Salisbury St. on the city's West Side.

"This is the type of place that I would want my parents to be because maintaining your dignity at that age is so important," Caitlin Lubelczyk with the Worcester chamber of commerce said. "And being in a safe place in your city, especially for lifelong Worcester residents, is what it's all about."

The Arbella at Bramble Hill will feature spacious one- and two-bedroom apartment units spread across three elevator-serviced buildings. There will also be an 8,500 s/f clubhouse, a yoga studio, an indoor pool and sauna, pickle ball and bocce courts, a multimedia theatre, outdoor grilling stations and so much more.

The Arbella at Bramble Hill is also conveniently located within a five-mile radius of the Massachusetts Tpke., interstates I-290 and I-190, and Worcester's commuter rail station, Union Station.

"Being able to get a project of this magnitude done in this economic climate is pretty amazing. And it got done because of the people under this tent for all working together," United Group's president and CEO Michael Uccellini said. "We are very excited about delivering on all of this, and we look forward to doing more in the city."

The groundbreaking ceremony was highlighted by speeches from Uccellini, mayor Petty, United Group's chief development officer Jeff Smetana, and Lubelczyk.

"In the development world groundbreaking is what it's all about," Smetana said. "You can work for months and years, but you have to get to the point where you're actually pushing dirt around, putting

in foundation, putting up steel, and actually building things.”

The Arbella at Bramble Hill is projected to be completed by the spring of 2025 and will be developed with the help of Marchionda & Associates, Syvertsen Rigosu Architects, and Campanelli Construction. This community is a unique product type for the area as it combines a lifestyle of community, luxury, and convenience that is unparalleled in the multifamily housing market. From weekly happy hours to instructor led aqua aerobic and yoga classes and lunch-and-learn sessions, The Arbella residents will truly get an experience that is unsuspected in Worcester County.

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