Edwina Benner Plaza addresses the pressing need for affordable housing in Silicon Valley, one of the nation’s most expensive housing markets, by providing 66 affordable rental homes for low-income families. Benner Plaza began construction in spring 2017 and welcomed residents in fall 2018.

Named in honor of Edwina Benner – California’s first female mayor who served as the Mayor of Sunnyvale from 1924 to 1926 and again from 1937 to 1938 – Benner Plaza is located on a formerly underutilized site where one single story commercial building once stood. The site’s redevelopment furthers Sunnyvale’s vision to transform the area into a well-served neighborhood housing local workers in close proximity to schools, parks, retail, employment opportunities, and public transit connections.

An all-electric building, community amenities include energy efficient appliances, private patios, secured bike parking, a children’s play area, rooftop solar energy panels, and water-efficient landscaping. Services include an after school program, adult education, and mediation support. There is also onsite case management staff provided by the County for the 13 units reserved for formerly homeless community members and 10 units are reserved for residents who are at risk of homelessness.

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