Originally built in 1959, Garland Plaza was acquired by MidPen Housing in 2007 to preserve the affordability of the community. With support from the City of Sunnyvale, Garland Plaza began construction on an extensive rehabilitation in 2012 and welcomed residents back in the spring of 2013.

The rehabilitation includes both interior and exterior renovations which completely transformed the property and makes it more environmentally-friendly. Enhancements include: complete interior and exterior renovation; replacing old wooden carports with new metal ones; interior seismic upgrades; energy-efficient features including a Photovoltaic system (solar panels) to offset the community's common electricity costs; and the addition of a community building with a multifunctional community space for residents.

From Garland Plaza’s courtyard, another MidPen Housing community can be seen. Immediately adjacent to Garland Plaza, Fair Oaks Plaza provides 124 homes for seniors. The two communities are intentionally designed to complement one another and are conveniently located within a half-mile of a county medical clinic, bus lines, public parks and shopping.