Frankford Creek
Urban Revitalization Housing Project

North Philadelphia, PA

Site Description

The site’s immediate prior use was as a junk yard and construction warehouse, though it was historically used for storage of chemicals. EPA assessment funds were used to identify any contamination, which found arsenic and lead in the soil. The cleanup was completed by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The project resulted in The Twins at Powder Mill - 50 units of affordable housing in an extremely economically-distressed and blighted area.

About the Housing Community

The development involved the new construction of 50 twins for homeownership at the intersection of Castor Avenue and Wingohocking Street in the Juniata Park section. The development has 44 three-bedroom homes with two and one-half baths and 6 four-bedroom handicap accessible homes with two full baths. Total living area is approximately 1,670-1692 square feet plus a one-car garage. The homes have a combination of brick and vinyl siding, feature Energy Star appliances and HVAC to meet the city energy efficiency standards.

The project included the construction of a new street and infrastructure to accommodate the development as well as recreational use on the area directly adjacent to the Frankford Creek. Twenty of the houses were sold to families at or below 80% AMI and the remaining 30 houses were sold to families whose household income is at or below 115% of AMI.