

WILDER GETTING RIVERSIDE ADDRESS;
MAYOR HAS RESERVED A CONDO IN THE PLANNED VISTAS ON THE JAMES

Will Jones Times-Dispatch Staff Writer
Contact Will Jones at (804) 649-6911 or wjones@timesdispatch.com
Richmond Times-Dispatch
Edition: City
Section: AREA/STATE

Mayor L. Douglas Wilder is trading his apartment in Shockoe Bottom for a condo on the James River.

The mayor has reserved a unit in the planned high-rise Vistas on the James, spokesman Bill Farrar said. Farrar would not give details about Wilder's future home or the view it will offer, but he did say the mayor "is very much looking forward to being a resident of that development." Wilder received no special treatment and will be paying market rate, Farrar said.

Vistas on the James is an 18-story, 168-unit condo tower slated for the south side of the Canal Walk at the turning basin, between 14th and Virginia streets. Daniel Corp. plans to start construction in late October to allow the first units to open around February 2007.

Daniel also developed Riverfront Plaza and the new Riverside on the James condo-office development on Brown's Island.

A June news release from the company quotes Wilder praising the Vistas project. "This planned development is a major testament to the growing vibrancy of Richmond's downtown, and its welcome presence will only strengthen and fortify our efforts to make the city a better place to live, work and play."

Wilder has been living in a Shockoe Bottom apartment since moving to Richmond in June 2004 to run for mayor. He also owns a home in Charles City County.

The condos at the Vistas are priced from the mid-\$100,000s to the upper \$500,000s, and they will include one- and two-bedroom units from 729 square feet to more than 1,557 square feet, according to Daniel.

All units are described as having "breathtaking" views of the James or the historic canal, as well as 10-foot-high ceilings, granite kitchen countertops and a private balcony or a walk-out terrace. A fitness center, club room, ground-level storage, concierge service and secure parking area are also planned for the facility.

All the condo units have been reserved, and listing agent Joyner Fine Properties has a waiting list with about 130 names.

Keywords: L. DOUGLAS WILDER; REAL ESTATE; HOUSING

(Copyright 2005 Richmond Times-Dispatch)