



## Work grinds to a start on new Octavia housing units

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A multiunit condo development in Hayes Valley broke ground earlier this month, adding another element to the Market and Octavia Area Plan that's aimed at making the neighborhood more inviting.

The 8 Octavia Blvd. development is expected to have 47 housing units — including one- to three-bedroom condos and one- and two-bedroom townhouses — along with ground-level retail and residential parking, according to developers.

The project will develop the small strip of land on the north side of Octavia that has been largely undeveloped between Market and Haight streets. It will feature a slim glass façade in homage to San Francisco's Victorian-style homes.

"The narrow piece of land into which we fit the building is very much like the way in which the grand old homes in the area were built," chief architect Stanley Saitowitz said in a statement. "Instead of the 'fixed grin' of the Victorian, 8 Octavia has a fluid, changing façade that is modulated by the individual residents inside."

The development is part of the Market and Octavia Area Plan approved by The City in 2007 to increase housing, repair the fabric of the neighborhood and boost transit-oriented developments. It also proposed new zones to allow for additional residential and commercial developments, called for changing the streetscape, and allowed for high-density housing that is close to transit, according to planning documents.

Revitalizing the Octavia corridor became possible after the removal of the Central Freeway following the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Octavia was resurfaced and opened in 2002.

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