West Oakland development would add more than 200 units of housing

Mar 2, 2021, 3:08pm PST Updated: Mar 2, 2021, 3:31pm PST

Part of the developing transit village near West Oakland's Mandela Station will go before city officials Wednesday as developer The Michaels Organization looks for the green light to move ahead with construction.

The nearly 1-acre site at 1396 Fifth St. would include an eight-story apartment building with 222 units, 16 of which would be designated for renters at 30% to 50% of the area median income. Plans for the ground floor along Mandela Parkway and Fifth Street include a large lobby and a number of residential amenity spaces that would be visible from the street that could potentially be converted into commercial spaces in the future.

It also calls for 41 parking stalls, 56 long-term spots for bicycle parking and 12 short-term bike parking spots.

The project is known as Golden West in honor of the Golden West Brewing Co., Oakland's longest running brewery once located at Fifth and Kirkham streets. The proposed building’s unit mix would consist of 49 studios, 132 one-bedroom and 41 two-bedroom apartments.

The project is across the street from the West Oakland BART Station, where a 762-unit residential project dubbed Mandela Station is moving ahead. It also falls within the city's 7th Street Opportunity Area, in which a total of 2,839 residential units and 170,000 square feet of low-intensity industrial and business space is planned.

In 2012, a fire torched a half-built senior housing complex at the site, which is also the former home of the Red Star Yeast Factory.

The property is owned by Oakland Housing Investors LP and the project was designed by San Francisco-based BDE Architecture.