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Big groundbreaking





Quite a few officials took part in a groundbreaking ceremony for an apartment complex to be built on State Highway 361 just south of Port A RV Resort. From left are Port Aransas City Council members Joan Holt, Shannon Solimine, Charles Crawford, Beth Owens. Bruce Clark and Wendy Moore; State Rep. Todd Hunter; Port Aransas Mayor Charles Bujan; Tom Huth, president and CEO of Palladium USA International, the firm that is developing and will manage the complex; Port Aransas City Manager Dave Parsons; Erik Earnshaw of HEDK Architects; Peg Jones, former senior vice president of Palladium; Wade Roper of Palladium; and Jim Urban, engineer for the City of Port Aransas. Groundwork for the apartment complex has been underway for a few months now. The groundbreaking ceremony was scheduled earlier this year, but it was postponed due to heightened COVID-19 concerns. Construction of the complex is a public-private venture that is meant to provide affordable homes for members of the city's workforce, many of whom are folks of modest means. More than 180 apartments are expected to be built. The complex's clubhouse/leasing center will open in February 2022, and the first apartment building, containing 66 units, will be finished by March 2022, according to last report.