



HOMES

New townhome community nestled into woods of Bellevue offers convenience, value

Bill Lewis Special to Nashville Tennessean, USA TODAY NETWORK newsrooms in Tennessee

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Story Highlights

Haury & Smith Contractors is building 35 townhomes in Bellevue between the Highway 70-100 split and One Bellevue Place.

The townhomes have 1,200 to about 1,400 square feet in living space with open floor plans on the main level and two bedrooms upstairs.

Units have decks that back up to Edwin Warner Park and residents have a dog park on site.

Prices are in the mid-\$300,000s. End units with fireplaces can cost a bit more.

First-time homebuyer T. Kidder could have purchased a tiny downtown condo with a view of the interstate. Instead, she has twice the room and enjoys watching the deer from the deck of her suburban townhome near Edwin Warner Park in West Nashville.

“My deck looks out over the woods,” which back up to the park, said Kidder.

She is one of the first residents of Belle Meade Ridge, a new townhome community developed by Haury & Smith Contractors.

The family-owned company is building 35 townhomes at 6949 Highway 70 W. The address is between the Highway 70-100 split on Harding Road and One Bellevue Place, the shopping, dining and entertainment center at the site of the former Bellevue Mall.

The townhomes have 1,200 to about 1,400 square feet in living space with open floor plans on the main level and two bedrooms upstairs. Prices are in the mid-\$300,000s. End units with fireplaces can cost a bit more.

“It’s all open, so you can do whatever you want with the space,” said Kidder, whose townhome has a half-bath on the main level and two private full baths upstairs with the bedrooms.

“It’s nice to have a guest bedroom,” she said.

The townhomes come with 10-foot first-floor ceilings, vaulted bedroom ceilings, high-speed internet, quartz countertops and fully customizable finishes. Residents have an on-site private dog park.

Price point 'hard to find' in Nashville

Buyers have snapped up 12 townhomes “and we haven’t had our first open house. In the Nashville area, a price point in the mid-\$300s is hard to find,” said Steve Smith, the company’s chairman.

Some are renters ready to move from the downtown area, said Smith.

“The mortgage loan is not much more than their rent. They’re ready to get out of downtown and have their own place,” he said.

Belle Meade Ridge is attracting first-time buyers and busy professionals like Kidder and downsizers looking for a low-maintenance, lock-and-leave lifestyle. The homeowners association takes care of all exterior maintenance, said Haury & Smith COO Matt Smith.

“It’s who we’re seeing buying. It takes a lot off their plate. They don’t have to worry about the roof if it rains,” he said.

“It has affordable, attainable prices with unbeatable proximity and a secluded location backing up to Warner Park, surrounded by trees and foliage. You’re close to Belle Meade, West Nashville and downtown,” said Matt Smith.

'A more appealing lifestyle'

Before discovering Belle Meade Ridge, Kidder looked downtown and on the east side of the city for a place to buy. The only thing she could find in her price range was a 700-square-foot one-bedroom condo near the Gulch listed for \$349,000.

Belle Meade Ridge has better value and a more appealing lifestyle, she said.

Kidder shops for groceries at Sprouts Farmers Market at One Bellevue Place, which also features a Nashville Predators Sports Center, AMC movie theaters, restaurants, coffee shops and shopping.

On nice days she could walk the distance, about a third of a mile, to shopping on the newly installed sidewalk along Highway 70. Or she could sit on her deck without hearing the highway. The townhomes are set back from the road, so traffic noise is not a problem.

“I can only see Highway 70 if I’m at the dog park. They did a good job not making it seem like you’re living by a highway,” said Kidder.

Since moving in on March 3, she’s been getting to know residents she meets at the dog park. Most are young women who like the sense of security and community that comes with living in a townhome.

“There are people around. The security is important,” said Kidder. “We’re all keeping watch on everyone.”