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Developer plans to take over project

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TROPHY CLUB-- Centurion American of Bedford plans to replace D.R. Horton as developer of a 697 -acre project on the town's north side, a Centurion official said Friday.

Ross Calhoun, a Centurion vice president, said the company has agreed with the land's owner, Beck Properties, to develop the project.

"We're going to move as quickly as we can," Calhoun said.

Horton officials could not be reached for comment Friday about why their deal with Beck Properties had fallen through. Scott Beck, president of Beck Properties, declined to comment.

Town officials said they don't believe that the change is a setback.

"Trophy Club has way too many positive attributes for development not to occur," Town Manager Brandon Emmons wrote in an e-mail.

Mayor Nick Sanders said town officials want to talk to Centurion about such matters as the amount of parkland in the project.

Whatever company replaces Horton will be bound by the concept plan that the Town Council approved in May, said Kerin Fleck, the town's planning and zoning coordinator. She said Centurion has not filed any documents about replacing Horton.

The development has been controversial since Horton submitted its initial plan in November for 3,000 new homes in a town of 7,200 residents. More than 50 residents jammed a public meeting in November to oppose the project, saying it would increase traffic congestion.

Supporters said that development is inevitable and that Trophy Club could exercise control through the town's project - approval process.

After months of debate, Horton pared the number of homes to about 1,500.

Centurion has developed the 4,000-lot Villages of Woodland Springs in far north Fort Worth, one of the fastest -growing subdivisions in the Metroplex.

The company recently opened Sendera Ranch in Tarrant, Wise and Denton counties, which calls for nearly 10,000 homes.

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