

West Broad Village Groundbreaking

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Henrico County leaders broke ground Thursday on a controversial new development - West Broad Village. It will be located on West Broad near Three Chopt Road and will include 900 new homes, a high rise office complex and retail stores.

Some residents say it's too much and are worried this new development will add to the current traffic troubles.

Opponents of the project fear West Broad Village traffic will cause more accidents, like one the 8News cameras caught Thursday during the lunch rush. But 8News has learned as the developments go up, accidents along the stretch of Broad Street have actually gone down.

"we've done quite a bit of enforcement in this area to work on high accident location intersections," says Lieutenant Doug Perry of the Henrico Police Department.

According to Henrico Police, during the first six months of 2005, there were 95 accidents on West Broad between Pouncey Tract and the I-64 ramp. In 2006, there were ten less during the same period this year, as officers worked to cut down on red light runners and speeders.

"We think we've been pretty successful with that, and we're hoping this contributed to decrease in accidents out there," says Perry.

An police say there are more initiatives planned over the coming months as the West End sees more development.



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