
New steps to seal off southern perimeter of East Jerusalem: plan for 3,000 units in Gilo advances

1 message



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Yesterday, the Local Planning and Building Committee discussed a detailed outline plan for 2,992 new housing units known as **Gilo Southeast (TPS 125195)** that would, if built, consume an additional 268 dunams of land along the southern perimeter of East Jerusalem.

[The plan would expand Gilo southeast](#), adjacent to Road 60 (thoroughfare to Gush Etzion), toward Bethlehem and Beit Jala.

It is one more in a series of plans to dramatically increase the population of Gilo and seize additional land along its southern border, including:

- The **797-unit Gilo Western Slopes plan (TPS 13157)** – tender announcement for which sealed the end of the Kerry Initiative – now under construction
- The approval of an additional **770 units** under a reparcelization plan for Gilo **Southern Slopes (TPS 175505)**, expanding Gilo toward Beit Jala. As the land in question is privately owned, there will be no tender process; once infrastructure construction is completed, landowners will be able to directly apply for building permits. The remaining area, with potential for 500 housing units, awaits a reparcelization plan that, as far as known, has yet to be initiated.
- A plan (TPS 13290) for 100 housing units next to the neighborhood of Beit Safafa, approved in 2012 but yet to be tendered

Promotion of the plan coalesces with the inauguration of the Nahal Refaim National Park, built on Walaja land, and [construction of a new checkpoint](#) positioned to impede residents' access to their agricultural areas.

The Gilo Southeast plan is yet one more link in a chain of developments designed to seal off the southern perimeter of East Jerusalem from the West Bank, nullifying prospects for a two state solution. Advancing a new plan for 3,000 units on land near Givat Hamatos indicates that the Israeli government will continue to do everything just short of taking action on Givat Hamatos to fill in any remaining gaps along the southern flank of the city.

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