

FORT PIERCE — A new buyer will be adding apartments and expanding a dock off Seaway Drive.

Florida Community Bank sold 1.43 acres at the Fort Pierce Inlet Marina for \$2.4 million. Simply Marinas served as the listing broker and Simply Marinas President Michelle Ash wrote in an email to Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers the buyer wants to remain confidential.

The deal closed Dec. 27, but the deed documents have not yet reached the St. Lucie County Clerk of Courts office for processing. The land at 1004 to 1010 Seaway Drive is less than a mile from the Fort Pierce Inlet.

Ash wrote the buyer plans to add apartments as well as 44 new wet slips off the Indian River Lagoon. The dock has 39 existing slips.

The land includes a convenience store/gas station, a small vacant restaurant location and a pump-out facility for boaters.

The acreage also has 13 living quarters ranging from one to three bedrooms. Ash said she did not know how many additional units could be built, but there are plans to build more.

Realtors Association of Palm Beach County President of Beaches MLS Donn Wonderling said any new inventory, even rental spots, will help the St. Lucie County market, which has had fewer and fewer quality homes to sell. The Realtors Association of Palm Beach County combined with the Realtors Association of St. Lucie County.

“Even if those units are residential rentals, I think that would still be welcomed,” Wonderling said. “The rental market maybe doesn’t need inventory as badly as the sale and purchase segment of the market, but still it would be welcomed.”

Wonderling said any sales in Fort Pierce are a sign of improving demand.

“It is definitely a positive sign that Fort Pierce is a good city, that it’s viable that people want to be there,” Wonderling said. “The fact that purchase happened is another thing that supports the strength and the viability of Fort Pierce as a place for people to live and raise families.”