

Worker Guides Steel Into Place At Emory Commons

Emory Commons Retail Center 1/89 Targets November Opening

By STEVE TEASLEY

Emory Commons, a shopping center now under construction at Clairmont and North Decatur Road, is headed towards a November grand opening, according to David Witt, who is directing the project for Selig Enterprises.

The 73,000 sq. ft. center, located on about five acres, will replace 56,000 sq. ft. of older retail structures built in the 1950s. Most of the buildings have been torn down.

Primary tenants will include an A&P Superstore (45,000 sq. ft.),

Treasury Drugs (7,000 sq. ft.), Evans Fine Food Restaurant, Blockbusters video store and Wolf Camera.

Mr. Witt says several other tenant contracts are being negotiated.

Evans will be leaving its old building on the site and is relocating to the new portion of the center, probably later this month.

Meanwhile, the developer is looking for a new retail tenant for a separate two-story, 24,000 sq. ft. building it plans to put up where a

Western Sizzlin restaurant ha been located for several years.

Work on the project started lat last year.

Selig Launches Emory Commons

Work has begun on Emory Commons, a 73,000 sq. ft. neighborhood shopping center at Clairmont and North Decatur Roads, according to S. Stephen Selig III, president of the development company, Selig Enterprises Inc.

The project is being spearheaded by David E. Witt, Selig executive vice president. Leasing and marketing are being handled by Bill Stogner and Shirley Gouffon, both members of Selig's in-house leasing staff.

The project, which is under construction, will be anchored by a 45,000 sq. ft. A&P Future Store and a 7,000 sq. ft. Treasury Drug Store.

Selig says it is now negotiating with several other national and regional tenants for portions of the remaining 20,000 sq. ft. of shop space.

Although no final plans have been made, Selig officials say the company also owns the adjacent 1.7 acre site formerly occupied by a Western Sizzlin restaurant and is exploring the marketing for potential tenants of that site.

Completion of the main \$7.5 million project is expected to be late 1989 with a grand opening scheduled for early 1990.

Selig Enterprises has gradually assembled the seven acre site over a period of several years. Numerous agreements have been negotiated with existing and former tenants to accommodate the redevelopment, including an arrangement with Evans Restaurant for its relocation to a 3,400 sq. ft. space within the project, officials said.

Demolition of several deteriorated buildings on the site is underway.

Warren Epstein and Associates, architects, have designed the center with a contemporary theme "complementing the unique design of the A&P Future Store for integration of one theme throughout the center."





NEWSphoto By Sherry Boron

Emory Commons Shopping Center Takes Shape On N. Decatur Road

Newest Shopping Center Set For November Opening

By STEVE TEASLEY

DeKalb's newest shopping center, Emory Commons, is on target for a mid-November opening.

However, the developer, Selig Enterprises, says two of the major tenants may not open until after the first of the year.

"A&P Superstore has 12 weeks (after its 45,000 sq. ft. store is completed) to install its fixtures," said Selig's David Witt. "So, my best guess is that it'll be early February for them."

Treasury Drugs, another major tenant, may opt to wait for A&P, said Mr. Witt.

Other tenants will be moving in

piecemeal after the center is ready in about a month, he said.

A Blockbusters video store, for example, may start operations right away, he said.

An Evans restaurant has already opened.

Mr. Witt declined to name other tenants or prospects for the main 77,000 sq. ft. center, located at North Decatur Road and Clairmont.

"We've got a lot of activity going; several proposals are out. A yogurt company, for example, looks pretty good. But, there's nothing to announce yet."

The developer is still looking for

a major tenant to anchor a proposed 24,000 sq. ft., two-story separate building adjoining the main shopping center. A steak restaurant once operated on that site.

"We have held off on starting construction until we get a tenant (and specifications)," Mr. Witt said.

Selig has been negotiating with a major Atlanta bookstore to relocate there.

Construction on the center started early this year,

The 5.5 acre site previously housed several businesses in separate structures. They've been demolished.

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