

Progress

Extension of Utilities Opens Development West of I-35

The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development has awarded the City of Faribault a \$278,425 grant for extension of public infrastructure to the west side of Interstate 35 to serve newly annexed land along Bagley Avenue north of the airport.

The utilities extended with assistance from the infrastructure grant will serve new industrial area west of I-35 including the 130-acre Aldi Inc. Distribution Center site on Bagley Avenue. The new, \$28 million dollar,

504,814-square-foot distribution center will be Faribault's largest building and will employ 79 people on site and up to 38 independent truck drivers. Adli Inc. is an international grocery retailer with more than 700 stores in the United States and more than 5,000 stores worldwide.

The grant will assist in increasing the industrial tax base of the City by providing accessible utilities for an additional 400 acres for future industrial construction and business expansions west of the interstate highway.



Aldi Inc. construction site

A Productive Year

In 2005, the City experienced many economic development successes. The City grew by more than 600 acres with two large annexations, which opened the door to significant commercial and industrial expansion. The City's tax base increased, new jobs were created, residential growth continued and further upgrades in the downtown area were accomplished. This will help Faribault maintain its standing as lowest taxed among 35 non-metro cities of more than 9,000 people, listed by the Minnesota Citizen's league.

Walmart's expansion announcement is only the start of what the EDA's strategic plan has envisioned for commercial growth near I-35 and the Hwy 60 corridor to the west. As part of the implementation of the Commercial Market Study recommendations the City hired a business developer who will play an important role in promoting the City to bring new commercial and industrial development and support the businesses currently operating in our community today.

We are excited about the future and are looking forward to what next year will bring.

— Peter J. Waldock, AICP
Executive Director Faribault EDA

CITY'S POPULATION EXPECTED TO INCREASE

Residential Development Spurs Growth

With population projections from the Minnesota State Demographic Center for Rice County showing a projected increase of 14% (approximately 8,000 people) from 2000 to 2010, one would assume that housing development should follow suit to meet this expanding demand. Well, from 2004 to the present, more than 1,000 residential housing units have either been proposed or are currently under development. Below is a breakdown by housing classification.

509 Single Family Homes

321 Townhomes

184 Multi-family Homes

While this increase in new residents may feel a bit overwhelming to some, it provides our community the critical mass which in turn promotes vital retail and commercial development.

We have all noted in recent months the flurry of retail and commercial development, which has taken place. This activity is no accident; it can in part be attributed to the residential development-taking place throughout Faribault, and our new residents making an immediate impact on the local economy.

The City of Faribault will continue to promote thoughtful development to maintain the small town character that brings new residents to Faribault.

NEW POSITION

The City Hires Business Developer

With use of excess Tax Increment Financing funds, the City Council authorized the establishment of a new position in the Community Development Department to promote economic development and support business retention in Faribault.

Erik Forgaard started his new job as Faribault's Business Developer in September. Since then, he has hit the ground running, bringing in a variety of new business prospects to see the array of available commercial and industrial sites in the community. He is working with the Chamber of



Erik Forgaard

Commerce, local landowners, developers, lenders and business owners to promote economic development in the City.

Erik has a degree in geography from the University of North Dakota and 18 years of professional experience, including more than seven years of experience in business development.

As business developer Erik will be involved in business recruitment, economic development facilitation and marketing for the City and he will assist in expanding local businesses and business retention efforts.

STRATEGIES FOR DOWNTOWN

Graduate Student Preparing Downtown Project

Andrea Peterson, a graduate student at the Humphrey Institute of Community & Economic Development, will be preparing a project report for the City of Faribault Community Development Department and the DAC of the Faribault Chamber of Commerce: "Developing strategies to promote the downtown area of Faribault as an attractive destination."

The project will identify strategies to promote Faribault as an attractive place for new retail businesses, other business, customers and tourists. The study will focus on attracting the niche markets rather than chain retailers.

Andrea is pursuing a master's degree in urban and

regional planning, with a concentration in economic development.

Economic Development Partners

Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce,
Kymn Anderson, President
507-334-4381, kymn@faribaultmn.com

Faribault Industrial Corporation,
Gary Kindseth, Executive Director,
gary@gkindseth.com

Snapshots of Growth



Starbucks Coffee, located at the intersection of Highway 60 and Western Avenue



The Village Development (Haskell's), located at the intersection of TH 21 and 30th Street NW



IFP, Inc., addition



Basilleo's Pizza renovation



Shattuck-St. Mary's soccer dome complex

FOOD-SERVICE ADVICE

Seminar Scheduled for Local Restaurateurs

The Restaurant Task Force, a cooperative effort of the City of Faribault Economic Development Authority and the Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce, is sponsoring a three-hour seminar on January 24, 2006, from 2 to 5 p.m. at City Hall.

Robert Helman of RH Consulteam will be conducting the seminar, which is designed for local food service establishments. Helman, who has 30 years of food-service industry experience, will discuss industry trends, menu strategies, customer behavior, and facility updating trends.

The Restaurant Task Force was established in October of 2004, and is comprised of 10 representatives from the chamber of Commerce, the City of Faribault, Economic Development Authority, and local businesses. The task force is committed to working with the existing restaurant community to assist in their continued and future success.



31 3rd Street NE, the future home of Monte's Steakhouse and former location of Erickson's Furniture warehouse

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF FARIBAULT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Progress



SMALL TOWN PRIDE
BIG CITY OPPORTUNITIES

PRSRT STD
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City of
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55021

This newsletter is published biannually and is mailed, one copy per residence, to all residential and postal customers in the City of Faribault.

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Erik Forgaard, Business Developer

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FARIBAULT
MINNESOTA 55021

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you have any comments, give us a call at (507) 333-0342.