

Office Max is moving northward

Office supply retailer Office Max has announced its new store will open by the first week of next month at the Fairview City Centre at Illinois 159 and Lincoln Trail in Fairview Heights.

The news comes in the wake of an announcement last week from Sports Authority; the sporting goods retailer plans to relocate to the new shopping complex by the end of March.

The still-open Office Max store, which is located on the shopping center's far south end, will be demolished two or three weeks after the new store opens, Fairview Heights Economic Development Director Mike Malloy said.

The new shopping center is a renovation of one of the city's oldest shopping complexes, where Kmart had operated a store until a year ago. That store has been demolished and new store buildings have been built in its place.

The Petco pet supply retail store remains at the far north end of the renovated shopping strip. Organic grocery store chain Fresh Thyme Farmers Market is expected to soon begin construction of its first metro-east location in the complex and plans to open sometime this summer.

Shopping center owner Kimco Realty Corp. is currently in negotiations with tenants for the remaining square footage. Stay tuned.

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