



New retail and residential complex in Cohasset aims high

Combining stores and apartments, Cohasset project next to the train station is nearly done

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COHASSET — The Old Colony Square retail and residential project is beginning to take shape next to the commuter rail station in Cohasset.

The Old Colony Square complex will include 30,000 square feet of retail space on its first floor, and a separate 3,400-square-foot outbuilding with drive-through lanes.

About 12,000 square feet of that retail space has already been leased for use as a fitness club. The remaining 18,000 square feet is still up for negotiation with potential tenants, including a possible gourmet wine store, said Peter Considine, a broker at The Dartmouth Co. in Boston.

The wine shop will take up about 1,300 square feet of space once its lease is completed, said Considine, whose firm is handling the leasing for the project's retail space.

"(We want) high-end service retail tenants that would be complementary to the train station," Considine said.

Old Colony Square will also contain 16 residential apartments. Christine Powers, sales associate at the Coldwell Banker office in Cohasset, expects the apartments to be ready in April.

"We have had a lot of interest already," Powers said.

The apartments will feature a loft style, with space ranging from 1,350 square feet to 1,665 square feet. Five of the apartments will be one-bedroom units, while the rest will be two-bedroom units. The apartments include hardwood floors and gas fireplaces.

Two of the apartments will be leased in a lottery coordinated by the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance, while the remaining 14 will be available for rent on the open market. A model apartment will be ready for potential tenants to view in February.

The complex, at 132 Chief Justice Cushing Highway on Route 3A, is across from the Cohasset MBTA station on the Greenbush line, which provides a 45-minute commute into Boston's South Station.

"It's a high-end project with high-end retail, so it wasn't inexpensive," said Lee Martino, a vice president at project developer The Connell Co. "We like to build quality."

Martino said he expects the retail tenants to open in the next 60 to 90 days. He said it's been challenging to find retail tenants in this economy, but the reaction to the concept has been positive. "It's a beautiful project, so it's been well-received," Martino said.

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