

NAI Ohio Equities gets job to find retailers for New Albany - Columbus

Business First

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The ever-growing New Albany International Business Park and its more than 13,000 workers need places to eat and shop, and it will be up to to reel them in.

New Albany Co., the meticulous master planner of the eponymous suburb and its sprawling business park, has taken the unusual step of bringing in an outside brokerage to market 42 acres set aside for retailing and consumer services.

“Historically we’ve done them ourselves,” New Albany Co. President [William Ebbing](#) said, noting the company attracted Hampton Inn and Marriott Courtyard hotels, several restaurants and a Turkey Hill service station to the area. “We have an awful lot of great new retailers in place, but we think it’s now time to bring in a team of experts who really specialize in this area. We consider them an extension of our team.”

The NAI Ohio Equities agents handling the sites are Anthony Maronitis and [Chris Howard](#).

The pair is charged with finding retailers for more than just the business park at Route 62 and Smiths Mill Road. The 42-acre portfolio includes land at the intersection of Morse and Johnstown roads, as well as parcels inside the 330-acre Hamilton Quarter. That development, at Route 161 and Hamilton Road, is a joint venture between Casto, Daimler Group Inc. and New Albany Co.

“It’ll definitely be site by site, but we’re anticipating a flurry of activity this summer,” NAI Ohio Equities President [Michael Simpson](#) said. “We’re just starting to market the sites now.”

Ebbing said the business park is active, with about \$100 million in construction projects on tap, including speculative offices and assisted living facilities.

True to New Albany Co.’s approach, specific retail users are being targeted, including day care centers, auto services and fast-food and fast-casual restaurants.

“The work force that’s beginning to move out to this area, it’s time to really focus on that next layer of restaurants and services,” Ebbing said. “We’re always looking to attract the best in class in each of the areas.”

Evan Weese covers real estate, money and the business of sports for Columbus Business First.

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