



Photo Caption: The former Boathouse property on Marina Drive is scheduled for demolition on May 17.

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News Release

FORMER BOATHOUSE PROPERTY TO BE DEMOLISHED; CITY LOOKS FORWARD TO REDEVELOPMENT ALONG RIVER

WEST CARROLLTON, Ohio – A three-parcel property on Marina Drive in West Carrollton known as the “Boathouse” is scheduled for demolition on Thursday, May 17.

The city of West Carrollton recently purchased the property and acquired bids for demolition. Star-Ex, Inc., of Covington, Ohio, placed the lowest bid to complete the demolition.

Kathy Perkins, economic development director, said she is looking forward to redevelopment of the 3-acre property that sits along the Great Miami River. The river front makes it especially attractive for development, she said.

“We are looking at ideas that will complement the surrounding area, especially taking into account the project that’s happening now at the former Woody’s site,” Perkins said. “We hope that any new development will be something that will draw people into the city and generate more redevelopment.”

Perkins said she is researching innovative development possibilities from communities such as Gahanna, Ohio’s New Creekside business-and-residential mixed-use project that was recently completed.

The Boathouse property is part of the Center City zoning district, put in place in June 2005, to encourage redevelopment that is efficient, functional and compatible with the character of a pedestrian-friendly business district.

“The city’s decision to purchase the Boathouse property assures the city that whatever is

eventually developed on that site will meet certain standards.” Perkins said.

In addition to the redevelopment of the former Woody’s Market on Dixie Drive for the Taste of Elegance bakery, the city is also experiencing rehabilitation of several residential properties in the old downtown residential district. County Corp has purchased and remodeled several homes on Pease Avenue and Main Street.

Zoning changes were approved in March 2007 for the former Fraser Paper Mill property, located near the central business district of the city. The mill property, which is currently being demolished, is now part of a Planned Unit Development (PUD) district.

“The objective of the PUD is to help create a successful, well-planned, visually-appealing project that will complement the surrounding community,” said Greg Gaines, city planning director.

“It is an exciting time of transition in the city,” said Tracy Williams, city manager. Williams said that the city is striving to revitalize the area, create new jobs and increase the attractiveness of the area for new business development.

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For media interviews, call **Kathy Perkins**, economic development director, or **Greg Gaines**, planning director, at (937) 859-5783. Call **Tracy Williams**, city manager, at (937) 859-5183.