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For Immediate Release

City of Ferguson Breaks Ground on Outdoor Plaza

Ferguson, Missouri: Elected officials from the City of Ferguson were on-site on Monday, August 17, to break ground on the long-awaited outdoor plaza located at 501 S. Florissant Road.

The plaza will feature several “green” elements in the design, including pervious surfacing and underground cisterns that will be used to collect rainwater, providing a natural watering source for the native plants and trees that will adorn the site. These features were incorporated into the plan design in order to meet the guidelines established by Ferguson’s Environmental Ordinance, which went into effect on February 24, 2009.

The extensive process to develop the plaza involved the 501 Committee, made up of residents JoAnn Bordeleau and Chuck James, Jonathon Yordy from the Chancellor’s Office at UM-St. Louis, Councilmember Dwayne James and Planning & Development Director Rosalind Williams, along with input from other residents and business owners, that selected renowned landscape architect Austin Tao & Associates and the Lawrence Group to design the plaza. BBi Constructors was selected as the General Contractor on the project.

The plaza will be located near Suburban Avenue on South Florissant Road. Other recent developments at that location include Marley’s Bar & Grill, which just celebrated their one year anniversary, and new businesses coming soon including Ray Hill’s microbrewery/restaurant, CORK Wine Bar, and the Streetcar Lofts, a mixed-use residential and retail development that is currently recruiting more retail tenants.

A formal ribbon-cutting ceremony for the 501 Plaza will be held once the project is completed in the fall, and members of the business and residential community will be invited to attend. To learn more about these projects or other efforts by the City to “go green”, visit www.fergusoncity.com, or better yet, come down for a visit! **Photo of Groundbreaking Attached. (Pictured left to right: Councilmember Peggy Faul, City Manager John Shaw, Councilmember Fran Grecco, Mayor Brian Fletcher, Councilmember Kynan Crecelius, Randy Bueckendorf from BBi Constructors, Public Works Director Terry O’Neil, and Councilmember Mike Salant.**

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