

9th Ward News

From Alderman Anthony Beale

Whole Foods Distribution Center Coming to Pullman

Continuing its resurgence and becoming one of Chicago's largest industrial employment centers, the historic Pullman community is slated to become the new home for the Midwest Region Distribution Center for Whole Foods.

Standing on the grounds of the former Ryerson Steel Plant in Pullman Park, a mixed-use planned development behind Method Home Products, Gotham Greens and the Walmart Super Store, Alderman

Anthony Beale, accompanied by Mayor Rahm Emanuel, representatives of Whole Foods, Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives (CNI), U.S. Bank and community leaders, made the announcement of the agreement for the new 150,000 square foot distribution center.



"Today, Whole Foods is joining the robust group of manufacturing companies that call Pullman home. Today's groundbreaking is an investment in the future – the future of Chicago and the future of the Pullman/Roseland area," said Alderman Beale at the event.

The new facility is expected to employ approximately 150 individuals and will be used for warehousing, cold and dry storage, food preparation, distribution and office space.

"This distribution center is another example of Whole Foods doubling down on Chicago's South Side and adds to the renaissance that is happening in Pullman," said Mayor Rahm Emanuel. "Neighborhood investments like these – from stores in Hyde Park and Englewood to this distribution center in Pullman – will be vital community anchors and open up more avenues of opportunity for all Chicagoans. I want to thank Whole Foods for their continuing commitment to Chicago and our neighborhoods."

Created on a 17-acre site owned by U.S. Bank, the new industrial warehouse and distribution facility at 111th and Doty Avenue will serve as a great complement to the continuing revitalization of the Pullman neighborhood which includes the location of many new manufacturing companies, the sale of rehabbed

homes, the creation of a new trucking and logistics training center and the establishment of a very successful retail center.

"We are deeply committed to the Chicago market, including the revitalization of the Pullman area, which U.S. Bank has been actively involved in since 2009," said Marsha Cruzan, Chicago market president for U.S. Bank. "We are proud of our partnership with Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives, which we helped establish, and have made significant investments to bring companies and organizations like Walmart, Ross Stores, Mercy Lakefront Housing and, more recently, Method Home Products to this community. The addition of Whole Foods' distribution center will provide much-needed jobs for neighborhood residents and continue to improve the entire area."

CNI, master developers for Pullman Park, will oversee the environmental remediation, site preparation, dynamic compaction and infrastructure work for the site before a third party developer begins the construction of the distribution center.

Site preparation is expected to commence this Summer and the construction of the new facility is expected to start later this year.