

North American notes tenant line-up for Forum

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FORT MYERS - The Forum at Fort Myers, part of Lee County's 706-acre, master-planned, mixed-use regional destination, recently noted several anchor tenants that will join its retail line-up.

Target, Best Buy, Ross Dress for Less, Bed Bath & Beyond, Books-A-Million, Staples, Petco and Rack Room Shoes will join The Home Depot at the 480,000sf retail center, which is on 43 acres in the northeast corner of the I-75 and Colonial Boulevard interchange. SunTrust Bank secured one of the three outparcels available, as well.

Developed by North American Properties, the \$60 million power center will also include approximately 46,000sf of small shop and restaurant space. The shopping destination is scheduled to open in summer 2008.

In addition, the hospitality and office components at The Forum at Fort Myers are under way. Construction continues on the Holiday Inn Express at the intersection of Colonial and Forum boulevards, and it is expected to open in November. Hyatt Place will commence construction this month and is expected to open early 2009 at the intersection of I-75 and SR 82.

Phase I of Forum Corporate Park, a six-building, Class A office park developed by Songy Partners, is also nearing completion.

The Forum will have 1 msf of retail, 850,000sf of office space, 1,300 residential units and more than 500 hotel rooms. It is expected to be completed in 2010.