



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
22 April 2011

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Mercantile Exchange Adds Pi to Washington Avenue

ST. LOUIS, MO.--The Mercantile Exchange (MX) today announced it is adding **Pi Pizzeria** to the MX Building on Washington Avenue. This is the first restaurant announcement for the MX Building, and the first downtown location for Pi. The 4,000 square-foot restaurant will feature a large patio and is expected to open along with the bulk of the MX restaurant, entertainment, art and cultural elements in the first quarter of 2012.

"Pi will be a big slice of our success," said Amos Harris, President of Spinnaker St. Louis. "We are building a concentration of St. Louis' very best, all in one place, all at the MX. Adding Pi to the MX Building is an exciting first step. We look forward to several more announcements in the weeks to come, including our first tenants in the Laurel."

The MX location will be Pi's fifth restaurant, including the upcoming Washington, D.C. location which will open in June of this year. Pi also currently operates 2 pizza trucks.

"We are extremely excited about a new presence in downtown St. Louis for Pi at the MX," said Chris Sommers, owner of Pi. "We have been researching the market and our real estate options for months, but chose the MX, because we feel Amos Harris' vision most fits our own. Our future neighbors will be a perfect fit for Pi and for our guests."

The MX project is led by Spinnaker St. Louis and Connecticut-based Spinnaker Real Estate Partners, a national developer of successful mixed-use, commercial, and multi-family properties in Connecticut, New York and Oregon.

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About the MX

The Mercantile Exchange (MX) is downtown's newest and most stimulating gathering place. It is emerging within the area surrounding the MX and Laurel Buildings (formerly St. Louis Centre and Dillard's buildings, respectively). The epicenter of downtown energy, the MX is the vital link between downtown's most important residential, shopping and entertainment neighborhoods, from the Washington Avenue Loft District to City Garden and the ballpark, and Post Office Square to the Arch Grounds.

Leading to a retail opening in Spring 2012, the MX is developing into a full-service retail, dining, entertainment, arts & culture and residential district along Washington Avenue. It includes the landmark downtown Macy's, currently undergoing a major renovation, movie theaters, dining, entertainment and shopping options, along with a 212-room Embassy Suites Hotel and The Laurel Apartments. This mix of destination retail, hotel, residential and commercial activity will give the MX a 24/7 vitality.

The street-level experience will be supported by a completely transformed streetscape, highlighted by warm street level lighting, sidewalk cafes, fountains, public art, and lush urban landscaping and a dedicated 24/7 security presence. Residents and visitors will enjoy bustling street scenes amidst the many festivals, markets, and celebrations that will take place year-round, throughout the MX.



The MX Building, right, rises above Washington Avenue, with the Laurel, left.

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