



1220 N. Forest Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
Open 7 days a week
8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
(360) 734-8158

Second-store site Q&A

Q: Where is the site?

A: On Cordata at the corner of Westerly. It's near Whatcom Community College.

Q: Where the heck is Westerly?

A: It's just north of Bakerview Rd. There's a new traffic round-about at that intersection.

Q: Which corner?

A: Our site is the SW corner of the intersection. T-Mobile is just south of the location.

Q: How big will the store be?

A: We'll have about 16,000 square feet on the main floor. The 2,600-sq.-foot upstairs will have offices, an indoor/outdoor eating area, and a multipurpose room, so the total square footage will be 18,600 square feet. The current store has about 17,000 square feet of space.

Q: Will the second store carry the same products?

A: We'll start with the same product line; eventually some small portion of our products might change, reflecting shoppers' preferences. But we'll always work within our product guidelines.

Q: Is the second store a separate co-op?

A: No, we think of it as one co-op, two stores. Think of PCC in Seattle, which has seven stores. Both our stores will be the Community Food Co-op...in two locations.

Q: What will the building look like?

A: As of October 2005, we don't know exactly. Our architect, Jim Williams, is working on plans through the next few months. We've been receiving member input and will continue to do so during the design phase. There will be another member forum in early November, which all members are encouraged to come to. If you have questions, contact us through our email address (secondstore@communityfood.coop).

Q: Is there a particular appearance the building has to have because of the Cordata area?

A: No. We want our building to be unique and to be a leader in green building design, particularly in the Cordata area.

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Q: How will you make it a green building?

A: The particulars are yet to be decided, but the goal is to build to a LEED silver standard.

Q: What's LEED?

A: LEED (Leadership on Energy and Environmental Design), a certification program developed in 1998 by the U.S. Green Building Council, focuses on five main categories: sustainable sites, water resources, energy and atmospheres, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality.

Q: Will you have enough parking?

A: The site allows for about 100 parking places (the current store has 52).

Q: Why are we even building a second store? I don't think we should grow at all.

A: We *are* growing--more and more people want to eat healthful food, organic food, and local goods and as a result more members are joining. The Board did a survey in 2000 asking members what direction they wanted to go: move again to a bigger location, stay the same, or open a second store of about the same size. Members voted for the latter. For a retrospective of the issue, please see "The Decision to Open a Second Store: A Retrospective." You can ask for it at the Service Desk or find it on our website. As we grow we'll continue to get member input on how we should grow and how the Co-op can be a part of sustainable growth in our community.

A co-op is an economic entity in existence for the good of its members. Member support only makes co-ops stronger. If people are seeking healthful, local, organic foods, aren't you glad they want to buy them at *your* store? We all benefit from an inclusionary policy.

Q: Why Cordata?

A: We looked for several years at many pieces of property and a number of existing buildings across a swatch of northern Bellingham. Several negotiations even fell through. This location is not perfect, but has much of what we were looking for. We'll be better serving our members in the north county and in Canada and will be able to better serve the growing population in the Cordata area.

Q: When will the store open?

A: If all the environmental assessments and permitting go well, we'll be ready to break ground in the summer of 2006. The store should open in early fall 2007.

For more information:

<http://www.communityfood.coop/about/2ndstore.html>

email: secondstore@communityfood.coop