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Road System at Gateway West Almost Complete

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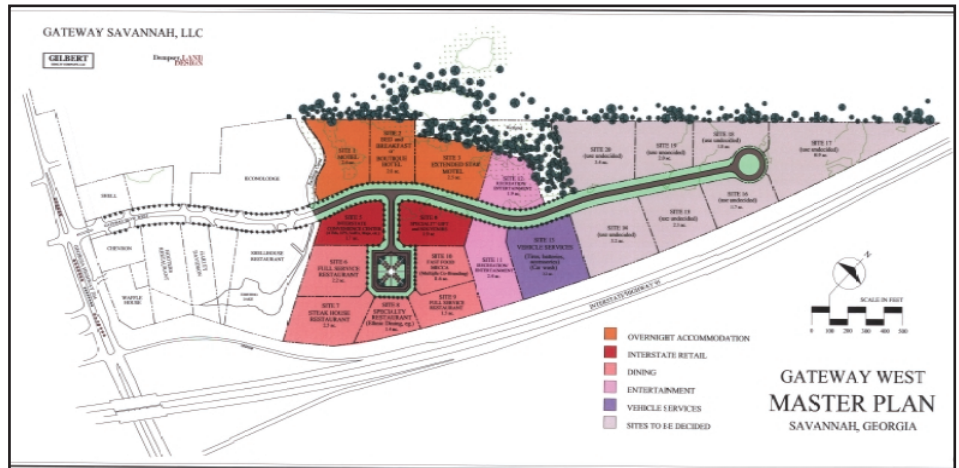
TBR Staff

The road system within the 55-acre hospitality site known as Gateway West is almost complete, and the water and sewer lines should be finished within 30 days, says commercial real estate broker Harvey Gilbert of Gilbert Realty Company, which is marketing the site. Gilbert is in discussions with several prospective tenants for the project.

"The project is really beginning to take shape," Gilbert said. "The primary interest is coming from restaurants, hotel and motel developers and entertainment-oriented uses."

Gilbert declined to name names, but said he anticipated making several announcements over the next three to four months of businesses coming in.

Gateway West is a 55-acre hospitality project at the northwest quadrant of Interstate 95 and Georgia Highway 204. Project developers have crafted a master



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plan with a total of 20 sites earmarked for hotel/motel, restaurant, entertainment, automobile service, gift shop and other uses. Project developers say Gateway West is destined to become a premiere hospitality destination for a large number of travelers.

In order to differentiate Gateway West from the abundance of interchange properties along the I-95 corridor, the developers said they have created architectural guidelines that call for extensive lighting, landscaping and monumental signage, along with a central square that encourages pedestrian activities, a kind of downtown Savannah square in miniature, Gilbert said. He said the site's location and its amenities make it an ideal stopping point or overnight stay for travelers.

"You know how it is when you're traveling and you've been in the car for hours," Gilbert said in a previous interview. "You're miserable, you're looking for some way to cap off the day, relax, get a little bit of exercise. You can stop at Gateway West, find a comfortable room, a good meal, and you can also go to downtown Savannah. The point being you're not just stopping at any interchange, you're stopping at the Gateway West interchange in Savannah, and having a distinctive lodging experience."

Other members of the consulting team include Dempsey Land Design and Thomas & Hutton Engineering. ■



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