

Redevelopment

DUBLIN MALL FINISHES RENOVATIONS *Mall grows bigger and better*

When the St. Patrick's Day festival rolled through Dublin, Georgia, this year, the shamrocks weren't the only things growing. A lot of changes occurred to the Dublin Mall in a year. The exterior of the mall underwent a dramatic makeover, including the addition of an impressive new entrance, a reader board, a freshly coated and striped parking lot and new parking lot lights. "It looks like a new mall," said Ky Widener, Vice-President of Operations for Hull Storey Retail Group.

The interior of the mall also received a new look. In keeping with the standards of the town, the mall's interior color scheme stayed with the traditional Dublin green. New carpeting and paint coupled with a new drop ceiling and increased lighting enhanced the ambiance of the mall and gave it a brighter, more modern feel. The old inset benches and flower beds were removed to make an open center court area where community activities and events are held. New benches, planters and trash receptacles complete the package.

The mall's tenant line-up is also growing. Bill Hatcher, the mayor of Statesboro, Georgia, expanded his Hallmark franchise into the Dublin Mall with Betsy's Hallmark. This is the third Hallmark store Mr. Hatcher operates in the Hull Storey portfolio. The other two stores are located in the Statesboro Mall in Statesboro, Georgia, and the Ponce de Leon Mall in St. Augustine, Florida.

Ribbon cutting and grand opening festivities were held May 11, 2004, for the Dublin Police Department's newest location, the Dublin Mall Substation. Dublin Police Chief, Wayne Cain, and Dublin Mayor, Phil Best, were among the many guests celebrating the grand opening. The substation is home base for the motorcycle department of the Dublin Police Department and contains the latest in fiber optic technology, allowing officers quick and easy access to departmental documents and records.

Dublin Mall is a 275,000 square foot enclosed regional mall anchored by JC Penney, Belk, Goody's, Farmer's Furniture and Office Max. The mall is located halfway between Atlanta and Savannah on US Highway 80 just north of Interstate 16. Dublin Mall is the only enclosed mall in its primary trade area which has a total population of over 110,000 people within a 35 mile area residing in Laurens County and a portion of Johnson, Emanuel, Treutlen, Montgomery, Toombs, Wheeler, Dodge, Bleckley and Wilkinson Counties.

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