

## THE AINBINDER COMPANY ANNOUNCES GROUND BREAKING OF WHOLE FOODS MARKET – ANCHORED PROJECT IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA

Ambassador Crossing to Open for Business in Fall of 2014.

October 11, 2013



The Ainbinder Company has broken ground on Ambassador Crossing Shopping Center located at the intersection of Ambassador Caffery Parkway and Settlers Trace Boulevard in Lafayette, Louisiana. The Ainbinder Company acquired the property from the Saloom Family of Lafayette.

Ambassador Crossing is expected to comprise approximately 108,000 sq. ft. of retail space on approximately 12 acres of land. Whole Foods Market will occupy 36,200 sq. ft. Other retailers that have committed to the project include J. Crew, Carter's Babies & Kids/Osh Kosh B'Gosh, Lee Michaels Jewelers, Massage Envy, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Which Wich and Superior Nails. The developer is currently negotiating with several upscale fashion and home furnishings retailers and restaurants for the remaining space in the project.

Chris Campion of CAC Realty in Houston represented Ainbinder and Rick Kirschman of Kirschman Realty in New Orleans represented Whole Foods Market. Jack Castle of Lafayette represented the Salooms. Construction financing is being provided by Ruben Alvarez of Sovereign Bank in Houston. Boucher Design Group of Houston is the architect and Paul Miers Engineering of Lafayette is the project engineer. Parkes Construction of Nashville, Tennessee is the general contractor. Project leasing is being handled by Shaw MacIntyre and Ed James of UCR Moody Rambin Page in Houston.

According to Michael Ainbinder, "The City of Lafayette and, in particular, Mayor Joey Durel and Chief Administrative Officer Dee Stanley, have been very supportive of the project and great to work with." Ainbinder Company President Bart Duckworth states that "Leasing activity has been very brisk, and the strong economy and retail sales in Lafayette have attracted a lot of tenant interest."

The Ainbinder Company is a Houston-based real estate firm specializing in the acquisition, development and redevelopment of retail real estate throughout the United States. Whole Foods Market is an Austin, Texas – based natural foods grocer with over 340 stores in the United States, the UK and Canada.

For Leasing Information:

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