

Palladium-Item (Richmond)



Goodwill to relocate store in mid-2018

Company: New building to provide better experience

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Goodwill's Richmond store will change locations in mid-2018, following the construction of a new building to the north of National Road.

The new, 12,600-square-foot location, which does not yet have a finalized address, is expected to be built along Hayes Arboretum Road to the south of its intersection with Woodside Drive.

Goodwill of Central and Southern Indiana, which operates the local thrift store, plans to lease the building on a long-term basis from the builder, ac-

ording to Cindy Graham, the company's vice president of marketing. Sullivan Commercial will be the developer and owner of the site.

"This is going to give us more sales floor space, so it will be a better experience for those who shop with us," Graham said. "It will also give us a better donation experience, as well."

The store will feature a variety of amenities found at other new Goodwill locations, including a covered, double lane drop-off area and a new floor layout. The layout changes include a serpentine-style check out area with five cash registers. The current location has three registers. The current building has about 13,000-square-feet.

Graham said the new building is expected to open in mid-2018, and the cur-

rent store will stay open until the new store is completed. Construction on the new building has not started, and a timetable for the work has not yet been made public.

She said the decision to build new came out of an opportunity to give customers an "enhanced experience."

"It's a win-win on the shopper and donor side in terms of experience," she said. "We're always looking for the opportunity to be able to handle as many donations as are being generated by the community."

She said the new building will feature some skylights, allowing for more natural light to come into the building. She noted that the skylights won't have an impact on the merchandise or sales, but are intended to give shoppers a unique

experience in the store.

Goodwill has had a location in the Richmond area since 1990, and for 10 years has operated out of its current location in the National Road strip mall with Big Lots, Save-A-Lot and Planet Fitness,

Graham said that while there are no plans in the works for an additional Goodwill location in Richmond, it's not something the company has ruled out.

"Never say never; we've been in Richmond for a long time, and we intend to be (here) for a long time," she said. "It'll really just depend on market conditions."

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