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New Brewery Square Coming to Victoria

ENKI Brewing and Hartman Communities to jointly develop new retail destination

Victoria, MN (November 6, 2015) – ENKI Brewing and Hartman Communities have inked a deal to buy the former HEI headquarters property in Victoria to develop Brewery Square, a new brewery, taproom and retail destination. The deal is being finalized this week.

The property at 1495 Steiger Lake Lane in Victoria consists of a 43,000 square foot building and 4.7-acre parcel. If everything goes as planned, ENKI will move from its current location two blocks away into a new 20,000 square foot brewery and taproom.

“We’ve built strong relationships with the city’s leadership and with so many people in the surrounding communities who have supported us since the beginning so want to stay in town. We’re still evaluating a variety of options to address our long-term needs, but right now this building affords us considerable space and flexibility for future growth,” said John Hayes, ENKI president and co-founder.

Hartman Communities plans to redevelop the other 23,000 square feet into retail shops, potentially including a hardware store and restaurant. Copperwood Real Estate will be responsible for leasing the retail space.

The continued growth of the Victoria community and the demand for more retail space prompted the developer to repurpose the former industrial building in the downtown Central Business District.

Initial plans include preserving the original building footprint while recycling the interior from manufacturing and outdated offices to energetic and flexible retail spaces. The exterior will be re-styled with stone and brick accents, charming storefronts and individual signage with direct highway exposure. Space sizes range from 1,400 to 12,000 square feet.

“The success of our local craft brewery will be a great neighbor in creating a place where people will gather for shopping, entertainment and dining,” said Terry Hartman, Hartman Communities company partner.

ENKI’s preliminary concept plan for the new brewery and taproom includes:

- A 20,000 square foot brewery and taproom to anchor the development, with an outdoor beer garden and space for private events

- A new packaging operation to introduce ENKI beers in cans
- A pilot brewing system for additional seasonal and collaboration beers
- A barrel-aged beer program

“This new location will allow us to increase production capacity to 14,000 barrels per year. That’s 10 times our current level,” said Dan Norton, ENKI vice president and co-founder.

The plan shares similarities with Surly brewing project, although on a much smaller scale, where Surly created a destination brewery, with public participation in financing the project.

HGA Architects, who also designed Surly’s brewery, will design the new space.

ENKI anticipates seeking subsidies or local aid to make this project a reality. They are actively engaging in discussions with the city and others to integrate the project into the city’s vision for long-term economic development.

ENKI and Hartman estimate the brewery and retail project will cost more than \$4 million and could be completed by the end of 2016.

About ENKI Brewing

ENKI Brewing was established in Victoria, Minnesota in June 2013. Owners Dan Norton and John Hayes, both Victoria residents, assembled a talented team including brew master, Jason Davis, whose beers have received 3 awards at the Great American Beer Festival. ENKI beer brands include Journey English-style pale ale, Tail Feather India pale ale, Victoria’s Gold cream ale, Cacao chocolate porter, and seasonal limited-release beers. ENKI beers are available in bars, restaurants and liquor stores throughout Carver County and the western suburbs of Minneapolis/St. Paul.

About Hartman Communities

Hartman Communities has been building and developing locally in Victoria and the surrounding suburbs for over fifty years. The multi-faceted real estate development company’s projects include residential, commercial and industrial land development as well as homebuilding, commercial leasing and property management.