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Fairfield business to build a \$1.1M facility, add jobs

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By Michael D. Pitman

Staff Writer

FAIRFIELD — Loveland Excavating and Paving will begin to make a two-mile move this spring out of its rented Le Saint Drive location to a projected \$1.1 million facility to be built on Osborne Drive.

The city of Fairfield will waive \$3,000 in permit fees during the construction of the new 10,000-square-foot building that will be on a 23-acre campus because it has outgrown its space. Only nine acres will be used for the building, with the remaining 14 acres kept as green space, he said.

Matt Brennan, owner of the Loveland Excavating and Paving, said he looked "all over the tri-state" for a suitable location "and we were fortunate enough to find 23 acres on Osborne Drive."

Osborne said the new building will include a "nice big pond" on the campus that will "create a park-like setting" for employees.

"We feel very fortunate that we were able to get through the rough economy and our growth this year is almost double in sales from 2014, so we're excited about our future," said Brennan. "I can't tell you what the building means to me personally, having been through the tough times, but I'm very proud of our employees and what we've been able to accomplish so we're very, very excited about this project."

Construction is expected to start in March, and they'll be moved into the new facility by the fall, he said.

Fairfield City Manager Mark Wendling told city council before it considered legislation to waive the permit fees that Loveland Excavating's growth "is a good problem to have," but more importantly, he said, is finding the space that keeps a growing business in Fairfield.

Fairfield Economic Development Manager Greg Kathman said it's important to keep Fairfield businesses in Fairfield as "it's easier to keep existing companies than attract new ones."

And the company's positive growth "bodes well for the future," not only for the company but for the city of Fairfield.

"We are fortunate we have a really good mix of different types of businesses in our community," said Kathman "We have some large employers, medium-sized employers, a lot of small business, industrial and retail employers ... this is a good company in the construction industry, it will add to the diversity of our companies, and they do a lot of work around the region."

With the move, Brennan anticipates adding 10 to 15 new employees over the next two to three years to their staff of 50 employees. He also anticipates sales growth of 10 percent to 15 percent annually after the move. Brennan said he's projecting 25 percent to 30 percent sales growth by the end of 2015 over 2014.

Loveland Excavating and Paving is a heavy site contractor that moves earth, installs underground utilities and completes paving work. For the past 2½ years, they've been the contractor for work at Koch Foods, where they've moved around 230,000 cubic yards of earth and have installed three miles worth of utilities.

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