



Buckeye Spectrum power center is planned

146-acre power project could be finished by 2011

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Buckeye has another regional power center in the works.

Buckeye Spectrum, a 146-acre project on the northeastern corner of Arizona 85 and Southern Avenue, is to include big-box retail, industrial space and apartments.

The developer, Barclay Group of Scottsdale, said the project is in the planning stages. If approved, construction could begin within a year and the final stages could be finished by 2011.

Buckeye Spectrum could boast at least two anchors and various smaller stores, 40 acres of industrial space and 20 acres for an apartment complex with about 400 units.

The development plan needs approval from the Buckeye Town Council. Officials are unsure when the project will appear on the council's agenda, but there's no question the town wants to draw retailers.

"It's absolutely critical that we have a well-rounded community," said Lori Gary, Buckeye's economic development director. "We do not want to be a bedroom community. We have a big job ahead of us and having major shopping areas is critical to our success."

Buckeye Spectrum would be south of Buckeye's West Park community, which has about 5,000 homes, and north of the Benessere community's 4,100 projected homes. The site is less than 10 miles from Sun Valley Parkway's massive development corridor.

"The big issue for us and other developers with similar projects is making sure we have water and sewer," said Trey Eakin, Barclay's senior vice president of development. "This will be unique from a design standpoint. And we are right in the center of the wheel where all the growth will be in the future."

Buckeye Spectrum joins a list of other major commercial plans, including:

- Buckeye Parkway Center, a 74-acre project at Interstate 10 and Verrado Way that will include a Super Target and is scheduled to open in 2008.
- Tartesso Town Center, which could have two neighboring shopping centers and an auto mall on 500 acres at Interstate 10 and Sun Valley Parkway.

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