

Ho-Chunk to highlight several large Siouxland projects Thursday



6 HOURS AGO • KIRBY KAUFMAN
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SIoux CITY | Ho-Chunk Inc. will highlight several big economic development projects in metro Sioux City Thursday, including a previously unannounced \$7.5 million upscale apartment complex in Dakota Dunes.

The effort to push growth in Siouxland also includes a 200-acre housing and commercial addition in South Sioux City and

two other commercial projects in downtown Sioux City, officials told the Journal on Wednesday.

“What we’re going to unveil is going to fulfill a major commitment from Ho-Chunk Inc. to the Sioux City area,” said Lance Morgan, president and CEO of Ho-Chunk, the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska’s economic development corporation.

Morgan said the projects are expected to total more than \$100 million in financial investments over 10 years.

Ho-Chunk officials were scheduled to provide more details, including architectural renderings and project completion dates, during an 11 a.m. news conference Thursday at the Ho-Chunk Centre, 600 Fourth St.

Janice Jessen, managing director of Blue Earth Marketing, a subsidiary of Ho-Chunk, said the high-end apartments in Dakota Dunes will be called Dakota 303.

Dennis Johnson, Ho-Chunk’s chief investment officer, said Wednesday that construction workers had broken ground on the site.

Gary Roan, a design manager at Dakota Dunes Development, said the apartments will be at 303 Dakota Dunes Blvd., which intersects with Sioux Point Road.

The two projects in Sioux City include Virginia Square, which is currently under construction in the 100 block of Virginia Street, near the intersection with Gordon Drive, and two mixed-use developments at 607 and 615 Pearl St.

In October, Johnson said the first building at Virginia Square will be completed by spring, with total completion by late 2017. The project could include shopping, apartments and a restaurant.

The corporation also is moving ahead with a 200-acre development, called Flatwater Crossing, on the riverfront in South Sioux City. The land, composed of mostly sand beaches and trees, extends about a mile along the Missouri River and sits across from the Floyd Monument on the Iowa side of the river.

Ho-Chunk officials took interest in South Sioux City's riverfront after the Sioux City John Morrell pork plant closed in 2010. Odor from the aging slaughter plant carried across the river, which had discouraged building homes there.