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American Woodmark building headquarters in Frederick

JOSH JANNEY The Winchester Star Updated 7 hrs ago

WINCHESTER — The American Woodmark Corp., a major manufacturer of quality home kitchen and bath cabinets, announced Thursday it will invest \$30 million to build a new corporate headquarters building in Frederick County.

The manufacturing company said the new space will consolidate employees that currently occupy four buildings in the Winchester-Frederick County area. The project will retain 377 jobs, in addition to creating 55 new ones.

Frederick County worked with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership to secure the project for the commonwealth.

“We played a role in trying to work with them on their site location options,” said Patrick Barker, the executive director for the county’s economic development authority. “It was a competitive project with Virginia and West Virginia in the conversation, and we wanted to make sure that the project stayed inside Virginia and obviously in the Frederick County-Winchester area.”

Barker said the local American Woodmark locations are being leased, and this new building will be owned by the company.

“Obviously retaining a company of American Woodmark’s caliber is a positive contribution to the Frederick County community,” Barker said. “We are delighted that they made a decision to stay, and we look forward to a long-term, extended relationship with them.”

While the precise size and location of the new headquarters has not yet been announced, Barker said it will be east of Shady Elm Road (Route 651) and west of the railroad near the intersection of Renaissance Drive and Valley Pike (U.S. 11).

American Woodmark qualifies for road access funding from the Virginia Department of Transportation, according to a news release from Gov. Terry McAuliffe. Funding and services to support the company’s employee training activities will be provided through the Virginia Jobs Investment Program.

McAuliffe said in the release it is a top priority of his administration to ensure companies central to the economic strength of a region have the resources and support to thrive. He approved a \$550,000 grant from the Commonwealth’s Opportunity Fund to assist the county with the project.

American Woodmark operates nine manufacturing facilities and seven service centers across the country. The corporation offers more than 500 cabinet styles, which are sold through a nationwide network of homebuilders, independent dealers and distributors, as well as Lowe’s and The Home Depot.

“Frederick County is recognized as a great location for business and careers because of companies like American Woodmark,” said Board of Supervisors Chairman Charles DeHaven Jr. in the release. “Retaining these valuable jobs and bringing further opportunities for Frederick County residents was an important consideration in competing for this project. We’re pleased our relationship with American Woodmark will continue for years to come.”

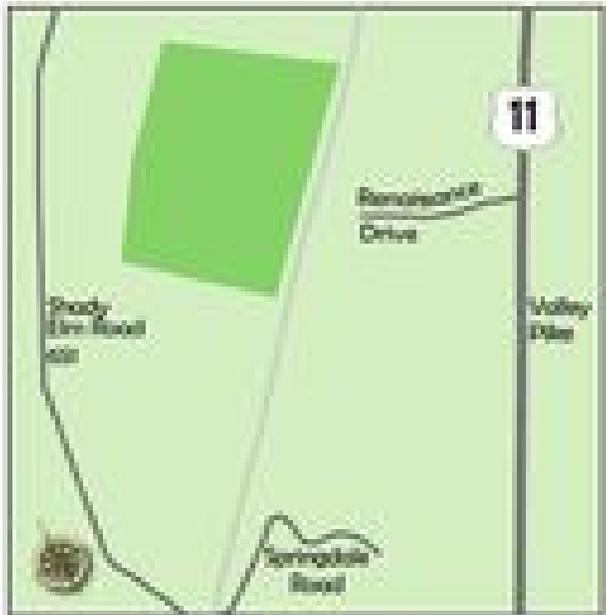
Cary Dunston, president and CEO of American Woodmark, said in the release he is “extremely excited” to create a central corporate office.

“By bringing our employees together at one location, we will further strengthen our interpersonal connections, drive efficiency in our day-to-day interactions and greatly enhance our ability to move our culture towards our vision,” Dunston said.

Twenty-ninth District Del. Chris Collins, R-Frederick County, also said he was excited about the company’s decision to consolidate its operations locally.

“This is a testament to the pro-business environment within the Shenandoah Valley, and especially the Winchester-Frederick County community ...,” he said. “This investment is just another great step forward in making the top of Virginia a place to do business.”

— Contact Josh Janney at jjanney@winchesterstar.com



Woodmark map
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