

Balke Brown Plays “Encore” at Forest Park Highlands

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Local real estate development firm Balke Brown Transwestern recently announced plans to open a new apartment complex consisting of 246 units at The Highlands at Forest Park, with anticipated occupancy in 2017.

Encore is designed by Humphreys & Partners and will be constructed by Holland Construction Services.

The project at 5714 Highlands Plaza Drive, named Encore at Forest Park, will be the final phase of the \$250MM Highlands at Forest Park development. The team at Balke Brown Transwestern has spent the last 15 years developing the 26-acre site along the Southern border of Forest Park next to I-64/40, and the \$51MM Encore apartments will occupy the remaining 3 acres of vacant land.

When Encore is completed, the Highlands at Forest Park will contain 725 apartments, 126 hotel rooms, 300,000 SF of office space and 20,000 SF of retail, including local favorites Comet Coffee and Yoga Six studio. Encore at Forest Park will be located in the center of this community-within-a-community, which boasts convenient access to all major highways, nearby biking trails and city attractions.

“The Highlands at Forest Park has truly been a labor of love,” said developer Steve Brown, adding that Encore at Forest Park is a “perfect culmination of our team’s many years of hard work and investment in this community.” Otis Williams, Executive Director of the St. Louis Development Corporation, agrees. Williams has been involved in the Highlands at Forest Park land negotiations from the beginning and praised developers Steve Brown and Gary Balke for their longstanding commitment to the project. “Over the years, Balke Brown Transwestern has put a lot of hard work into each of the individual buildings at the Highlands, and I’m sure Encore at Forest Park will be built with the same level of care”, said Williams.

The overall design and name of Encore at Forest Park reference the firm’s recently completed Cortona at Forest Park, recently named Property of the Year by both IREM and the St. Louis Apartment Association. Encore at Forest Park will incorporate all of the popular amenities its sister property currently offers, such as a quarter-acre resort-style courtyard, pet-friendly facilities, a fitness studio and a multi-level pool. Encore at Forest Park will add an expanded amenity package and upgraded apartment interiors in its 37 studio, 79 two bedroom and 126 one bedroom apartments. The property will also have 4 penthouse three bedrooms with views over the entire campus and Forest Park.

Brown says that the rapid success of Cortona at Forest Park signals that there is still a demand for quality rental housing in the growing St. Louis market surrounding Forest Park, especially when coupled with professional services that residents expect. “At Balke Brown Transwestern, we strive to provide a comfortable home for our residents with the highest level of service.

For more information on Encore at Forest Park, visit www.encore.apartments.