



## **Englewood Construction Announces Five New Retail Projects in Chicago, St. Louis and Washington, D.C. Metro Areas**

Englewood Construction, one of the country's leading national retail construction firms, announces four new projects in the Midwest and one in Washington, D.C., continuing the positive momentum the firm, as well as the retail industry as a whole, began experiencing in the second half of 2010.



**Englewood Construction has begun work on a string of new retail projects, including a 14,801-square-foot Trader Joe's that will be located at 667 West Diversey in Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood (shown here).**

“We have been very optimistic about the industry for this year, and we are off to a strong start with five exciting projects right out of the gate for national, category-leading brands, including Trader Joe's, American Girl, Destination Maternity and Advance Auto Parts,” said William Di Santo, president of Englewood Construction.

In the Chicago area, the Lemont, Ill.-based company has been tapped for three new retail projects, including the interior build-out for the Trader Joe's coming to 667 West Diversey in Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood. The Monrovia, Calif.-based specialty retail grocer will occupy 14,801 square feet of first-floor retail space, topped by a two-story parking deck. The Diversey store, designed by Trader Joe's resident architect Jeffrey Taylor, will include a chef's tasting station. This will be the rapidly-expanding national brand's 17<sup>th</sup> Chicagoland location and will open in April.

"We've worked with Trader Joe's years ago, so it's exciting to partner with them again on such an engaging location," said Di Santo. "In fact, our team built the adjacent Barnes & Noble store in 1992. It's vacant now, but I'm sure it will be occupied soon. This location is too good to have retail space sit empty for long."

Englewood Construction also has begun work on a 6,920-square-foot Advance Auto Parts located at 696 E. Roosevelt Road in Glen Ellyn, Ill. The after-market automotive parts retailer has more than 3,500 stores nationwide. When it opens in February, the Glen Ellyn store will be the brand's 11<sup>th</sup> Chicagoland location. Richard D. Nyman and Associates out of West Chicago, Ill. is the architect.

Destination Maternity, an international clothing retailer for expectant mothers has tapped Englewood Construction for two new stores, under two different brand names. The first store is a 3,760-square-foot Destination Maternity at Orland Park Place Mall that will carry the firm's brands Destination Maternity, Pea in a Pod and Motherhood Maternity. The inline space store will also include a "kiddie corral," juice bar and relaxation section.

The second store will be located outside of St. Louis in Fairview Heights, Ill., and will have the name Motherhood Maternity, selling that line of brand clothing only. The 2,000-square-foot space is in the Lincoln Place Shopping Center, about 15 miles east of downtown St. Louis. Dallas-based Cortland Morgan Architects is serving as architect for both projects, which will be completed this month.

"The difficult economy of the last few years has left many vacant storefronts for the picking. Savvy retailers see the opportunity in these existing spaces for decreased construction costs – with the right contractor," noted Di Santo. "A company like Destination Maternity recognizes there are efficiencies and savings to be had in hiring us to work on two different locations. We're just one point of contact for them and the architect."

Englewood Construction has also started the interior build-out for a 20,000-square-foot American Girl boutique store, located at the Tyson's Corner mall in McLean, Va. This will be the first store in the Washington, D.C. area for the boutique doll retailer. The project includes retrofitting a wing of the mall, built in the late 1960s, to accommodate American Girl. The boutique store will include special features such as a doll salon, full-service bistro and separate snack counter. Morristown, N.J.-based Jacobs is the architect for the store.

"This is the sixth American Girl store we have worked on and a great example of our expertise in working with national retailers with stores that offer a unique shopping environment and experience," said Di Santo. "Englewood Construction is different in that we take the time to understand the culture of each company and goals for each venue, which really resonates with our clients who have a very specific niche in the market."

The American Girl store is on track for completion by June.

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1/25/11