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From the Puget Sound Business Journal:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/seattle/news/2018/01/25/des-moines-creek-business-park-faa-regional-hq-job.html>

Real estate moves

The Puget Sound region's hot new jobs center is Des Moines

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Rush hour in Des Moines is about to get stickier with the arrival of up to 1,500 federal employees.

That is how many people will move into the Federal Aviation Administration's new regional headquarters building at the corner of South 216th Street and 24th Avenue South in Des Moines Creek Business Park. The city on Tuesday issued the certificate of occupancy for the 280,000-square-foot building.



ANTHONY BOLANTE | PSBJ

The FAA's new regional headquarters in Des Moines got its certificate of occupancy Tuesday.

The FAA is consolidating operations mostly from Renton and planned to start moving the first wave of employees into the building this weekend, but that has been pushed back until mid-February, Des Moines City Manager [Michael Matthias](#) said.

Convenience food maker Greencore Group and [AmerisourceBergen Corp.](#), a wholesale distributor of prescription drugs, are already at Des Moines Creek. Bartell Drugs soon will move its Seattle distribution center operation to Des Moines.

These companies, the FAA and other employers will have around 2,400 workers at Des Moines Creek, which is about three miles south of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

It's a remarkable change for the neighborhood from four years ago, when developer Panattoni broke ground on the 1.5-million-square-foot project on land owned by the Port of Seattle. Meanwhile, more business park development is occurring nearby.

"It's a game-changer for our city," said Matthias, who anticipates the activity will spark real estate and business development in downtown Des Moines about a mile to the west.

Matthias said real estate developers are poking around downtown and the Des Moines marina district, where citizens have said they would like to see office space, a boutique hotel and retail shops built.

To help alleviate traffic congestion, King County Metro is launching a van service between the Angle Lake light rail station in SeaTac and the marina. The shuttle will include a stop by one of Des Moines' largest employers, the [Wesley Homes](#) retirement community, which Matthias said is undergoing an approximately \$175 million renovation.

It's unclear how many FAA employees plan to take transit to work. The agency brought Metro in to talk about commuting options, and around 250 employees attended. That's about how many FAA employees use transit now, according to an agency estimate.

Des Moines

Population: 30,687

Businesses: 2,316

Median household income: \$60,898

Source: Soundside Alliance

Des Moines Creek Business Park employers

Federal Aviation Administration

AmerisourceBergen Corp.

Banzai Sushi
Greencore
K2 Sports
Organically Grown Co.
Partners Crackers
PODS
Meiko America
XPO Logistics

Source: City of Des Moines

Marc Stiles

Staff Writer

Puget Sound Business Journal

