



Jefferson College Purchases Land Future Site in Northwest Jefferson County

Seeking to fulfill a longstanding commitment to provide expanded higher education services and programs to residents in Northwest Jefferson County, the Jefferson College Board of Trustees recently approved a \$2 million purchase of approximately 24 acres of property for a future education center on Highway 30 near Byrnes Mill.

Thanks to cooperative efforts by College administrators and the Jefferson College Foundation, which lead to the identification of the property owned by businessman David Alt, the decision to purchase the land will allow Jefferson College to establish a significant long term presence along the Highway 30 corridor. The purchase follows years of discussion and an exhaustive search for suitable property north of Highways M and MM as suggested by the 2001 Blue Ribbon Commission regarding higher education needs in Northern Jefferson County.

The property fronts Highway 30, which forms its western border, and Gravois Road (old Highway 30), which forms its eastern border.

No timetable has been established for construction at the new site. However, with the rise in land prices along Highway 30 and the increase in population, the property purchase is an investment of historic proportions in the future of Jefferson College.

The growth in Northwest Jefferson County and along the Highway 30 corridor has been significant and evidence suggests it will continue. The overwhelming success of the opening of Jefferson College's new High Ridge facility is further evidence of the growth and increasing demand for services along Highway 30.

Having the main campus in Hillsboro (the geographic center of the county), a new facility in Arnold (opening fall 2007), and one day having a facility along the Northwest corridor, the College will be better equipped to serve all citizens in the county. In the future, Jefferson College will be positioned with three educational support centers; each able to serve the population base of the immediate area; and each only a 20-25 minute commute from the other.