



JOSE HUIZAR
COUNCILMEMBER, 14TH DISTRICT

*** * * PRESS RELEASE * * ***

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Whole Foods Market® Joins with Los Angeles City Councilmember José Huizar and Carmel Partners to Announce Plans for Downtown LA Store

Grand Avenue location will bring natural and organic food service to a growing Downtown Los Angeles community

LOS ANGELES, CA (July 31, 2013) – Whole Foods Market – the world’s leading organic and natural foods supermarket – joined Los Angeles City Councilmember José Huizar and Carmel Partners today in announcing plans to open a new 42,000 square-foot store at Carmel Partners' 700 unit luxury apartment project located at 770 Grand Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles.

The Downtown Los Angeles store is scheduled to open in 2015 and will create 200 quality jobs for the local community. For 16 consecutive years, Whole Foods Market has been ranked as one of the “100 Best Companies to Work For” in America by *FORTUNE* magazine.

"We are honored to finally be opening a store in Downtown LA," said Patrick Bradley, president, Whole Foods Market Southern Pacific Region. "We've been looking for the right space for close to 10 years as we know that access to natural and organic foods in this neighborhood has been challenging. It makes us very happy to know that we will be filling this need. And, we look forward to working closely with the local community as well as Councilmember Huizar's office as we develop a store that delivers exactly what the community wants and needs."

The revitalization of Downtown Los Angeles has resulted in a population boon from just 10,000 residents 10 years ago to nearly 50,000 now calling Downtown L.A. home.

"Downtown Los Angeles is like a city within the city that needs a diverse range of services – including grocery stores. Bringing Whole Foods Market to Downtown is long-awaited news that represents a major coup for Downtown and is an investment in this rapidly growing urban market" said Councilmember José Huizar. "We look forward to continuing our joint partnership with the developer and city departments to ensure that Whole Foods Market comes to Downtown as swiftly as possible."

(more)

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Whole Foods Market Coming to Downtown Los Angeles

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Whole Foods Market announced signing a lease with Carmel Partners for Downtown Los Angeles earlier today during its third quarter earnings call on July 31, 2013.

"We are excited to welcome Whole Foods Market to our project in Downtown Los Angeles," said Ron Zeff, CEO of Carmel Partners. "We see this as a wonderful step in the continuing evolution of LA's Downtown and believe that the Whole Foods Market will be an outstanding amenity for the neighborhood and our residents."

About Whole Foods Market®

Founded in 1980 in Austin, Texas, Whole Foods Market (wholefoodsmarket.com, NASDAQ: WFM), is the leading natural and organic food retailer. As America's first national certified organic grocer, Whole Foods Market was named "America's Healthiest Grocery Store" by *Health* magazine. The company's motto, "Whole Foods, Whole People, Whole Planet"™ captures its mission to ensure customer satisfaction and health, Team Member excellence and happiness, enhanced shareholder value, community support and environmental improvement. Thanks to the company's more than 73,000 Team Members, Whole Foods Market has been ranked as one of the "100 Best Companies to Work For" in America by *FORTUNE* magazine for 16 consecutive years. In fiscal year 2012, the company had sales of \$11.7 billion and currently has more than 350 stores in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom.

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