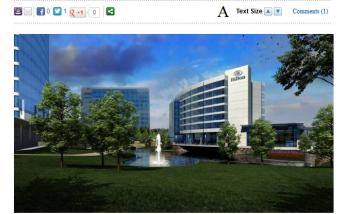


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## Hilton Hotel planned for Plano's Granite Park project

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A rendering shows plans for the Hilton Hotel at Granite Park. Boka Powell LLC of Dallas is the project's

By STEVE BROWN Real Estate Editor

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A new full-service Hilton Hotel is in the works for a site on the Dallas North Tollway in Plano

The project, which is to start early next year, will be one of the first commercial hotels begun in the Dallas

Developer Granite Properties plans to build the nine-story hotel and conference facility as part of its 90-acre Granite Park complex at the southeast corner of the tollway and State Highway 121.

Granite chose to build the hotel because of the need for new accommodations and meeting space in the area around the Legacy business park.

"We had independent studies done and are very confident for the demand for this project," said Granite chief operating officer Greg Fuller. "It will be an amenity that will drive more office tenants to our project.

"We have lost some opportunities for businesses to move to Granite Park because we didn't have this facility," he said.

Granite plans to have its new hotel open in mid-2014.

The building is being designed by Dallas architect Boka Powell LLC, which was also on the design team for the Omni Dallas Hotel at the Dallas Convention Center.

Hilton Hotels & Resorts will operate the hotel when it's completed. The closest Hilton-flagged hotel is now at Lincoln Center at LBJ Freeway and the tollway in North Dallas.

"They are very excited to have a presence in the market out here," Fuller said

The new Hilton's closest existing competitors will be the Marriott at Legacy Town Center just to the south, and Frisco Embassy Suites Hotel north of State Highway 121 near Stonebriar Center Mall

Along with the hotel, Granite Properties is planning additional office projects for its Granite Park

"We have designed our Granite Park 4 and 5 office buildings, which will be the next two major projects," Fuller said. "Because of this new hotel, we will probably get to that next office building sooner.

Granite Properties has been working on the Plano project since it bought the land in 1997

The developer has constructed three office towers with almost a million square feet of space plus supporting

The master plan for Granite Park includes more than 2.5 million square feet of construction with more than

Granite Properties is a privately held commercial real estate firm that has been in business since 1991. The company has offices in Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Houston and LA.