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Hotel, condos, stores slated at Rahway site

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STAFF REPORT

RAHWAY — A 15-story mixed-use project, featuring a hotel, condominiums and retail space, is planned for the corner of East Milton Avenue and Irving Street, across from the Rahway Train Station.

Groundbreaking is scheduled to be held Wednesday for Carriage City Hotel and Tower, a 380,000-square-foot tower. It will be the first mixed-use residential property in Union County combining three uses in one building, a configuration popular in New York and other cities.

Developer Carlos J. Silva, chairman and chief executive officer of the Silcon Group, and Rahway Mayor James J. Kennedy will unveil the project during a ceremony that is scheduled to include members of the Rahway Redevelopment Agency and state Sens. Raymond Lesniak, D-Union and Nicholas Scutari, D-Union, Middlesex, Somerset.

Construction is slated to begin this month and be completed by spring 2007.

"The growth of new housing around our train station that is breathing new life into Rahway has been accelerated with this ambitious new development. Our easy access to Newark Airport and Manhattan has made Rahway an extremely desirable place to live and work, and Carriage City is an example of that," Kennedy said.

"We are proud to be a part of the renaissance of downtown Rahway. This project is signaling the rebirth of Rahway as a vibrant, dynamic urban center and will enhance the image of the city for years to come," Silva said.

The project will add more than 20,000-square-feet of retail space and a 7,000-square-foot restaurant to downtown.

The complex will provide the city's only hotel, which will have 102 extended-stay studios and suites.

The building also will feature 209 one-bedroom and two-bedroom luxury condominiums, which will range in size from 850-square-feet for a one-bedroom to 1,600-square-foot two-bedroom penthouses. The preconstruction price is from the mid \$200,000s.

The condos will have views of the Manhattan skyline and the Watchung mountains. Building amenities will include a 24-hour concierge service, valet parking, a fitness center and spa and a roof-top deck and garden. Residents will have a 40-minute commute from the Rahway Train Station to Manhattan.

The project is being designed by the architectural firm of Nadaskay Kopelson in partnership with Arturo Palombo, both of Morristown.

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