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Oakwood Business Park buzzing with activity City to rezone and annex plot on Thurmon Tanner

Thurmon Tanner Parkway in Oakwood is continuing to buzz with activity.

The city's planning commission voted last month to recommend approval to rezone and annex nearly 11 acres in the 4000 block of the four-lane road for Aerocom to set up offices.

The company is moving from leased space in the Oakwood Industrial South Park off Rafe Banks Drive to slightly larger offices — about 12,000 square feet — in the burgeoning Tanners Creek Business Park along Thurmon Tanner.

“We had the opportunity to buy this building because the price was down,” said Richard Beaty, Aerocom president. “We’re going to go through renovations there to make it suitable for our company.”

The planning commission's recommendation now goes to the Oakwood City Council, which is set to meet at 7 p.m. June 10.

With the council's approval, construction could take place over the next three months, with a move-in by early September, Beaty said.

Aerocom, the U.S. distributor for Germany-based Aerocom GmbH, makes and installs pneumatic tube systems throughout the U.S. and Canada for such companies as Home Depot and Wal-Mart, as well as hospitals and manufacturers.

The company has been in Oakwood for about 10 years.

Oakwood, and Tanners Creek in particular, have become an industrial/office hot spot in Hall, with the opening of King's Hawaiian off H.F. Reed Industrial Parkway and plans for a new 36,000-square-foot facility, German-based Atlanta Biologicals' North American headquarters in Tanners Creek.

Bitzer US, which makes compressors for commercial refrigeration and air conditioning, plans to hold a grand opening Tuesday at its 95,000-square-foot, \$10 million building on 31 acres at Enterprise Way in the business park.

Oakwood announced in the spring a road project connecting its fledgling 32-acre industrial park on W White Road to Tanners Creek.

The project calls for extending Industry Way from its cul-de-sac in the Tanners Creek park to the industrial park — a 1,100-foot extension.

The city's goal is to have the road design completed this year and the project taking place in 2014.

Also, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs plans to open a 24,000-square-foot Community Based Outpatient Clinic on Tanners Creek Drive in August, officials said last week.

“We think (Tanners Creek) has done an excellent job with developing that (area),” Beaty said.

“We really like the location as it relates to the rest of Oakwood.”

Tanners Creek is being developed by The Wayne Co., a development and investment firm based in Flowery Branch, according to its website.