

First & Main shaped downtown's future in 2004

By Jennifer Reece
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Hudson – After nine years of anticipation, the grand opening of First & Main finally took place Oct. 8.

The \$50 million, 190,000-square-foot development was created to revitalize the downtown area.

Hudson voters approved the plans in November 2001, though the ground-work for the redevelopment actually began in August 1995 when the city adopted its comprehensive plan.

In November 1995, library board members also voted to expand into the downtown area, though progress proceeded slowly.

Although not all of the new stores at First & Main were open for the big day, additional restaurants and shops were slated to open in the weeks that followed.

The new library and Heinen's, the new downtown's main anchor store, are scheduled to open in 2005.

First & Main which combines the existing Main Street stores with the new shops, includes 110,000 square feet of retail space and 35,000 square feet of office space.

There also will be 45,000 square feet of residential space in the future.

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