

Kohl's to open customer-service center in San Antonio

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Kohl's Department Stores will open a customer operations center in San Antonio this summer that is expected to employ 200 people initially and could potentially create 1,000 jobs over the next three years.

The Wisconsin-based retail company signed a long-term lease on a 102,000-square-foot, two-story building that will house the new center. Known as Westover Office Center I, the building is located at 10000 Rogers Run, in the Westover Hills community on the city's far West Side.

"We're committed to providing exceptional customer service, and the new facility will help ensure that Kohl's Charge and Kohl's.com customers can continue to expect great things from Kohl's," says Wes McDonald, Kohl's executive vice president and chief financial officer. "We currently operate a customer operations center and a distribution center in Corsicana (Texas) as well as 80 Kohl's stores throughout Texas, so we're pleased to expand our presence in the state and bring additional jobs to the San Antonio community."

Gov. Rick Perry said Tuesday that the state will contribute \$750,000 from the Texas Enterprise Fund to assist Kohl's in its expansion.

"Our goal is to create thousands of new jobs for San Antonians in 2010, and this announcement goes a long way toward fulfilling that mission," San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro says. "We also aim to bring sustainable, eco-friendly business and opportunity to San Antonio. In 2009, Kohl's was named, by Newsweek magazine, the country's leading green retailer and ranked in the top 20 greenest companies nationwide."

Hiring for the center is expected to begin in June; it is expected to open in July 2010.

Steve Hall, managing director of the San Antonio office of GVA Cawley, says that the Kohl's lease is the latest in a slate of sizable, high-profile leases in the Alamo City.

"The momentum demonstrated by the announcements of several large users coming to San Antonio over the last 18 months only confirms the strength of our marketplace as a great corporate environment," says Hall, whose office was hired to market the Westover Office Center on behalf of the developer, Dallas-based **Myers & Crow Co.**

The building housing the Kohl's operation is Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified at the Silver level, and Kohl's says it will seek to maintain or expand the LEED designation for the facility. With the addition of the new San Antonio facility, Kohl's will operate three customer operations centers. The other centers are located in Corsicana and Menomonee Falls, Wis.

Job-seekers interested in career opportunities at the San Antonio facility can visit www.kohlscareers.com for more information and a list of available positions.

Kohl's (NYSE: KSS) operates 1,067 stores in 49 states.