

LAND AND SPACE

Northwestern Mutual is adding a public convenience store to its downtown campus



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Northwestern Mutual is adding a convenience store to its downtown Milwaukee campus.

The 4,090-square-foot store will be on the first floor of the office tower and commons, which is between East Mason Street and East Wisconsin Avenue just west of North Prospect Avenue.

The store will serve company employees but will be open to the public through a Mason Street entrance, it was announced Thursday.

It will include snacks, grab-and-go food items, beverages, household items and gifts, "while also providing a meeting and collaboration space," a company statement said

The store, to open in late fall, will have a beverage bar featuring juice, smoothies, and coffee, and a bakery counter.

Meanwhile, the Starbucks is moving within the commons into bigger space at Mason Street and Prospect Avenue that will include a public entrance and patio. That's to occur in 2025.

The news comes after Northwestern Mutual announced March 5 it will build a bike storage facility at the commons to accommodate cycling commuters. It will host 154 bikes internally, with 16 spaces on the exterior for public use.

Northwestern Mutual is expanding its campus by redeveloping an 18-story office building at 818 E. Mason St., just north of the commons.

That \$500 million project is to be completed in 2027. The company will move its Franklin operations, with around 2,000 employees, to its downtown buildings.

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SHOPPING

New Northwestern Mutual Commons convenience store will be open to the public

A new convenience store will open in the lobby of Northwestern Mutual's Commons building, 805 E. Mason St., in response to requests from employees, but it will be open to the public, too, weekdays from 6:30 a.m. until 6 p.m.



By [Bobby Tanzilo](#)
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The east end of Downtown is getting a new 4,000-square-foot convenience store, but not perhaps where you might expect.



The store will open in the lobby of Northwestern Mutual's Commons building, 805 E. Mason St., in response to requests from employees, but it will be open to the public, too, weekdays from 6:30 a.m. until 6 p.m.

The store is expected to offer snacks, grab-and-go food, beverages, gifts and household items, and will have a beverage bar with coffee, smoothies and juices, bakery items, soups, sandwiches, and even a meeting and collaboration space.



The public can access the store most easily via the Mason Street entrance.

It is expected to open by late autumn.



Also in the Commons lobby, the current Starbucks location will, in 2025, move in over to a space near Mason and Prospect, which will provide space for a larger cafe, a public entrance and outdoor seating on a patio.

The lobby re-jigging will also find the Northwestern Mutual Credit Union will moving west in the Commons later this year.



A rendering shows how the North Office Building exterior will match its neighboring tower.

In the meantime, [work continues to revamp the company's 1990 North Office Building.](#)

That \$500 million interior and exterior makeover will help Northwestern Mutual move 2,000 employees Downtown from Franklin in coming years.