

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 30, 2024
TO: York County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Mark L. Bellamy, Jr., County Administrator 
SUBJECT: Beale's/Virginia Beer Company Update

In August, it was announced that the Beale's building in York County will become the second location for The Virginia Beer Company. The brewery signed a lease for the property with Waukeshaw, the developer and parent company of Beale's.

Since 2016, The Virginia Beer Company has operated a microbrewery in The Edge District, a trendy area bordering Williamsburg, York County, and James City County. The company's new brewpub will offer not only craft beers, but also a full range of locally inspired food. Best of all, it will serve as a community gathering space with a family-friendly menu and indoor/outdoor seating.

The Virginia Beer Company team is committed to bringing the same quality and passion to their new location, as they have demonstrated for the existing location. Unlike their current site, where they rely on rotating food trucks, this new venue will offer them the chance to create their own dining menu for the first time.

The Economic Development Authority (EDA) and the County have closely followed the project's progress. Despite several starts, stops and delays, the EDA has remained in communication with the developer, working toward the goal of opening a sit-down restaurant, providing York County residents with a new dining option.

With the Beale's developer as the property owner and landlord, and The Virginia Beer Company as tenant and operator, the goal is expected to be achieved by early 2025. The forgiveness of the purchase price, as outlined in the original agreement, remains contingent on reaching specific milestones, which can be summarized as open and operating for one-year. The EDA is currently working on an amendment to the real estate purchase and sale agreement to reflect the project's current status.

A meeting is scheduled with The Virginia Beer Company for the first week of October to discuss updates, ideas for the new space, and a revised timeline for the remaining work needed for the anticipated 2025 opening.

Olsen/3525