

Lower Town bonds move forward

by Dan Meisler | Ann Arbor Business Review

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East Lansing-based developer Strathmore Development has made the first official step toward securing \$40 million in bond financing from the state for the massive mixed-use project in Ann Arbor known as Broadway Village at Lower Town.

The Michigan Strategic Fund Board approved an "inducement resolution" for the bonds, a step toward official authorization, on Tuesday.

The board is part of the Michigan Economic Development Corp., whose spokeswoman Bridget Beckman said the bond proposal still needs to go through a staff review and final approval by the board.

Strathmore President Scott Chappelle has said the that state bonds would help the company get a better interest rate for the general construction loan for the 7.3 acre project.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$172 million. It includes 185 housing units, 138,000 square feet of retail space, 152,000 square feet of offices and a 760-car parking structure.

The bond proceeds would be used to fund the parking deck, roadways, sidewalks and other infrastructure.