

BUILDING BLOCKS

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Leather Trades project might be revived

By Tim Bryant

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

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A downtown St. Louis residential project left in the lurch when Pyramid Construction collapsed might soon be revived.

Dominium Properties of Minneapolis has purchased the Leather Trades building at 1604 Locust Street and plans to transform the vacant, eight-story building into artists' lofts. Desiree Knapp, president of Amulet Development Co., says the Leather Trades building would be modeled on a successful Dominium project in St. Paul, Minn.

Under Dominium's plan, the Leather Trades building would get 81 one- or two-bedroom apartments. Rather than having individual live-work apartments, the Leather Trades would have artist studios in the building's storefronts.

Also in the building would be a dance studio and a recording studio.

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And a rooftop deck could be set up for performances, Knapp told people gathered last week for a meeting of the Downtown St. Louis Residents Association.

If, as Dominion hopes, financing comes through this month, work could begin next spring on the \$23.2 million project. The developer is applying for low-income historic tax credits. Knapp, whose company is working with Dominion on the project, told people at the meeting that the apartments would have a "very lofty finish." Pyramid had planned to put about 60 condos in the building. The company built a display unit and did some other interior work before going out of business in April 2008.

★★★★★ (8 votes, average: 5 out of 5)



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Bringing creative people into an area is often the precursor to revitalization; so if this project can really take shape I say, Awesome work, developers!

— Jennifer

2:01 pm August 27th, 2009

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