



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAKE MONSTER BREWING TO OPEN SAINT PAUL TAPROOM IN 2015

Microbrewery will be first new tenant at Vandalia Tower

SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA – Lake Monster Brewing is excited to announce a partnership with real estate developer First & First to open a new microbrewery and taproom at the Vandalia Tower complex located at 550 Vandalia Street in Saint Paul. Construction is set to begin soon and Lake Monster is hoping to begin production at the new brewery early next year and to open the taproom by summer 2015.

Since launching in late 2013, Lake Monster Brewing has earned fans across the Twin Cities with their two flagship beers – Empty Rowboat IPA and Calhoun Claw Pilsner. The beers are currently produced at Sand Creek Brewing in Black River Falls, Wisconsin under the supervision of Lake Monster Brewmaster Matt Lange.

“We’ve been very happy with the quality of beers and the growth of our brand under our current brewing arrangement, but the plan has always been to build our own brewery in the Twin Cities,” said Lake Monster Brewing Founder and President Matt Zanetti. “We are very excited to be partnering with First & First on this project creating a home for Lake Monster in Saint Paul.”

“Brewing is continuing to boom in Saint Paul and I congratulate Lake Monster on joining this diverse and growing industry in our city,” said Mayor Chris Coleman. “I look forward to celebrating with Lake Monster when they open next year.”

In addition to increasing Lake Monster's production capacity and opening their own taproom, the new brewery will provide the opportunity to expand into brewing many other styles of beer.

"The new brewery will give us a chance to experiment and try out a whole bunch of new styles and recipes, many of which will only be available in the taproom," said Lake Monster Brewmaster Matt Lange. "As a brewer, this is where I get to have some fun."

Vandalia Tower sits on 5.5 acres and is located between I-94 and University Avenue, one block south of the Green Line. The property is anchored by the original water tower that will become the beacon for the development. In addition to Lake Monster Brewing, First & First will be renovating all seven of Vandalia Tower's turn-of-the-century brick buildings. The scope of design changes includes a new 30,000 square foot outdoor public plaza, landscaped pedestrian connections to/from the Green Line and bike paths, new landscaped outdoor "rooms," water features, and covered bike parking.

First & First is responsible for developing other dynamic properties such as Icehouse Plaza at 26th and Nicollet, The Broadway in Northeast Minneapolis, and the Aria event center.

"First & First is ecstatic over Lake Monster choosing their Vandalia Tower project for the home of their brewery and taproom," said Carrie Van Slooten, leasing manager for First & First. "The Vandalia Tower project is shaping up to be a dynamic and exciting transformation of the former King Koil Mattress factory. The development, located in the Creative Enterprise Zone, promises to be transformational and innovative for Saint Paul. The buildings decadent architecture and patina will make this one of the most unique and interesting taprooms anywhere. We can't wait to raise a Lake Monster brew in Vandalia Tower!"

For more information about Lake Monster Brewing visit www.lakemonsterbrewing.com or First & First visit www.first-first.com.

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