



Coastal Real Estate News

"New Urbanism" and sustainable community development is coming to Coastal Georgia. Rice Hope is a new growth community with 500,000 square feet allocated for regional shopping and residential homes on 1200 acres on Georgia 21 near I-95. Rice Hope effectively add to the new critical mass that is driving new economic growth and vitality to Coastal Georgia.

Savannah will hold on to its colonial charm, while the I-95 corridor is being developed around new economic realities, growth and social responsibilities. We are collaborating with the New Hope developers through a network of of national and regional "smart and green" development and construction interests.

Commercial Property Now Available for Development at Rice Hope

Savannah Business Journal

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Commercial property at Rice Hope, a new master-planned community that recently broke ground in Port Wentworth, is now available for development. All commercial property in the neighborhood is being offered by Melaver/Mouchet, a leading commercial real estate firm based in Savannah.

A commercial village along Georgia Highway 21 features 10,000 square feet of retail space as well as out-parcels up to five acres.

"This is an excellent location," said Rhett Mouchet, broker-in-charge at Melaver/Mouchet. "The traffic count along Highway 21 exceeds 35,000 per day. In addition, this commercial property is located at the entry to one of the nicest and best-planned residential developments in Chatham County."

Mouchet says that convenience stores, pharmacies, dry cleaners and medical centers would all fit in with the covenant-protected design of the commercial village, which is expected to break ground in the late summer or early fall. Construction on the commercial property will be completed in the summer of 2007.

Complementing the community's residential areas and the village area along Georgia Highway 21 will be a 66-acre Town Center, which will make Rice Hope a self-contained neighborhood. Proposed plans for the Town Center, which Mouchet says can accommodate up to 500,000 square feet of commercial space, include a major grocery store chain as well as smaller retail locations that cater to the needs of the residents. The Town Center will be completed within four years, according to Mouchet.

"This space is perfect for big-box retail or a grocery anchor," he said. "We're already starting to receive calls about the Town Center commercial opportunities."

Based on the ideas of "New Urbanism," a land-use strategy that places priority on pedestrian sidewalks, street-side parking and a mix of housing types, the Rice Hope development plans to add up to 4,500 homes on 1,300 acres in the next 10 to 15 years.

"We're thrilled that the commercial component at Rice Hope is taking shape," said Irene Hall, vice president of marketing for Sivica. "Rice Hope truly is a town for the 21st century."