



November 20, 2008

Deal to develop mixed-use campus in La Grange falls through

By Andrea Uhde
auhde@courier-journal.com

Oldham and La Grange officials are searching for a company to help develop a planned 1,000-acre mixed-use campus in La Grange, now that an agreement with The Hocker Group is off the table.

Officials had planned to sell 180 acres of the site to The Hocker Group this month, but economic conditions halted the sale, Judge-Executive Duane Murner said.

He said the company wanted another 60 days to answer some of its questions regarding infrastructure for the campus, but Murner said that still would not be enough time to clarify the issues.

"It is a casualty of the economic circumstances we are in," Murner said. "I'm very disappointed in this."

But he said there is one "very good prospect," as well as others.

The 1,000-acre property off New Moody Lane is now mostly vacant, with the exception of the Rawlings Group and newly-built roads.

The Hocker Group, which is overseen by D. Talmage Hocker, who worked with Oxmoor Mall in Louisville, planned to buy 180 acres of the site from the Oldham-La Grange Development Authority. The Hocker Group and the authority then planned to form a third company to oversee the sale and development of most of the remaining property.

Reporter Andrea Uhde can be reached at (502) 582-4663.
