

COLUMBUS BUSINESS FIRST

Council gets legislation for Arena District expansion

Columbus City Council is set for a vote before the end of the month on legislation that would clear the way for Arena District developer Nationwide Realty Investors Ltd. to begin the final \$250 million phase of the area.

The legislation, which went up for a first reading Monday and is expected to be voted on Oct. 20, approves the \$2 million sale of 2.4 acres of city-owned land off Vine Street, where Nationwide Realty intends to add a 238-unit apartment complex, two office buildings and other projects.

Nationwide's plans for the district also include a range of infrastructure improvements estimated to cost at least \$18 million.

The planned \$250 million investment will bring private-sector investments in the Arena District to more than \$1 billion. Other plans in the pipeline:

- 260,000 square feet of office buildings along Nationwide Boulevard.
- A 1,600-slot parking garage.
- A Giant Eagle grocery store in partnership with Columbus-based Continental Real Estate Cos.