

## = Wayzata Bay Center =

Wayzata Bay Center was an enclosed shopping mall in Wayzata , Minnesota , a suburb of the Twin Cities . Wayzata Bay Center once comprised 127 @, @ 000 square feet ( 12 @, @ 000 m2 ) of retail space , with approximately 30 stores on one level , but closed in 2011 after the city of Wayzata agreed upon constructing a new facility on the same land . The mall was once owned by Madison Marquette until residents of the city purchased the mall for \$ 16 million in December 2004 .

Opened in 1967 , Wayzata Bay Center was constructed in two phases ; the first phase was completed in 1964 while the second phase was completed in 1967 . The mall initially featured several regional retailers , along with small businesses , but eventually made way for various national chains , including The Original Pancake House and True Value . After increasing vacancies throughout the center in the 2000s , a Minnesota construction firm purchased the center from United Properties for \$ 16 million in 2009 . Following the firm 's purchase in 2011 , the mall was shut and torn down to make way for a mixed @-@ use retail and residential community center .

## = = History = =

Wayzata Bay Center was constructed in two different phases in Wayzata , Minnesota . The center was built on top of several wetlands , which were filled in with dirt and concrete to create land suitable for development . The northern phase of the mall was completed in 1964 while the southern phase of the mall was finished in 1967 . The construction of the center cost \$ 1 @. @ 5 million , contained 1 @, @ 200 parking spaces , and was anchored by a Country Club Market grocery store . For many years , the mall offered a seasonal trolley car that shuttled shoppers around the facilities ; this service was eventually discontinued in the late 1990s . The mall did not receive any significant remodeling or renovations until 1980 , when four outparcels were constructed in the parking lot of the mall . The outparcels were housed by several restaurants and a Goodyear location .

In 2002 , Wayzata Bay Center experienced several store closings within its facilities ; the vacancy rate of the mall increased from 13 to 33 percent in just two years . In June 2004 , the City of Wayzata announced plans to tear down half of the mall , renovating the remaining half , and constructing four condominium buildings on the property . Within the same plan included the possible addition of a grocery store to the mall ; Madison Marquette hinted at the opening of a Whole Foods Market or a Trader Joe 's store . However , these plans fell through when Madison Marquette sold the mall . Owners of The Foursome , a tenant of Wayzata Bay Center since 1967 , purchased the mall in December of the same year after the mall 's previous owner , a German @-@ based developer , abandoned any redevelopment plans for the site . After the redevelopment of the mall was approved in 2008 , The Foursome closed its 30 @, @ 000 @-@ square @-@ foot ( 2 @, @ 800 m2 ) location and moved to nearby Plymouth , Minnesota . Several other businesses closed in 2009 , resulting in an even higher vacancy rate at Wayzata Bay Center .

## = = Closure = =

Despite regularly hosting several local events and art shows throughout the years , significant discussion of the mall 's closure occurred in 2004 and 2005 . The mall 's owner at the time , Madison Marquette , announced plans to " upgrade and enhance " the shopping center , to appear more attractive to businesses and customers . The supposed enhancement plans included removing the enclosed spaces of the mall , but these plans were never carried out .

After talks of closure for years , Wayzata Bay Center closed its doors on August 15 , 2011 . Demolition began shortly after in April 2012 , when all stores in the mall had either relocated or closed . The Original Pancake House , a restaurant , was the final tenant to close in the mall . The restaurant , a tenant of the center since 1994 , relocated to neighboring Plymouth , while Adele 's Frozen Custard , a tenant in the mall since 2009 , closed their Wayzata location entirely . Among the mall 's other final tenants were a True Value hardware store , a jewelry store , a health food store , and a furniture store .

When the center was demolished , development began for a senior living facility with mixed retail and office space use . After several months of delays and halts from the city council , construction of the development began in June 2013 . The new development , entitled The Promenade , is expected to be fully completed in 2016 . When the new project was complete , Presbyterian Homes , the company that purchased the land for redevelopment , referred to the project as " ambitious " and thanked the City of Wayzata for their cooperation throughout the process . The new development consists of several different uses , including senior housing , condominiums , a boutique hotel , and office and retail space .