PRESS RELEASE – AUGUST 23, 2023

Fat Dogs Embarks on Brag Tour to Eastern Nebraska

STATEWIDE, NEBRASKA — Wilkinson Development Corporation embarked on a “brag tour” Wednesday. During the recent Governor’s Summit in Kearney, NE, Governor Jim Pillen recognized that Nebraskans don’t brag enough about their successes. The Wilkinson team took that to heart and decided immediately after the summit to rent a party bus for their team to tour the accomplishments completed and those projects just beginning. Wilkinson Development is a born and raised company from North Platte and proud to focus all their energy on Nebraska.

Their team of twenty employees started the day with a private groundbreaking ceremony in North Platte at their Exit 179 Development. Over the last month, Jantz Earthmovers have been removing the voluntary bushes and trees and scraping the sod. Dirt is now being added to the site to prepare for the truck stop building footprint to follow. Construction on the building is expected to start this fall.

The Lexington Chamber of Commerce then greeted the Wilkinson party bus at their newest truck stop in Lexington. The community has watched the expansion of this site over the last 18months and the most recent addition was the opening of Noel’s Mexican Restaurant.

The company was able to stop and tour the building at their biggest truck stop which is under construction on I-80 at Grand Island. The almost 9-acre development is outside city limits, located in Hall County. The company is investing in the intersection on Hwy 281 to maintain NDOT standards for traffic and safety control. The Truck Stop will open in 2024.

Finally, Wilkinson’s were able to receive words of gratitude from the Mayor of Lincoln, Director of the LNK Airport and the Lincoln Chamber regarding their recent investment and groundbreaking for a large Lincoln Fat Dog’s Travel Center at the airport exit. Unfortunately due to the heat their groundbreaking ceremony in Lincoln and trip to visit the site was cancelled. The Lincoln Truck Stop will open in 2024. All locations are along I-80, north of the interstate in Nebraska.

Having made significant contributions to Nebraska's transport infrastructure with seven travel centers, Fat Dog's continuous renovations and expansions speak volumes about its commitment to serving both the local and traveling communities across the state.

Fat Dog travel centers offer a variety of services to travelers. The stores feature well-equipped convenience stores, designated truckers' lounge, top-notch shower facilities, vast assortment of snacks, and an array of souvenirs to remember each journey. Further enhancing its service offering, each travel center will house a quick-service restaurant, catering to the needs of travelers on the go. Visiting Fat Dogs is more than just a gas stop, it’s an unparalleled experience of being “NOWHERE” while taking in the unique art each travel center showcases.

A comment from Wilkinson Development CEO, Mark Wilkinson, on the developments across the state, "These locations represent more than just new facilities; they’re a testament to our ongoing dedication to Nebraska's communities and the countless travelers and truckers on I-80.”

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About the Owner of Fat Dog's Travel Center

CEO Mark Wilkinson, nicknamed Fat Dog as a child, is the majority shareholder of Wilkinson Development, Inc. of North Platte. Mark purchased his first fueling station in 1996 in North Platte and branded his stores as Fat Dogs Travel Centers. With locations stretching from Sidney to Lincoln, Fat Dog has been committed to growing his fleet of Travel Centers where he will provide top-tier facilities and services for both truck drivers and families at each newly developed and renovated site.

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