

COUNCIL COULD OK ANGEL MUSEUM SALE ON TUESDAY

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Graphic provided This rendering shows what the Visit Beloit headquarters will look like following both phases of construction at 656 Pleasant St. in downtown Beloit at the former Angel Museum site.

BELOIT - The Beloit City Council could take action to approve a purchase agreement for Visit Beloit to acquire the former Angel Museum, 656 Pleasant St., at Tuesday's meeting, according to the council agenda.



Visit Beloit Executive Director Celestino Ruffini told the Beloit Daily News on Thursday the project remained on schedule.

Pending council's approval of the agreement, Ruffini said Visit Beloit would look to close on the property by Jan. 31 followed by a bidding process in February before construction starts. The Visit Beloit Board of Directors is expected to meet at the end of February, he added.

"Everything is lined up and we are ready to go," Ruffini said.

The project to transform the former church and museum property will be completed in two phases, with work starting this year followed by phase two at the earliest in spring 2021.

Ruffini said Thursday the plan was to have the project completed by the end of 2021.

As previously reported by the Beloit Daily News, phase one will renovate the existing church structure to be converted into a 3,120-square-foot event venue capable of seating between 150 and 180 people. Phase two is expected to add a 7,980-square-foot two-story addition to the south of the existing building that would add office space, multiple conference rooms, a pre-function space and storage.

Future uses for the site could range from local, regional and national event hosting to local businesses, clubs and individuals' private events. A gathering space also is planned to allow for outdoor seating and patio space.

Visit Beloit has been in a temporary location at the Eclipse Center since last year when changes to the Goodwin Hotel development forced the tourism agency out of its offices at 500 Public Ave.