

Parking lot expansion adds to holiday economy

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Right after the ribbon across a new crossover in the shopping center off of Youree Drive, cars were pouring through. It took a while to get the project finished because the businesses, city and the land owners, had to work together.

"Finally we were able to get everyone together and the result is we have this great new crossover just in time for the holiday shopping season," said **Bill McFadden of Stirling Properties**. **Stirling Properties** owns the buildings in which Target, Best Buy, and others are located. McFadden says during the holiday season, an estimated 12 thousand cars will fill the lots around the crossover.

The 40 thousand dollar project is aimed at easing traffic and keeping Youree Drive safe.

"It's also going to make it a lot safer. Youree drive has a history of a lot of traffic accidents with people going from our property to Sams and vice versa," McFadden added.

City government contributed 25% of the funds for the project. The City Council hopes the crossover will help the economy of the area.

"We want to see developments come here and be successful and collect sales tax. For the citizens, if they're more likely to come here and spend a few more dollars because they can go from the Sam's side to the other side, then that's good for everyone," said Michael Corbin, a city councilman.

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