

# News Clips Report

## State designates River Chase a 'shovel-ready' site New Orleans City Business - Online

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TAGS: Brianna Mahn, Donaldsonville Technology and Industrial Park, Louisiana Economic Development Certified Site, North Whittington Property, River Chase, Stirling Properties, Townsend Underhill

The **River Chase** development in Covington has been designated as a Louisiana Economic Development Certified Site, meaning the state will tout it as having all the approvals necessary for developers and companies to come in and break ground.

“ To liken it to real estate, it’ s almost like a turnkey,” said Brianna Mahn with **Stirling Properties**, the company developing the site. “ If a company is looking to develop, whether it’ s retail or office (space), we’ re ready to start building within 90 days. It’ s shovel ready.”

Specific site details, such as zoning restrictions, title work, environmental studies, soil analysis and surveys of the 253-acre site have already been assessed for compliance and authenticity by the state and a third-party engineering firm.

Townsend Underhill, vice president of development for Stirling Properties, said the company will

actively market the certified site to develop it into an office or research park.

“ The fact that it’ s a certified site puts it on the top of the radar screen for all the economic development organizations,” Underhill said. “ It’ s a fairly lengthy process when they designate your site as certified, but it’ s on a list for site selectors and businesses looking to relocate to Louisiana.”

Since the inception of the LED Certified Sites Program earlier this year, LED has only certified two other Louisiana sites, the Donaldsonville Technology and Industrial Park in Assumption Parish and North Whittington Property in Shreveport.

River Chase is the only development in the New Orleans region to be recognized as a certified site.

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