



## WNC finances \$8 million to revamp Ford Center in Minneapolis, US

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**WNC & Associates, Inc. (WNC), a national investor in urban renewal and affordable housing projects, has provided \$8.3 million in New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) financing to United Properties for the acquisition and renovation of the historic Ford Center in Minneapolis, US.**

The project involves development of over 270,000 square feet of environmentally sustainable LEED certified office, creating approximately 900 new jobs within a Federally Designated Empowerment Zone.

The development team will maintain the exterior features of the 95-year-old warehouse/assembly plant, while infusing a modern, urban energy into the interior space. The project will be executed by incorporating extensive environmentally sustainable design techniques.

Upon completion, the facility will serve as the national headquarters of HGA Architects and Olson Advertising, with the firms executing 15- and 12-year leases, respectively. The firms will occupy a combined 215,000 square feet of office space, accounting for 80% of the building's total occupancy.

The building will also accommodate BrandLab, a local non-profit organization dedicated to creating opportunities within the marketing industry to minority and economically disadvantaged youth.

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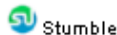
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