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# The Fox Valley Times

## Amazon announces the opening of second headquarters



Amazon displays 238 chalk depictions of proposals from 54 states, provinces, districts, and territories. (Courtesy of Amazon)

By Madeleine Behr, USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

Two sites from the greater Green Bay area are featured in a proposal for Amazon's second headquarters, economic development officials confirmed.

"They're both highly competitive sites, very well qualified sites in terms of the information that was provided and is very much in response to what (Amazon) asked,"

Jerry Murphy, executive director of New North, said of the proposal. Murphy said he could not share the specific site locations.

Earlier this month, Amazon announced plans to open a second headquarters that will eventually hire up to 50,000 employees and generate billions of dollars of economic activity in a metro area. Amazon opened up its search publicly through a request for proposals from cities and

regions in North America. Proposals were due in mid-October, and Amazon plans to announce its decision in early 2018.

According to the request for proposal from Amazon, the company prefers, among other items:

- A metro area with more than 1 million people.
- A location no more than 45 minutes from an international airport with direct flights to Seattle

- Washington, D.C., New York and San Francisco.
- A diverse population and cultural amenities.
  - A strong public transit system with a mix of busing, bike lanes, subway or metros and rail --in addition to highway access.

Amazon said this week that more than 230 regions and cities across North America submitted pitches to the e-commerce company.

"It's a big name-plate opportunity ... and it basically demonstrates our ability to be responsive and aggressive in going after these opportunities," Murphy said of submitting a proposal. "I think it's very cool. We are in a position to compete."

Regional areas near Milwaukee and Madison also put in proposals to Amazon. The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, the state's economic development agency, declined to specify if any other locations in Wisconsin responded to Amazon's request.

"(The WEDC) does

not comment on pending or potential economic development opportunities," wrote Mark Maley, communications director, by email to USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin.

Because Amazon did not list how each criteria would be weighed in the final decision, it's difficult to assess how the northeast region holds up, Murphy said.

"I think that we could and can hit their threshold for the population base they needed, but I think we are on the cusp of that," Murphy said. "I think cities or regions that are comfortably able to assemble more than a million people in their area are going to be more competitive."

But there's still a strong "product" in northeast Wisconsin to offer major companies like this, he added.

"The sites are great, the region has a great quality of life, good logistics and infrastructure, and with that we compete very, very well," Murphy said.

Beth Pritzl, director of

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## Marshfield man given citation after being locked in Kwik Trip

MARSHFIELD - A 38-year-old Marshfield man who police say decided to buy beer but got locked inside a cooler is facing two citations for drinking the beer.

At manager at Kwik Trip, 101 N. Central Ave., Marshfield, reported at 6:13 a.m. Wednesday a 38-year-old man had been locked in a beer cooler all night and had drunk beer while locked inside, according to a police report.

The man told police he went to Kwik Trip to buy beer and got locked inside the beer cooler

when it was locked at about 11:50 p.m. Tuesday, according to the report. The man said he decided he might as well just stay inside the cooler and drink the beer, the re-

port said. The cooler has a glass door and, if the man had knocked, employees would have heard him and let him out.

A customer told Kwik Trip employees the man

was inside the cooler at about 5:50 a.m. Wednesday. The employees opened the door and the man left without paying for the beer, according to the report. The manager

told police the man had drank an 18-ounce bottle of beer and three cans of malt beverage, according to the report. He also had fallen over a stack of 30-can beer packs, breaking three of the cases open.

Police issued the man a citation for retail theft.

*"he decided he might as well stay inside the cooler and drink the beer"*



Kwik Trip building located on 101 N. Central Ave in Marshfield, where the man was trapped in the cooler.

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research and technology of the Fox Cities Regional Partnership, said sites in the Fox Cities were considered, but weren’t ultimately pitched to Amazon.

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“We were looking at basically all of the different things that were needed with the proposal,” Pritzl said. “We had to have a large area of land, needed letters of consent from all of the different property owners that

would be willing to sell for a particular site, and that’s really where all of our struggles ended up.”

With this experience in mind, the partnership now plans to go through its inventory of available sites and encourage property owners to apply for “Golden Shovel Certification” — in addition to gathering data on utility service loads and capabilities and sale costs, Pritzl said.

Murphy said a 10-year-old “prospect protocol” plan went into

action after the Amazon RFP was announced: New North notifies municipalities about a company looking for space, communities evaluate what they can offer with possible sites and then send information to New North to evaluate before submitting a final proposal.

“This collaborative approach we have is co-dependent on people getting information and getting it in a timely fashion and format that is credible and impressive,” Murphy said. “So, we’re




Two skycrapers across the street from one another in downtown Seattle, just a couple out of the 33 buildings that house thousands of Amazon employees. (Courtesy of Amazon)

# Kewaunee Power Station to be shut down

TOWN OF CARLTON — Shutdown of the Kewaunee Power Station nuclear plant will begin in six months, a spokesman for the owner said Monday.

Dominion Resources Inc. announced earlier today that the plant would be closed after it could not find a buyer. It held a press briefing late Monday morning about the closure.

The cost electricity was a factor in the decision to close the plant, which employs 650 people. The site eventually will be



Kewaunee Power Plant located on Lake Michigan, nine miles south of Kewaunee will be shutdown in six months. (Elisa Smith, Green Bay Press Gazette)

returned to a greenfield, although that is expected to take decades.

Kewaunee County officials say the planned closure will have an economic impact that ripples beyond the county.

Jennifer Brown, executive director of the Kewaunee County Economic Development Corp. said the plant is key piece of the county’s employment base.

“The impact for us is huge,” she said this morning. “This is the largest employer in the county ... and the job loss

will be significant for the community as a whole.

“The ripple effect for the community is Dominion does business with a lot of the local business community and the region,” Brown said.

The one-reactor, 568-megawatt plant is located on Lake Michigan nine miles south of Kewaunee and 33 miles southeast of Green Bay.

Thomas Farrell II, chairman, president and CEO of Dominion, said in late April that the company planned to sell the plan. When Dominion bought the plant in 2005, Farrell said the purchase was intended to be one of several in the Midwest. However, the Richmond, Va.-based company was unsuccessful in acquiring other nuclear plants in the region.

The company also owns nuclear plants in Virginia and New England.

Dominion acquired Kewaunee for \$220

million from Wisconsin Public Service Corp. of Green Bay and Alliant Energy of Madison.

Kewaunee recently received a 20-year renewal of its license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The plant went online in 1974.

Wisconsin Public Service and Alliant Energy purchase electricity from the plant under a contract that expires in December 2013.

There are three operating reactors in Wisconsin. The other two are at Point Beach Nuclear Plant in Two Creeks, about six miles south of Kewaunee Power Station. Point Beach is owned by NextEra Energy of Juno, Fla.

Nuclear power provides about 20 percent of the state’s electricity, about the same percentage as for the nation.

In response to news, Public Service Commission of

Wisconsin Chairman Phil Montgomery issued the following statement.

“I am optimistic about Wisconsin’s energy future. Wisconsin utilities have made prudent investments in a diversified energy portfolio including coal, nuclear, natural gas, hydroelectric power, biomass, wind, and solar. We have the capacity to meet electric reliability expectations today, and will continue to meet these obligations down the road.”

Montgomery also thanked the workers at the Kewaunee plant, whom he called “highly-skilled, professional, and dedicated men and women who have helped secure Wisconsin’s reliable energy supply for many years.”

Richard Ryman writes for the Green Bay Press-Gazette.