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### New convention center planned for Canton

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CANTON -- Canton Mayor William Healy has announced plans for a convention center with retail, residential, and office space just south of downtown.

The \$178 million project will sit on the site of the former Hercules Engine Plant, which spans 26 acres.

Healy expects the project to create hundreds of new jobs and give the area a shot in the arm.

"This is an opportunity for us to have some new life, new growth in the community. It's not just the project but what it represents, a turnaround."

The Ohio Department of Development/Ohio Historical Preservation Tax Credit has provided significant funding for the project.

Hercules closed almost 10 years ago and there are currently other tenants in the space.

The city says it will help those tenants relocate in the city.

The project could open by 2010.

