THINGS TO DO

Tesla Collision Center to open in former Hukoo's Family Fun venue site on Sand Lake Road



Business Wire

Tesla store and service center in Schaumburg, Illinois.



By **AMANDA RABINES** | arabines@orlandosentinel.com | GrowthSpotter UPDATED: September 28, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

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Delray Beach-based <u>Truett Realty Group</u> just sold the site of a soon-to-open Tesla Collision Center for \$10.8 million.

The real estate firm bought the site at 1051 W. Sand Lake Rd. in January for nearly \$3.1 million. At the time, it was the location of a shuttered Hukoo's Family Fun entertainment venue.

Shortly after purchasing the property, Truett Realy Group began converting the retail box into a certified Tesla auto body shop that spans 24,548 square feet. Improvements made to the building included new interior finishes, furniture, and lighting throughout the facility.

Plans for the conversion show the design manager, Aakanksha Bishnoi, and construction manager, Bobby Keim, work for Tesla Motors, which will occupy the building. Services added include two paint booths, four interior charging wall connectors, one supercharger, an indoor wash bay and vehicle lifts.

The former Hukoo's Family Fun building on Sand Lake Road was built in 1998.

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ArcVision Inc. is the architect and Caruso Turley Scott is the structural engineer.

"The project turned out great and we are excited to be a part of it," managing principal Robert "Rob" Truett told **GrowthSpotter**. He declined to comment on an opening date for Tesla. "Very exciting project for Orange County and the Orlando MSA."

Tesla owns and operates a growing network of Collision Centers that perform repairs in addition to light collision work. In Central Florida, there are <u>Tesla-approved collisions centers</u> in Winter Park, Eatonville, Winter Garden, Leesburg, and Lakeland.

The Eatonville body shop at 100 S. Lake Destiny Rd. is the only one that's occupied by Tesla, like the one on Sand Lake Road will be.

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According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, which used data from Experian Information Solutions, Florida represents the second-largest share of electric car vehicle registrations nationwide as of December 2020. California had the greatest number of EVs, approximately 42%. Florida had the second-highest count, followed by Texas.

According to a deed recently recorded in Orange County, Ken and Dorothy Paige bought the property as co-trustees of the Paige Trust, which is based out of Lafayette, California. The buyers secured a \$6.7 million loan to finance the deal from Banc of California, National Association.

The property is located across from The Florida Mall, near the Sand Lake Road SunRail Station.

Nearby, MIR Development is nearly complete with its 18-acre Sandlake Road Station mixed-use development that features 196 condominiums, 38 townhomes behind the condo buildings and a commercial building fronting Orange Avenue.

Also nearby, Brooklyn-based investment company **Sands Capital** is planning a new 250-unit, garden-style apartment community at the location of a shuttered and condemned condominium complex. The units will be a mix of one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments, according to submitted plans.

Have a tip about Central Florida development? Contact me at arabines@GrowthSpotter.com or (407) 491-3357, or tweet me at @amanda_rabines. Follow GrowthSpotter on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Originally Published: September 28, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

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