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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City of Brenham Gives Update on Baker-Katz retail development at 290 and Chappell Hill Road**

What's been completed?

- The grading and preliminary site work has been completed. This included a process called cut and fill, which essentially requires moving earth from one place to another to make the ground more level. The property has over 30' of elevation change and this cut and fill process will allow dirt and earth material from the higher side of the property to be "cut" and moved to "fill" the lower side of the property. In conjunction with the cut and fill process, contractors have compacted the dirt so as to reduce run-off and erosion of the recently re-arranged earthwork.

Why did they stop working on it?

- Due to the amount of earthwork on the site, time is needed to allow the dirt to settle in the new location. In order to ensure the site has a level and firm pad to build a slab and improvements on it, the engineers recommendation is to allow the site to sit for multiple months and then determine if the cut, fill and compaction process is sufficient for construction. Consider a really heavy truck parked and stuck in mud, if given time, the mud will harden and the truck will have the opportunity to move off the once unstable ground. Similarly, consider when you dig a hole in your yard and put back dirt after the hole is filled, after a few weeks there will likely still be a low spot where the hole was – the construction site is similar but on a much larger scale. Allowing the site to sit stagnant for a few months is necessary to ensure a solid foundation for the new development.

What will happen next?

- During the next 2-5 months while the physical site will not show much progress, in the background, engineers and architects are preparing and submitting plans to the City for review and permitting. Once the permits are ready for issuance and the site is evaluated as firm enough to build on, then construction will begin.

**Word Count:** 336

**Links:** N/A

**Attachments:**











