



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **IKEA CONTINUES MIDWEST EXPANSION BY SUBMITTING PLANS TO OPEN A MILWAUKEE-AREA STORE SUMMER 2018 IN OAK CREEK, WISCONSIN**

**CONSHOHOCKEN, PA** – IKEA, the world’s leading home furnishings retailer, today announced it is submitting plans to the City of Oak Creek, Wisconsin for a store that would increase the Swedish company’s presence in the Midwestern U.S. as its first store in the state. Pending approvals, construction of IKEA Oak Creek could begin in Spring 2017, with an opening in Summer 2018. (Nearby IKEA stores are: Chicago-area IKEA Bolingbrook and IKEA Schaumburg, and Twin Cities-area IKEA Bloomington, MN.)

Located approximately 12 miles south of downtown Milwaukee, the 295,000-square-foot proposed IKEA store and its approximately 1,200 parking spaces would be built on 29 acres at the northwestern corner of Interstate 94 and Drexel Avenue. Store plans reflect the same unique architectural design for which IKEA stores are known worldwide. IKEA also will evaluate potential on-site power generation to complement its current U.S. renewable energy presence at nearly 90% of its U.S. locations.

“We are excited at the possibility of growing our Midwestern U.S. presence with a Milwaukee-area store,” said IKEA U.S. president Lars Petersson. “A location in this retail corridor would provide our already 206,000 Milwaukee-area customers their own store and introduce the unique IKEA shopping experience to others throughout Wisconsin.”

IKEA Oak Creek would feature nearly 10,000 exclusively designed items, 50 inspirational room-settings, three model home interiors, a supervised children’s play area, and a 300-seat restaurant serving Swedish specialties such as meatballs with lingonberries and salmon plates, as well as American dishes. Other family-friendly features include a ‘Children’s IKEA’ area in the Showroom, baby care rooms, play areas throughout the store, and preferring parking. In addition to the more than 500 jobs that are expected during the construction phase, approximately 250 coworkers would join the IKEA family when the new store opens. IKEA Oak Creek also would provide significant annual sales and property tax revenue for local governments and schools.

Drawing from its Swedish heritage and respect of nature, IKEA strives to minimize its operations’ carbon emissions because reducing its environmental impact makes good business sense. IKEA evaluates locations regularly for conservation opportunities, integrates innovative materials into product design, works to maintain sustainable resources, and flat-packs goods for efficient distribution. U.S. sustainable efforts include: recycling waste material; incorporating key measures into buildings with energy-efficient HVAC and lighting systems, recycled construction materials, warehouse skylights, and water-conserving restrooms; and operationally, eliminating plastic bags from the check-out process, and selling only LED bulbs/fixtures. IKEA U.S. has installed electric vehicle charging stations at 13 locations and solar arrays at 90% of its locations, and owns two wind farms in the U.S.

Since its 1943 founding in Sweden, IKEA has offered home furnishings of good design and function at affordable prices. There are currently more than 380 IKEA stores in 48 countries, including 41 in the U.S. IKEA has been ranked among “Best Companies to Work For” and, as further investment in its coworkers, has raised its own minimum wage twice in two years. IKEA incorporates sustainability into day-to-day business and supports initiatives that benefit children and the environment. For more information see [IKEA-USA.com](http://IKEA-USA.com), [@IKEAUSANews](https://www.facebook.com/IKEAUSA), [@IKEAUSA](https://www.youtube.com/IKEAUSA) or IKEAUSA on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/IKEAUSA), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/IKEAUSA), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/IKEAUSA) and [Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com/IKEAUSA).

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