

Walmart to open first neighborhood market in Visalia

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Written by Business Journal staff



Walmart's new neighborhood markets carry an array of grocery products.

Visalia residents will see Walmart in a whole new way when the retailer opens its first neighborhood market in the area on March 15.

The store, located at 1320 N. Demaree St., is about 36,000 square feet and approximately one-third the size of the existing general merchandise Walmart location in Visalia.

The neighborhood market model carries mostly grocery products like fruits and vegetables, fresh breads, meats, cheeses and prepared foods.

The deli will feature a Grab-and-Go section with rotisserie chicken, pizza and standard deli sides and the store will also sell some pharmacy items and general merchandise.

In addition, the market brings approximately 65 part-time and full-time jobs to the area. Store associates and local dignitaries will be in attendance when the store opens on March 15 following a brief ceremony and ribbon cutting at 7:30 a.m.

Walmart's first neighborhood market in California opened July 27, 2012 in Huntington Beach.

The Bentonville, Ark.-based retailer has been in expansion and acquisition mode in the Central Valley, with a supercenter under construction in Clovis and another opening in Visalia in May. It also purchased the 223,378 square-foot former Camp America building off West Shaw Avenue in Fresno earlier this year.

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