



STORRS
RETHINK MAIN STREET
CENTER

For Immediate Release

**Ceremonial Groundbreaking Held for Storrs Center:
New Mixed-Use Town Center in Mansfield, CT**

Mansfield, CT, June 30, 2011 ---- The Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Storrs Center master developer Storrs Center Alliance, (an affiliate of LeylandAlliance LLC, of Tuxedo, New York), and co-developer Education Realty Trust, Inc. (EDR), based in Memphis, Tennessee, held a ceremonial groundbreaking on Wednesday, June 29 to celebrate the start of construction for Storrs Center, a new mixed-use town center to be located adjacent to the University of Connecticut in the Town of Mansfield, Connecticut. One of the most exciting public/private initiatives in the state, Storrs Center will include new retail, restaurant, office, and residential development within a planned community of pedestrian walkways, green spaces, and conservation areas. The event was open to the public and held at the intersection of Storrs Road and Dog Lane.

Approximately 200-plus people gathered to celebrate the commencement of construction on Storrs Center and the public/private partnership that is creating this highly anticipated town center. Community members, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Town of Mansfield, and University of Connecticut leaders, Storrs Center developers LeylandAlliance and Education Realty Trust, and officials from local and state government were among those in attendance. Governor Dannel P. Malloy, United States Congressman Joe Courtney, Secretary of State Denise Merrill, State Senator Donald E. Williams, Jr., State Representative Gregory Haddad, Town of Mansfield Mayor Elizabeth Paterson, University of Connecticut President Susan Herbst, and Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board President Philip Lodewick spoke at the event.

“It is one of the most exciting public/private initiatives in the state,” said Dannel P. Malloy, Governor of Connecticut. “This project does all the right things: It maximizes the value of the University of Connecticut, puts people to work, and creates a town center to enhance the quality of life around a great university.”

“This is an investment in our community, our university and in our young people,” said Dr. Susan Herbst, University of Connecticut president. “With the addition of the new technology complex and enhancements to the medical center, the only missing piece was a vibrant downtown and town square.”

Scheduled to be completed in 2012 and 2013, respectively, the first two phases of Storrs Center will include commercial and residential offerings. The retail and commercial space will be owned and managed by Storrs Center Alliance. A number of local and national businesses are leasing portions of the 70,000 square feet on the street level of the mixed-use buildings, including Moe’s Southwest Grill, The Vanilla Bean Café, Cosimo’s Italian Restaurant, Select Physical Therapy, Storrs Automotive, UConn Co-op, and Insomnia Cookies, among others.

EDR will develop, own, and manage the apartments in the first two phases which include approximately 290 studio, one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and three-bedroom apartments. Each apartment will include a private laundry, faux wood floors, stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, and the latest internet technology, among other upscale features. Elevator access will also appeal to a wide range of tenants.

The new apartments, shops, offices, and restaurants are located within easy walking distance of the University of Connecticut main campus, E. O. Smith High School, Mansfield Community Center, and Town Hall.

“The groundbreaking for Storrs Center is a tremendous achievement, especially in the current economic climate, for the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, the Town of Mansfield, and the University of Connecticut. It is really a tribute to the vision, hard work, and steadfast commitment of our dedicated public partners and the many talented volunteers we have been so fortunate to work with over the years,” said Howard Kaufman, Managing Member of

LeylandAlliance LLC, master developer of Storrs Center. “We can now look forward with confidence to the excitement of a ribbon cutting in 2012.”

“The development of Storrs Center is a true collaboration of town, state, university, and private entities who have come together to create a vibrant, livable, and sustainable town center,” said Tom Trubiana, Education Realty Trust’s chief investment officer and executive vice president. “Education Realty Trust is proud to contribute to this project that will serve the people of Mansfield, the University of Connecticut, and the entire region as it enhances the quality of life for those who live, work, shop, or seek entertainment in Storrs Center.”

“Nearly 10 years in the planning, our vision for an economically vibrant and vital community downtown is now becoming a reality. The noise of bulldozers is music to our ears, and we look forward to a formal grand-opening of the first phase of Storrs Center in the fall of 2012,” said Philip Lodewick.

For more information about Storrs Center, please visit www.StorrsCenter.com.

Contact: **Cynthia van Zelm**, Executive Director
Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc.
860-429-2740 vanzelmca@mansfieldct.org

Monica Quigley, Vice President, Sales and Marketing
LeylandAlliance LLC
914-715-5576 mquigley@leylandalliance.com

Susan Jennings, Vice President, Corporate Communications and Marketing
Education Realty Trust
901-259-2506 sjennings@edrtrust.com

About LeylandAlliance LLC LeylandAlliance is a real estate development company focused on the creation of mixed-use, highly sustainable neighborhoods founded upon the principles of New Urbanism. The company, based in Tuxedo, New York, develops neighborhoods that foster a sense of community, embrace tradition, and set new standards for innovative construction and environmental responsibility. For more information please visit www.leylandalliance.com.

About Education Realty Trust Education Realty Trust, Inc. (NYSE:EDR) is one of America's largest owners, developers and managers of collegiate housing. EDR is a self-administered and self-managed real estate investment trust that owns or manages 57 communities in 23 states. For more information please visit the Company's web site at www.educationrealty.com.