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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Market Heads South

Co-op plans to expand cooperative business model in Burlington's South End

Burlington, VT – City Market today publicly announced specific plans to build a second store in Burlington's South End. Burlington's community-owned Co-op has signed a purchase and sales agreement with Vermont Rail System for their property at the corner of Briggs Street and Flynn Avenue, where the second store will be built.

Pat Burns, on his last day before retiring as the Co-op's General Manager, said, "Back in 2012, the Co-op shared a desire with Members and the community to build a second store in the South End and completed its first market study that same year. We've been working behind the scenes since that time and we feel that we've finally found the right property for our second location."

Since 2012, City Market has been working with their partners at Pomerleau Real Estate to identify appropriate land in Burlington's South End on which to build a second store and has updated its market study twice. Both Ernie Pomerleau and Yves Bradley at Pomerleau Real Estate were integral in identifying a variety of parcels. They introduced City Market to David Wulfson and Vermont Rail System's property at Briggs Street and Flynn Avenue and assisted in brokering the current purchase and sales agreement.

Mayor Miro Weinberger shared his support of the Co-op's growth in the South End: "Since their opening in 2002, City Market has been a great asset to the Burlington community. The cooperative model means that our residents own a successful, community-minded business that supports local non-profits, Vermont's farmers and food producers, and our broader community. City Market's growth will only mean a larger sphere of community support. The City looks forward to a continued partnership with the Co-op as they work to build a second store in the South End," said Mayor Weinberger.

City Market will be working on a variety of next steps including environmental assessment, permitting and zoning. As part of this process, the Co-op will also be reaching out to engage Members and the community on second store planning. "The Co-op's intent is to create a successful and vibrant market in the South End, alleviate some of the pressure on the current storefront and create more opportunities for community support and engagement as well as employment with above market wages and benefits," says John Tashiro, City Market's incoming General Manager.

About City Market, Onion River Co-op: The Onion River Co-op is a consumer cooperative, with over 11,000 Members, selling wholesome food and other products while building a vibrant, empowered community and a healthier world, all in a sustainable manner. Located in downtown Burlington, Vermont, City Market provides a large selection of local, organic, and conventional foods and thousands of Vermont-made products. Visit City Market, Onion River Co-op online at www.CityMarket.coop or call 802-861-9700.

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