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Java Joes to open coffee shop at DART Central Station

Coffee drinkers and transit riders alike will soon have a new destination in downtown Des Moines – the Java Joes CoffeeHouse at DART Central Station.

Java Joes today announces its plans to open its second downtown location inside the new transit station at 620 Cherry Street, following the lease agreement's approval Tuesday evening by the DART Board of Commissioners. Construction is set to begin within the month and the shop is expected to open this summer. When opened, the Java Joes at DART Central Station will feature a menu of coffees, beverages, pastries, desserts and sandwiches and will be open during station hours. The original location will remain in operation at 214 4th Street, Des Moines.

Java Joes co-owner Amy Brehm and DART Commission Chair Steve Van Oort lauded the deal as a public-private partnership that is a win-win for a small local business and the visitors and riders whom the coffee shop will serve.

"It was actually a DART driver who gave us the idea and it sounded like a really great business opportunity," Brehm said. "We're excited to be partnering with DART."

"We wanted the station to not only be safe, secure and efficient – but also inviting and comfortable for riders and visitors," Van Oort said. "Java Joes is a great fit."

The original Java Joes was founded in 1992 and purchased in 2007 by Amy and Tim Brehm. Des Moines' original micro coffee roaster, Java Joes has become a popular hangout for locals, musicians, performers and even national politicians.

DART Central Station opened in November 2012 as the primary transfer location of Greater Des Moines' transit system. The station features indoor waiting areas, covered boarding platforms, secure indoor bicycle storage, a docking station for the B-cycle bike-sharing program, on-site security, and more.

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority is the public transportation provider that serves Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services that makes getting around the Greater Des Moines area easier and more convenient. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit the website at www.ridedart.com or call 515-283-8100.