



## Site Plan Presented for Merrimack Mall

### **135 Stores: Developer would employ hundreds of workers and address construction, traffic woes**

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**MERRIMACK** – A spokesman last night presented a site plan for a 135-store Chelsea Property Group outlet mall.

Gordon Leedy, an engineer for VHB, Inc. of Bedford, described a mall on a 170-acre site on Industrial Drive that would be built in a “New England motif,” with stores built in a perimeter and towers near the entryway. Drivers coming to the mall would park in one large lot in front.

Chelsea plans to clear about 11 acres and move earth from the center of the site to build a slope on the northern end, using 200 to 300 construction workers over the course of six months during this stage. The entire project would take 16 to 18 months to build, he said.

In the last three months of construction, the project would draw up to 900 construction workers as tenants begin to take over buildings and construct interiors.

For needed blasting, the developer has agreed to avoid the use of ammonium nitrate fuel oil on the western end of the property near a residential wellhead. The developer has agreed to provide pre-blast surveys for households within 1,000 feet of the project.

The Merrimack Planning Board has 50 days to make a final ruling on a site plan and will meet again July 1.