



# News Release

*LOUISIANA STATE SENATE*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Sen. Barrow welcomes Amazon development**

Amazon's decision to locate a major distribution center on the site of the former Cortana Mall in Baton Rouge will breathe new life into an area of the city that was dying, says Sen. Regina Barrow, D-Baton Rouge.

"I'm excited about Amazon coming to District 15 and eradicating the blighted area," she said. "It's deteriorated a lot since the closing of the mall, taking away jobs, resulting in a major economic decline. I'm going to stay connected to make sure all of our community residents are engaged as jobs are being filled."

Securing the 2.8 million square foot development was a joint effort of local and state officials, involving the Governor, state Legislators, local city-parish officials, and other stakeholders and real estate developers. Amazon has begun advertising for employees to fill more than 60 jobs at its existing facilities in the region. Numerous other positions and multiple types of jobs are planned for the new development.

Many consumers have taken advantage of online shopping, which has increased during the Covid-19 pandemic. Sen. Barrow acknowledges that Amazon is a major retailer that provides a one-stop shop for a variety of products. Collaborators are optimistic that its presence will attract other retailers into the area as well.

“This reinvestment into our community will definitely boost our economic recovery,” says Barrow. “Not only by creating jobs, but providing a symbol of hope that more investors will join efforts to rebound our economy and move the city and state forward.”

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