

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Homeland Announces Plans for New Store in Northeast Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY - August 26, 2019 – Homeland (HAC Inc), an Oklahoma employee-owned company, announces that they have signed a letter of intent to build their newest store at NE 36 and Lincoln in Oklahoma City just north of the Oklahoma State Capitol. The approximately 30,000 square foot store is projected to open late 2020 or early 2021 and will serve several neighborhoods that are currently in a food desert. This proposed Homeland will include a pharmacy and will boast of an array of fresh offerings such as organic fruits and vegetables, freshly baked breads, a custom butcher shop and fresh, ready-to-eat deli foods.

"As an Oklahoma City based company, Homeland is moving forward to present a unique shopping experience to provide fresh healthy grocery options to customers in the underserved northeast Oklahoma City area," said Marc Jones, CEO and President. "Homeland has worked closely with and received tremendous support from our City Council members, the Mayor, Chamber and economic development organizations to develop a plan that will meet the needs of our friends and neighbors who live in northeast Oklahoma City. These partners recognize the lack of grocery options in this area and have been working for years to bring this area a full-service, high quality grocery store. Our leadership and employees are thrilled with the partnership and support from Oklahoma City and look forward to serving this neighborhood."

The next steps in the process are to secure final approvals and arrange leasing. The proposed development plan includes a new 35,000 square foot national corporate headquarters adjacent to the new state-of-the-art store. The investment will total over \$16 million and create up to 75 new jobs. Hiring for the store will begin in 2020.

"The City of Oklahoma City, myself and previous Ward 7 City Council members, the Greater Oklahoma City of Commerce and the Alliance for Economic Development have been talking to grocers for nearly 25 years," said Councilwoman Nikki Nice. "This is a health and quality of life issue that we are continuing to address and we thank Homeland for their commitment to demonstrate true leadership and respond to the needs of the residents of northeast Oklahoma City."

## **About Homeland Stores**

Homeland is part of the HAC, Inc. grocery chain headquartered in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. As of 2019 HAC operates 74 grocery stores in Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas and Georgia. HAC operates under multiple banners including Food World, Piggly Wiggly, Country Mart, United, Cash Saver and Homeland. Homeland is HAC's largest banner as well as Oklahoma's largest locally-owned grocery store chain with 30 locations statewide. Homeland has been 100 percent employee owned since 2011. The company traces its roots back to 1916 when the first United Supermarket was opened.

For more information, please visit <u>http://www.homelandstores.com</u> or <u>www.facebook.com/HomelandGroceryStores</u>.