Construction

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DJC Project of the Week: Welch Plaza
By JOURNAL STAFF

Welch Plaza, built on the site of Welch Hardware Store in Seattle's Central Area, had its grand opening in early March.

The $25.8 million complex, on the southwest corner of 23rd Avenue and Jackson Street, includes three buildings with a total of 162 apartment units, 18,000 square feet of commercial space. A quarter of the apartments are reserved for low-income tenants. The complex also has underground parking.

Washington Mutual opened a 2,500-square-foot financial center in the complex in February. Next door, NPower Seattle, a nonprofit that helps other nonprofits use technology, has leased 6,000 square feet.

Seattle Seahawks player Shaun Alexander is one of the investors in the project.

Financing came from the Bank of America, private equity investments, and $2.3 million in low-interest loans and grants from the city of Seattle's Office of Economic Development and Office of Housing.

Developer: Jackson Square Associates, a partnership between the Central Area Development Association and Lorig Associates

Architect: Hewitt Architects, Seattle

General contractor: W.G. Clark

Photos courtesy of Lorig Associates
Construction Co., Seattle

**Structural/civil engineer:** Coughlin Porter Lundeen, Seattle

**Electrical/mechanical engineer:** Abacus, Seattle

**Fire protection:** Advanced Fire Protection, Woodinville

**Interior design:** Mercedes Fernandez Interior Design, Seattle