



City OKs two grants

Recipients are gelato maker, speculative building group

By [Eric Deines](#) | Independent Tribune

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CONCORD - CONCORD — Concord City Council gave its OK for two economic development grants at the expanding International Business Park.

"If you've got somebody to spend that in these times, that's a good thing," said Concord Mayor Scott Padgett, referring to an expansion planned by Italian-based gelato manufacturer PreGel America, to whom council approved a three-year, \$192,780 tax incentive grant.

The company, which opened a 135,000-square-foot headquarters at the park this year, plans to expand to bring more of the production aspect of the company to the site.

Clay Andrews, with Cabarrus Economic Development, said PreGel's first project at the business park is a "signature building" for the site and very favorable among its owners.

In August, the Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners approved a three-year, \$192,780 tax incentive grant for the 120,000-square-foot expansion project.

Also at the meeting, City Council approved a three-year, 85 percent tax-based incentive for the Nolim Group, which plans to construct a 177,000-square-foot, \$15 million speculative building at International Business Park.

Andrews said buildings such as the one proposed by the Nolim group help in the competitive process to bring businesses into the community.

He said having a ready-to-go speculative building for an expanding business gives the city advantage over a community who may not be able to offer such a security for the business.

"Competition for investment is keener than ever," Andrews said to council.

Both incentive grants unanimously approved by council on Thursday will only be refunded to the companies once they pay their property taxes on the new investment for the respective years.

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