



Weaver Street Market ready to officially open Downtown Raleigh's first grocery store

*Customers can enjoy freshly prepared foods, local beers and more
on the indoor mezzanine and outdoor balcony overlooking Hargett Street*

RALEIGH, NC (SEPT. 18, 2019) — The first grocery store in Downtown Raleigh is set to officially open this weekend. Weaver Street Market, the popular Triangle co-op founded in Carrboro 30 years ago, will open its new store at The Dillon in Downtown Raleigh's Warehouse District on Saturday. The store is located on West Hargett St. between S. West and S. Harrington streets.

Known for its wide selection of fresh produce and locally sourced products, Weaver Street Market offers an array of freshly prepared restaurant-style foods. The Raleigh store features an artisan sandwich bar, fresh hearth-baked pizza, a sushi bar, an Asian noodle bar, a breakfast bar, hot bar, and salad bar — as well as bakery goods made fresh daily and a variety of offerings from local and independent food producers.

"We are thrilled to be part of the Downtown Raleigh community," said Micki McCarthy, manager of the Raleigh store. "We look forward to welcoming our neighbors in the Warehouse District and establishing Weaver Street Market as a gathering place where the community can come together to enjoy fresh, healthy foods."

The Raleigh store features multiple dining options, including a mezzanine that wraps around three sides of the store, an outdoor balcony overlooking W. Hargett Street, and sidewalk dining.

"Being able to fill a gap in our downtown with a grocery store that is such a trusted and well-known, locally owned company in this region is really exciting for downtown. Weaver Street Market's commitment to locally-sourced food, community, downtowns, and a great experience for customers make them a great fit in Raleigh and we are thrilled to have them open here," said Bill King, president and CEO of the Downtown Raleigh Alliance.

Opening festivities: Weaver Street Market will celebrate its opening by providing free baguettes to the first 100 shoppers, free Raleigh t-shirts to the first 500 individuals who buy an owner share at the store, and a free Weaver Street Market signature purple reusable bag to all customers who round up their purchases for charity on opening day. Local producers will be sampling products in the store throughout the opening week.

Beginning in October, Weaver Street Market will host free, hands-on cooking classes and demonstrations from guest chefs, as well as cooking classes for children. Upcoming classes include Homemade Pasta and Wine Pairing; Spooky Treats and Squash Carving (kids); Gingerbread House Creations (kids), and Holiday Appetizers.

Rounding up purchases to support A Place at the Table: Weaver Street Market will continue its proud history of giving back to the local community. It has selected A Place at the Table as its first community partner in Raleigh. Donations from customers who "round up" their purchases will be used to provide meal tokens at A Place at the Table for those who cannot afford to pay for a fresh, healthy meal. Weaver Street Market has committed to provide 12,500 free meal tokens to Raleigh's first "pay-what-you-can" café.

No single-use bags: Customers won't find any single-use paper or plastic checkout bags at Weaver Street Market. Earlier this year, the co-op became the first grocer in North Carolina to eliminate all single-use checkout bags. Customers are encouraged to bring their own bag, purchase a signature bag from Weaver Street Market (99 cents), or buy a "bring it back sack" (15 cents) made from recycled plastic sturdy enough

to be re-used up to 125 times. Through this initiative, Weaver Street Market is eliminating the use of more than one million single-use bags each year.

Become an owner: As a co-op, Weaver Street Market is owned by its shoppers and employees. It currently has more than 22,000 consumer owners and 230 worker owners. You do not need to be an owner to shop at Weaver Street Market. Owner shares can be purchased in the store or [online](#) for \$75; free community shares are available to qualifying SNAP recipients. Owners receive weekly coupons, invitations to owner events, discounted tickets to select Weaver Street Market events, and eligibility to join Coastal Credit Union.

Hours and parking: Weaver Street Market is open from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm. Customers will receive one hour of validated parking (with a minimum \$10 purchase) at The Dillon parking garage, accessible through an entrance on S. West Street.

Living wages for employees: Weaver Street Market employs 75 people at its Raleigh store. The co-op has been praised for providing a living wage to its employees.

About Weaver Street Market

Weaver Street Market is a co-op market created for the community, by the community. We sustain healthy communities together — through the goods that we sell and the good that we do. Weaver Street Market carefully selects high-quality products from sources we trust. Our partners include more than 100 local and independent food producers.

Founded in 1988, Weaver Street Market is owned by 22,000 consumer owners and 230 worker owners. We operate downtown stores in Carrboro, Chapel Hill's Southern Village, Hillsborough and Raleigh, as well as a Food House in Hillsborough that provides fresh deli, bakery, and meat products to its stores twice each day. Learn more at www.weaverstreetmarket.coop.

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