

For Immediate Release:

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Ross Dress for Less® Celebrates the Opening of its First Downtown San Jose Store

*The 24,000-square-foot store will be the
first department store in Downtown in decades*

Event: The San Jose Redevelopment Agency and the City of San Jose to join Ross Stores for its Grand Opening event.

When: Friday, July 16, 2010, 9:00 a.m.

Where: 27 S. First Street, Downtown San Jose

Who: San Jose City Councilmembers
Harry S. Mavrogenes, Executive Director, San Jose Redevelopment Agency
Ross Dress for Less Executives

Background: Ross Stores, Inc., the nation's second largest off-price retailer, is preparing to open in Downtown San Jose, in the space formerly occupied by Black Sea Gallery.

In June 2009, the San Jose Redevelopment Agency and Black Sea Gallery Development, LLC entered into an Owner participation Agreement allowing Black Sea Gallery to lease the 24,000-square-foot retail at 27 S. First Street space to Ross. The new store joins other nearby Downtown stores including Walgreens, Hammer and Lewis Fashions, and Peets Coffee. Downtown San Jose was home to virtually all of the Valley's major stores through the 1960s, including JCPenney, Montgomery Wards, Roos Atkins, Harts and Hales. As the City grew to its present 178 square miles, the department stores relocated to suburban locations.

The Agency's planning and efforts to bring more activity to Downtown San Jose over the last several decades are now starting to attract retailers to service the new residents.

Established in 1957, Ross offers first-quality, in-season, name brand and designer apparel, accessories, footwear and home fashions for the entire family. The company has more than 45,000 employees nationwide, and expects to bring about 50 jobs to the new San Jose store. The Downtown location is the 14th Ross to open in the South Bay. The store will be open daily Monday through Saturday, from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., and on Sundays, from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Additional information is available at www.rossstores.com.

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