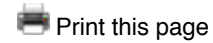


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Tinker Federal Credit Union building new branch

BY LAURIE WINSLOW World Staff Writer
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Work is under way at the site of a Tinker Federal Credit Union branch being built at 8920 E. 61st St.

Once completed, the branch will replace a small site the credit union leases at 8321-S E. 61st St. in Eton Square Shopping Center. It will be Tinker Federal's 24th office in the state.

The branch could open late this year or in early 2012, said Matt Stratton, senior vice president of marketing for the Oklahoma City-based credit union.

Tinker Federal, which entered the Tulsa market in 2002, has 5,000 to 6,000 members in the metro area, Stratton said.

The new full-service branch will include a community room the credit union will use for financial education classes and make available to organizations for meetings, Stratton said.

The branch will feature five drive-through lanes and an ATM lane. It also will have a generator for emergency power, Stratton said.

A commercial building permit lists the project's estimated cost at \$1.66 million.

The branch will employ 10 to 15 people, Stratton said.

Tinker Air Force Base and Vance Air Force Base are the core membership bases for the credit union, which also serves 500 to 600 other companies that are too small to start their own credit unions, Stratton said.

A diversified credit union membership makes the institution stronger, Stratton said.

Tinker Federal Credit Union has about 240,000 members and \$2.5 billion in assets.

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