

Crossgates mall firm replaces its managing partner

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By TOM FRIEDMAN

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Bruce Kenan, 40, a partner in the Dewitt-based Pyramid Companies, has replaced Robert G. Sproul, 38, as managing partner of the \$85 million Crossgates mall project in Guilderland.

Kenan, who lives in Syracuse, has been with the Pyramid Companies since 1970 and has worked on mall projects in Ithaca, Glen Falls and Hadley, Mass.



ROBERT SPROUL

Other partners in the Pyramid Crossgates Co., a corporation set up to promote the mall, will continue, Sproul said Tuesday. He listed them as: Robert Congel of Syracuse, John A. Wyer of Albany, Gerald A. Dick of Syracuse and Leonard Levine of Syracuse. Congel is president of Pyramid Companies, while the other three and Kenan are

partners in it, he added.

Sproul, who has worked on the proposed mall for 18 months, said he has left Pyramid Companies and is laying the groundwork for his own company that will build large projects in New York.

He said he had a controlling interest in the Crossgates mall but has made an agreement with Pyramid Companies officials that ends financial obligation.

He was responsible for negotiating options for land parcels that form the 170-acre site proposed for the mall; obtaining commitments from major department stores; preparing the draft environmental impact statement and road plan; and, explaining the mall proposal to local residents.

The mall proposal is under state Department of Environmental Conservation review, and it is expected within several weeks that department officials will complete their review.

On Nov. 5, the officials asked Pyramid Crossgates for more information on the effect cars going to the mall will have on surrounding homes and business. High on their list of requested information is a description of expected noise level changes, according to a letter sent by department officials to the mall developers.

When their review is complete, department officials are expected to call a public hearing within 90 days on the mall's draft environmental impact statement. A previous hearing was adjourned Aug. 13 when Sproul said he needed more time to revise a proposed road plan. The state Department of Transportation is reviewing the plan.