

Long-sought transit hub isn't far off

COLTS OKs key purchase of Martz site

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The County of Lackawanna Transit System's board of directors on Tuesday agreed to buy the Martz Trailways terminal site for \$875,000, setting the stage for construction of a \$12.6 million Scranton transportation hub to start this summer.

The sales agreement with F-M Realty Co. will pair the 2.318-acre parcel at 23 Lackawanna Ave. with the roughly 1-acre neighboring property occupied by Tom Hesser Nissan, which is moving to Dunmore on July 1.

COLTS previously acquired that property through eminent domain for



ROBERT FIUME
Center will benefit passengers

about \$700,000 and will swap the two parcels with the state to build the intermodal transportation center across the street, said Robert Fiume, executive director of COLTS.

The transit agency will build the downtown hub for COLTS buses, commercial buses and taxis at what is now a parking lot for state employees.

Those workers will eventually park where the Martz terminal and Nissan dealership are now.

Groundbreaking is scheduled for the first week of August, and COLTS officials

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tentatively expect the intermodal project to wrap up in October 2015. "It's going to provide a centralized, climate-controlled transfer point for our passengers," Mr. Fiume said.

The COLTS board also approved a lease that will let Martz continue to operate at its current site until the intermodal facility opens, at

which point the Martz operation will move there.

In other business, the board approved \$113,740 in change orders for Sowinski Sullivan Architects, in part for the contractor's additional work evaluating a variety of scenarios that groups proposed for the project during earlier planning stages.

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