

## LOCAL NEWS

# Long Beach company Laserfiche invests in new Bixby Knolls development

The private company breaks ground on \$60 million to the project Thursday, July 11.



Public officials, Laserfiche employees and others who are a part of creating Laserfiche's new headquarters celebrate its groundbreaking ceremony near the company's existing campus in Bixby Knolls on Thursday, July 11. (Photo by Emily Rasmussen, Long Beach Press-Telegram/SCNG)

Laserfiche is a global software company, but CEO Chris Wacker will tell you it's also a local company — one that continues to invest in Long Beach.

The private company, founded in 1987 and based in Long Beach since 2001, celebrated the groundbreaking of a new headquarters building on Thursday morning, July 11, near its existing campus in Bixby Knolls. Laserfiche has committed \$60 million to the project.

Shovels hit the ground during a public ceremony at 3459 Long Beach Blvd. The four-story, 102,848-square-foot addition to Laserfiche's footprint is slated for completion late next year.

Nearly 400 people attended the groundbreaking ceremony, most of whom were employees. But public officials, including Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia, also came to ring in the new headquarters.

"Your city is booming," Garcia said. "And what this project signifies is not just that growth but really the growth of one of our best corporate partners and clients – which we're a client of also – not just for the city, but really across the region and the state."

Wacker, for his part, said ahead of the groundbreaking that the expanded campus will accommodate the company's rapid growth, with employees projected to double in Long Beach from 300 to 600 by the year 2025. Laserfiche also has another 420 employees at its offices in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, as well as Guadalajara, Mexico, Hong Kong, London, Shanghai and Toronto.

"Laserfiche is entering an era of accelerated innovation, which requires workforce growth and the evolution of our headquarters to align with our visionary products," Wacker said recently. "We are committed to continued investment in Long Beach, and look forward to bringing hundreds of well-paying tech jobs to the city."

Urbana Development, based in Long Beach, will oversee the project while local firm Studio One Eleven will design it.

The project will replace two parking lots, four oil wells, a demolished bar and a demolished home across about 2.5 acres. The new facility will include a large public conference space, lobby koi pond and fish tank, expansive views of the city skyline and an employee parking garage across the alleyway, where food truck gatherings and other public events are planned.

“We worked closely with Laserfiche and Urbana Development to create a place that is healthy, energy efficient and fosters innovation and collaboration,” said Michael Bohn, senior principal for Studio One Eleven. “This new facility builds on Laserfiche’s commitment to creating a positive work environment and an iconic gateway for the community of Bixby Knolls.”

Wacker said company officials are excited that the new development will be clearly visible from the 405 freeway and serve as a landmark in Bixby Knolls, where it will be the fourth building the company has owned.

“We plan to use that to get our name out there,” Wacker said.

Wacker helped build Laserfiche alongside his late wife, founder Nien-Ling Wacker. They started Laserfiche in 1987 and worked together to find ways for companies to store and easily access electronic files. Wacker said his wife was a visionary who saw the need for people to store and easily access information before most businesses were even using computers.

The new headquarters will allow for more company growth, Wacker said, ensuring Laserfiche and his family’s legacy is around well into the future.

“Our planned timeline,” he said, “is the next 100 years.”

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## Ashleigh Ruhl

Ashleigh is a freelance journalist with more than a decade of experience writing and editing articles for various newspapers and wire services in California and Colorado. A graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder, she has been honored with multiple awards for her journalism and community involvement.



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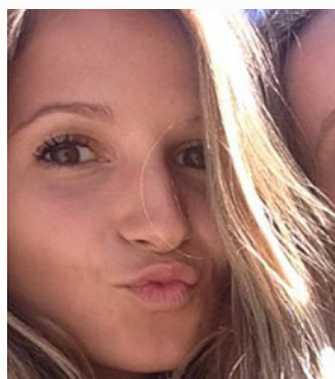
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## Emily Rasmussen

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