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Vessel Craft Coffee to open second Norfolk location in City Hall

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Courtesy of Vessel Craft Coffee

A drawing of the planned Vessel Craft Coffee location for Norfolk City Hall. The coffee bar is scheduled to open by the end of March.

Only a few months after adding an onsite roasting operation, Vessel Craft Coffee is expanding to a second downtown Norfolk location.

The coffee bar and roasting operation, which is in Selden Market, plans to open another location in the first floor of Norfolk City Hall by the end of March.

City of Norfolk leaders wanted a coffee service for their building at 810 Union St. and approached Vessel with a proposal, business partner Karen Corrigan said.

"It offered us a great opportunity there," Corrigan said.

She said the space will be very similar to the Selden coffee bar, with a few additions. For example, the menu will now include espresso drinks in addition to pour-over coffee, cold brew and tea. Corrigan said Vessel is also finalizing a light fare menu for breakfast and lunch food.

Vessel was founded in 2016 by Norfolk native Sarah Cowherd. After selling coffee online, it became one of the first Selden Market incubator tenants in October 2017 and began roasting its own coffee beans in October of 2018.

"We are thrilled to support the growth of an original Selden Market business as they expand into their second downtown location," Downtown Norfolk Council president and CEO Mary Miller said in a news release.

Vessel is leasing the space from the city, Corrigan said.

"We're thankful for the opportunity they've given us, and we're looking forward to serving good coffee," she said.