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REALESTATE



BEFORE: Regal United Artists Theater at 321 Merrick Road



AFTER: Artist's rendering of new theater

Village greenlights \$25M redo for movie theater

Lynbrook landmark to be modernized, enlarged

By **DAVID WINZELBERG**

A \$25 million plan to redevelop a multiscreen movie theater has won the approval of the Village of Lynbrook.

The project, by Syosset-based Blumenfeld Development Group and The Prusik Group, is designed to transform the Regal United Artists Theater at 321 Merrick Road and the nearly 100-year-old building it's housed in into a more modern and plush movie house, according to a statement from the developers.

The theater has been an anchor of downtown Lynbrook since the beginning of the 20th century, when it first operated as a live theater.

"The interior will be modernized and 50 additional seats will be added," said John Gior-

dano, Lynbrook's village administrator. "It's going to be a total demolition and rebuild."

The theater will be closed at the end of the summer and reopened about 18 months later once renovations are complete.

"It's part of a much-needed revitalization of downtown," said Edward Blumenfeld, president of the Blumenfeld Development Group. He said few people go to the current theater and the new one will be "state-of-the-art" with a new projection system and reclining seats.

Jerry Grewe, vice president of real estate for Regal Entertainment Group, said the company is "proud to lead the way" in the revitalization of the downtown Lynbrook area.

"The luxury amenities at the theater will certainly impress our guests and attract movie-goers from a wide region," Grewe said in a statement.

Jakub Lewkowicz contributed to this story.

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