Amazon picks Sunbury as site for $2 billion data center investment

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Amazon has picked Sunbury as the next location for its expanding data center operations in central Ohio.

The company said Thursday that it will invest $2 billion in the Delaware County city as part of the $7.8 billion investment that it announced for central Ohio in 2023.

"Our newest investment in Sunbury builds on our strong partnership with the community and the state, and our ongoing investment will help continue to foster innovation, nurture the next generation of talent, and expand on the fantastic partnerships we have across the Buckeye state," Roger Wehner, the vice president of economic development for Amazon Web Services, said in a statement.

Sunbury City Council has signed off on an agreement with Amazon for tax incentives in which Amazon says it will create 50 jobs as part of the project at 11793 Vans Valley Rd. The company estimates the first building will begin operations in 2034.

Sunbury annexed the site into the city this year and it has been zoned for limited industrial use.

"City Council approved this incentive to help achieve our strategic goals of diversifying the city's tax base and providing high-quality job opportunities for our residents," Mayor Joe St. John said in a statement. "This is the direct result of visionary work done by City Council last year to expand our (Community Reinvestment Area), establish a limited industrial zoning district, and partner with local

school districts to create the financial framework needed to contend for competitive economic development projects."

Amazon said its total data center investment has now hit more than $10 billion in Ohio.

Amazon's announcement is just the latest in a string of commitments tech companies have been making recently. Also, the companies have started to target new locations in the region.

Microsoft, for example, has said it will build data centers in Hebron and Heath and Cologix announced this week that it spend $7 billion to build eight data centers in Johnstown.

Nearby New Albany already hosts data center campuses from Amazon, Google, Facebook parent Meta and other tech companies, and Microsoft says it is building a data center in the city.

Amazon also has data centers in Dublin and Hilliard in central Ohio.

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