

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Elizabeth Arevalo

office 561-835-1008, cell 561-846-2832

## 8<sup>th</sup> Palm Beach County Corporate Announcement in 75 Day Period

ALDI to build 500,000-square-foot office and warehouse space

**WEST PALM BEACH, FLA. –** The Business Development Board (BDB), in partnership with Palm Beach County, the Village of Royal Palm Beach and Workforce Alliance, today announced that ALDI, the Batavia, Ill., based select assortment discount grocer, will build a 500,000-square-foot office and warehousing space in the Village of Royal Palm Beach that will be used for its division headquarters and regional distribution center. In addition to the capital expenditures of approximately \$50 million, the company anticipates annual local expenditures of \$25 million and a projected retail store investment within the tri-county region of \$182 million and 520 new jobs.

The facility will oversee and distribute to stores in the Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade markets. ALDI proudly pays above market wages for all positions as well as offering a generous benefits package.

The Village of Royal Palm Beach site is a 70-acre property and is bordered by Royal Palm Beach High School to the north and the Regal Royal Palm Beach Stadium 18 cinema to the south with access to State Road 7.

The BDB worked to guarantee the success of the project by leading ALDI through all aspects of the site selection process. In addition, the BDB served as the liaison between the Village of Royal Palm Beach, the County, Workforce Alliance and FDOT to help address several issues pertaining to land use and compatibility. The BDB received the referral from site consultants, The Walker Companies. Real estate professionals Chris Wood, Harry Tangalakis and Dick Levinson of CBRE handled the transaction of the sale of the property.

The deal with ALDI was sealed with the cooperation of The Village of Royal Palm Beach and the County's commitment to a conditional property tax exemption of 100 percent of the county's portion of ad valorem taxes for seven years. In addition, Workforce Alliance will provide \$100,000 worth of training grant assistance, and FPL's economic

development rider program will provide discounted utility rates that made Palm Beach County even more attractive to the project.

"We are thrilled to welcome ALDI to this area, and we're pleased that they have selected Palm Beach County to serve the entire South Florida market," stated Kelly Smallridge, President and CEO of the Business Development Board. "Known for bringing shoppers the highest quality products at the lowest possible prices, ALDI also has a track record as a strong community partner, and we look forward to working with them as a key business in Palm Beach County."

## About ALDI Inc.

A leader in the grocery retailing industry since 1976, ALDI is committed to bringing customers the highest quality products at the lowest possible prices. The company's exclusive brands meet or beat the national name brands on taste and quality. With more than 1,100 U.S. stores located in 31 states, primarily from Kansas to the East Coast, ALDI continues to expand, most recently in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area and South Florida. ALDI applies smart and efficient operational and business practices to save more than 20 million monthly customers up to 50 percent on their grocery bills. ALDI sells more than 1,400 of the most frequently purchased grocery and household items in a simple and easy-to-navigate shopping environment. For more information about ALDI, visit www.aldi.us.

## **About the BDB**

The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County is the official public/private economic development organization for Palm Beach County and Enterprise Florida. Founded in 1982 as a not-for-profit corporation, its primary purpose is to attract and retain new industry, business investment, high quality jobs and workforce development through corporate relocations, expansions and international trade. During the past five years, the BDB has assisted companies that have created more than 7,700 direct jobs with average salaries greater than \$55,400, resulting in more than \$355 million in capital investment to Palm Beach County and an economic impact that exceeds \$1.8 billion. Additional information can be found at the BDB's Web site, BDB.org.