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New IDL building taking shape

- Tyson Juarez The Gazette Record

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Crews have been making progress on the new Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) building as paving out front of the new administration building was conducted last week.

Paving equipment was seen at work Friday laying asphalt for the front parking area of the new IDL building and IDL St. Joe area manager said the paving gets them another step closer to being able to move in to the new building.

Crews have been working on the project for most of the spring and summer with the building starting to take shape.

The paving work, plus some additional interior work, should have staff in the new building possibly by the end of the year.

“We need this to get our occupancy permit later this winter for moving into the new building,” Brede said. “The interior of the admin building still has sheet rock work to complete before painting. The outside siding will be or should be done next week.”

The project doesn’t just include one new building for IDL crews, but two.

Brede said work on the new fire building is on schedule and that framing work is complete. Crews started putting up siding on the fire building last week he said.

It was reported in April that the construction would have two phases which included the construction of new administrative office buildings and a new building for fire vehicles and personnel.

The new administrative offices will be all one level and will be ADA compliant. Brede reported the current administrative office had been composed of multiple add-ons and remodels from the past five decades.

He said the new building will give the IDL staff a clean slate, with up-to-date heating and cooling systems as well.

The new building will also host a large conference room with a max capacity of around 50 people.

The new fire building will host three heated bays, allowing crews to keep the engines fully serviced and housed in the building 24/7.