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Crews dismantling Yellow Pages sign in Detroit

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-mi-bellbuilding-sign,0,4394585.story>

Associated Press

DETROIT— A three-story high "Yellow Pages" advertising sign that has been part of Detroit's landscape for about five decades is coming down.

Removal of the sign atop the former Michigan Bell Building is part of renovations by the Neighborhood Service Organization, a nonprofit human services group.

The sign has been visible to motorists along the Lodge Freeway.

The 255,000-square-foot NSO Bell Building is expected to open in the fall. It will serve as the organization's new headquarters and have 155, one-bedroom apartments for homeless adults. The project is expected to cost \$50 million when completed.

Individuals, businesses, faith-based organizations and other groups are being asked to host housewarming parties to raise money to buy furnishings and other items for the apartments.

"This is a permanent supportive housing program, with supportive being the operative word," the organization's Chief Operations Officer William Weld-Wallis said in an email. "Staff will be available on-site to assist residents by offering flexible supportive services, including [substance abuse](#) treatment, mental health treatment, coordination with primary health care, case management, connection to job training, and more."

Waiting lists for the apartments are expected to be opened in the coming months and will include a public announcement. Most residents are expected to come through the organization's Homeless Services arm and from other community groups, Weld-Wallis added.