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Sushi restaurant to open in Kirkwood

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A sushi restaurant will open on Dec. 14 in Kirkwood.

Wasabi Sushi Bar will take over the former space of Five Star Burgers, which closed earlier this month, at 312 S. Kirkwood Road. The 3,000-square-foot dining space will fit more than 80 guests, not including the patio and a lower level that Wasabi aims to turn into a private dining space.

Spiegelglass Construction Co. and [Klitzing Welsch Associates](#) have been tapped for the build-out. Sansone Group Managing Director Grant Mechlin served as broker. Investment costs were not disclosed.

The Kirkwood location is part of Wasabi's expansion and plans to become the market leader in sushi, CEO John Kim said. To help with that, Kim brought on Vice President of Operations Robin Brown, who previously worked with Kelly Kuhlmann's Jack in the Box and [Taco Bell](#) franchise groups.

Brown said the Kirkwood opening marks Wasabi's first standalone restaurant and enables the sushi brand to include a full-bar concept. About 20 employees will be hired.

Five Star Burgers owner Steve Gontram and his 5 Star Burgers Real Holdings LLC own the south Kirkwood property, which was appraised for \$697,800, according to St. Louis County records.



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Wasabi Sushi Bar will open at 312 S. Kirkwood Road in Kirkwood on Dec. 14.

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St. Louis Business Journal

