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Mixed Use

By Patrick Hedlund

FiDi fried

With such scant eating options in the Financial District, hungry Lower Manhattanites either licked their lips or gagged at news that a fried-chicken joint would be taking over the space formerly occupied by a vegetarian restaurant.

Chicken BonChon, a fast-food eatery specializing in Korean fried chicken, recently signed a 10-year lease for 2,000 square feet at 104 John St., the one-time home of Asian fusion/vegetarian restaurant Zen Palate between Cliff and Pearl Sts.

BonChon's mid-December opening is set to coincide with another in Midtown, and the restaurant also counts a location on Fifth Ave. in Koreatown. According to some exhaustive online research, fried chicken in Korea is equivalent to chicken wings in the States, so we have a feeling the space should do brisk business.

Winick Realty Group represented both tenant and landlord in the deal.