

Detroit-based Giffels Webster acquires Lathrup Village consulting firm

By Adrienne Roberts



Rodney Arroyo

Detroit-based consulting firm **Giffels Webster** on Thursday announced it has acquired **Clearzoning**, a planning and zoning consulting firm in Lathrup Village.

Giffels Webster declined to disclose the acquisition amount.

Rodney Arroyo, co-founder and president of Clearzoning, will become a partner at Giffels Webster, overseeing the firm's community planning. Clearzoning's CEO David Birchler will retire later this year following the completion of the acquisition.

Clearzoning's nine employees will stay on with the acquisition. Giffels Webster, a firm offering civil engineering, planning, landscape architecture and land development consulting services, has 96 employees.

"The talent of Clearzoning significantly strengthens our community-planning abilities and deepens the service portfolio we offer to our clients," Scott Clein, president and partner at Giffels Webster, said in a news release.

Clearzoning will begin transitioning its employees to Giffels Webster's offices in Detroit, Washington Township and Birmingham this month. Giffels Webster will continue offering Clearzoning's namesake product that converts zoning ordinances into illustrated, digital documents, along with its planning process for downtown districts.

Clearzoning was originally founded in 1989 as a subsidiary of **Birchler Arroyo Associates Inc.** in Lathrup Village. The company's clients include West Bloomfield Township, the city of Novi and **Ludington State Park**.

<http://www.crainsdetroit.com/article/20160602/NEWS/160609831/detroit-based-giffels-webster-acquires-lathrup-village-consulting>