



City of McMinnville

ADMINISTRATION

January 23, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

“The City of McMinnville and McMinnville Water & Light partner on future site for a new Community Recreation Center”

The City of McMinnville and McMinnville Water & Light are pleased to announce their partnership on the location for a new community recreation center. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was announced at the January 22nd McMinnville Water and Light Meeting, which is the first step in a process that will allow the City to acquire the property from McMinnville Water & Light.

“This marks a pivotal agreement between Water and Light and the City, a handshake that solidifies our collaborative efforts. The future recreation center shows our commitment to building a healthy McMinnville,” states Mayor Remy Drabkin.

The property known as the “Miller Property,” is approximately 27 acres located at the SE intersection of Marsh Lane and Riverside Drive abutting Joe Dancer Park. The proposed new facility will replace the aging aquatic and community centers that have been the backbone of our indoor recreation spaces for decades.

"We know that identifying the right location for a new rec center was a really important step in the overall community process," says Parks and Recreation Director, Susan Muir. "After almost 4 years of planning, community input, a feasibility study, facility condition assessments, a community advisory committee recommendation and concept designs, we are really excited to be at this point and want to thank all of the community members who have participated and helped move this project forward."

Both parties will work through multiple requirements to establish a mutually agreeable sales price prior to the official transfer to the City of McMinnville. Ultimately, the City Council is the decision-making body who will finalize the agreement and plans moving forward.

While there is more work to be done in planning for a new Recreation Center, the timeline set forth in the MOU will allow the City to further engage with the community, and will likely involve working on updated cost estimates, a review of the concept plans, a capital campaign, a study for the future of the existing facilities/sites, and a capital bond which will be voted on by McMinnville registered voters in the coming 12 to 18 months.

This project leverages the investments of our predecessors and aims McMinnville towards a prosperous future. We are dedicated to fostering a resilient and flourishing McMinnville,” says Mayor Drabkin, “A new facility will be a modern and efficient addition to McMinnville where the community can do what it does best – play, explore, grow, connect,” surmises Director Muir.



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Updates concerning this project and other city news will be noticed in the weekly City newsletter and on the City's website. Community members may sign up to receive the weekly e-newsletter by emailing noelle.amaya@mcminnvilleoregon.gov or by visiting www.iheartmac.org.

Questions related to this press release may be directed to:

Jeff Towery, City Manager

Jeff.Towery@mcminnvilleoregon.gov