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THE NEW DAN MCKINNEY FAMILY YMCA

8355 Cliffridge Avenue, La Jolla, CA

Frequently Asked Questions

• When will construction start?

We expect the first phase of construction to begin in the summer of 2015 once tennis camps finish out the summer.

• Will my membership dues be affected?

Membership dues will not be affected by the new construction. All of the funds used to finance the expansion are being raised through our Golden Opportunity Capital Campaign. If you would like to support the campaign or discuss naming opportunities, please see one of our staff members. We will however, continue the practice of a small increase each year to cover operational expenses (as needed).

• Will the YMCA be closed during the construction?

No. A great deal of thought has gone into phasing the construction to keep as much of the facility open during construction as possible. The initial phase will involve adding a significant amount of parking so that it is in place before new elements of the YMCA campus are installed over our existing parking. The second phase will install a state of the art aquatic facility with two new pools, a new spa, and children’s water spray park. Our existing pool will remain open until the new aquatic center is finished.

The third phase, which will be the most significant, will house a new fitness center, new locker rooms, including family locker rooms, a teaching kitchen, community room, intergenerational center, Childwatch, a small cafe with indoor/outdoor dining area, and new group exercise studio.

The final phase will be the remodeling of the back building into an expanded gymnastics center, multipurpose spaces, spin studio and offices.

• Can I use another Y during the construction?

Yes. Although the La Jolla YMCA will remain open throughout construction, all La Jolla YMCA members will be given an upgraded "All Y ACCESS" membership that will allow you to use any YMCA in San Diego County should you choose.

• Were the members asked for input on the project?

Yes. The staff at the YMCA solicited input through many avenues including an extensive market study that was conducted among randomly selected members and nonmembers in the La Jolla YMCA service area. The project was revised many times to include the most current and future uses possible.

• What if I don't want to retain my membership while you are under construction?

We understand that construction may be inconvenient and for this reason, we will be providing all La Jolla YMCA members with an All Y ACCESS membership at no additional cost. This will enable you to use any YMCA in San Diego County during construction. If you still have questions or concerns about your membership, please talk to a staff member and we will work with you to find the best solution.

• How long will the construction take?

The construction will take approximately 20 months to complete. The project and timeline is based on the idea of keeping as much of the current campus open as possible in order to minimize the impact on members.

• Will there be a “Buy a Brick” campaign?

We are excited to offer all donors of $250 or more the opportunity to have their name added to one of four donor recognition walls that will be placed throughout the facility. You can find out more by asking a membership services member for a Community Capital Campaign brochure.

• Will there be an indoor pool?

No. After interviews and focus groups with members of the Y and members of the community in general, it was decided that with our climate and location we would proceed with two new pools, both being outdoors as part of the new aquatic center. There will be a warm water pool for group exercise, recreation and aerobic activity as well as a new eight-lane competition/lap pool. The aquatic center will also include a new spa and even a water spray park for children, all located on our new western campus with plenty of sun and ocean views!

• Will we get new fitness equipment?

Yes. We are replacing all fitness center equipment this summer, and will be adding to it when we move into the new facility.

**• How is this project being paid for?**

All of the funds needed to begin this project have been donated. We will continue to ask for donations in order to complete the project. As a nonprofit, we depend on the generous support of our community to maintain a place for youth, families and seniors to grow strong in spirit, mind and body. We are thankful for all of the support thus far.

**• Is tennis going away?**

Yes. After conducting a market study and looking at impacted programs – such as gymnastics, preschool, and swimming – members of the community board involved in years of a planning process approved the removal of the tennis courts as part of the renovation. A major factor in the decision was the need to expand our aquatics program, teaching life saving skills. However we are investigating offsite options to continue tennis programs.

**• What will change? Where will everything go?**

This extensive project will provide enhanced and expanded spaces for all of the current YMCA programs.

First and foremost, the project will add over 100 new parking spaces, many of which will be oversized! It will relocate the main entry towards the east where the bulk of the parking will be.

As you enter the facility, there will be a new dramatic two-story entry that will greet members, with views into the gymnasium and upper level fitness center.

Childwatch will be expanded and located at the main entry for convenience.

The facility will sport completely new and greatly expanded men's, women's and family locker rooms centrally located on the remodeled campus.

All of the fitness and cardio will be located upstairs with great views of the ocean to the north and west. Studio spaces will be expanded and located upstairs next to the current Marion So Studio (which will remain) as well as a youth studio downstairs next to the gymnastics lobby.

The gymnasium will remain as-is, but opened-up for additional viewing.

The gymnastics center will be expanded into the current fitness area by removing the back wall.

The Youth Development Center will receive a permanent home on the first floor of the back building and will house three preschool classrooms, Character Builders After School Care and will have direct access to a new playground.

• How will the capital campaign affect the Annual Support Campaign?

The Annual Support Campaign is at the core of our mission and commitment to make sure everyone has access to the Y, regardless of their income or ability to pay. It is our goal to grow our level of annual support during the capital campaign in preparation for the increased need and desire for access to our new facility. Funds from the annual campaign will not be used for construction. Annual campaign funds are used to provide programs to those who otherwise couldn't afford to participate.

• What is the total cost of the project?

The total construction cost for the new facility is estimated to be $15.5 million.

• Why are you beginning construction if you have not raised all of the money?

With the majority of the funds for the project now secured, the leadership of the YMCA has chosen to begin construction in order to bring the new Y to the community as soon as possible. Fundraising will continue as we launch the community phase of the campaign. The campaign will run throughout the project and we are confident that, with support of our community, we will reach our funding goal very soon.

• Why are you doing this?

While the current YMCA has served us well for the past 50 years, high usage and increased demand for our programs and services requires us to update and expand. Through major renovation and expansion of our facility, the Y will be ready to serve the ever-changing needs of future generations of La Jolla and the surrounding communities.

• Is Summer Camp coming back to the building?

Summer Camp will continue to be held in different locations in our service area, including Torrey Pines Elementary School, Pacific Beach Middle School, and Standley Recreation Center. The camps that are based at Torrey Pines will continue to use facilities at the Y.

• Whose idea was it to undertake this project?

The La Jolla YMCA original facility and pool is over 50 years old and no longer meets the needs of the community. The plans for this expansion and remodel began in 2002 when the Board of Directors determined it was time for a new, modern facility and developed a master plan. Sufficient funds were raised for Phase I, which included the new gymnasium and lobby that was built in 2008. The completion of the project, Phase 2, was put on hold during the recession when fundraising became a challenge. In 2013, it was decided to begin another campaign to raise funds to complete the master plan. Since then, we have raised 75% of the amount needed and will continue to raise funds throughout the completion of the project.

• What is the plan for the locker rooms?

The new facility will have three large, modern locker rooms: one for men, one for women, and one for families. The Family Locker Room has been a highly requested accommodation. It will have private showers and dressing stalls so that families and people with special needs can assist each other, no matter the age or gender.

* Will there be a playground for Childwatch?

There will be two outdoor play areas, one for preschool-aged children and one for elementary-aged children. In addition, there will be an indoor Kids Adventure Center with climbing structures and plenty of space for active play.

• What will the new building look like?

The new facility will have a more modern look that reflects the neighborhood much better than the current buildings. The addition of a second story with large windows will allow for incredible views and lots of light. The building's exterior will draw from some of La Jolla's rich architectural history and incorporate dramatic arches.

• Will the facility have an elevator?

Yes. The facility will include a large new commercial elevator as well as two stairwells to the upper floor.

• Will we have sauna and steam?

Yes. The plan is to have co-ed sauna and steam rooms next to the pool deck as you enter the locker rooms.

• Will members still have outdoor meeting space?

Yes. The outdoor gathering spaces will be significantly larger with a variety of options for full shade or sun. There will also be more extensive food service. Whether you simply want to enjoy a quick smoothie after a workout or to gather with a large group, the new campus will be able to meet everyone's needs regardless of the size or even the weather!

• What about the trees?

There will be significantly more trees on the campus when the project is complete. Larger existing trees on the campus perimeter will be retained wherever possible and the new parking lot will include trees throughout.

• What aspects of the newly renovated facility will be environmentally friendly?

The new facility will be constructed in a sustainable fashion with many “green” features that will improve energy efficiency. Inside, there will be new lighting and mechanical fixtures. Outside, the landscape will be low-water and drought tolerant planting. We intend to have the facility powered by a large array of solar power panels on the new large roofs of the remodeled facility.

• Will the facility be completely handicapped accessible?

Yes. The facility will provide accessible paths of travel for any disability throughout the remodeled facility.

• How will this project further the mission of the YMCA?

A modern, barrier-free facility will allow us to better serve the needs of all in our community. Through updated and expanded space and amenities, the YMCA will continue to serve as a healthy and welcoming community gathering place dedicated to helping all people to become their better selves.

• Where can I find more information?

You can visit our website at www.lajolla.ymca.org, or ask for a community capital campaign brochure. We also send out updates via mail and/or email. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please let us know.

If you have any further questions please contact us at NewY@ymca.org.