



June 9, 2014

Dear Residents:

218 percent.

That's how much demand for programming at Windsor's Community Recreation Center has increased the past 10 years.

We've also seen an increase of 123 and 114 percent in demand for youth activities and senior participation at the Community Recreation Center, respectively.

This continued increase in demand for recreation programming is driven both by an increase in Windsor's population—which has grown from about 10,000 to 20,000 residents the past decade—and efforts to increase the scope of our recreation programming.

We have come to the point where our facilities and programs simply cannot keep pace with the demand for indoor recreation. Meanwhile, Chimney Park Pool is limited to seasonal programming. Many Windsor residents in fact travel great lengths to address their indoor recreation needs. Gymnasiums and other recreation facilities at our local schools are also operating at or near capacity.

Windsor citizens for years have expressed support for expanding indoor recreational options. Our voters supported the construction of the current Community Recreation Center by approving a sales tax increase in 2002. Also, a 2011 Public Opinion Survey indicated strong local support for indoor leisure pools, lap lanes, weight-training space and cardio space.

During the past three years, extensive research and deliberation has gone into developing a plan to address our community's highest priority unmet indoor recreation needs. The plan recommends expanding the existing Rec Center to include the following amenities:

- A leisure pool
- Lap lanes
- A water slide
- An auxiliary gym
- A walk/jog track
- An aerobics/dance/yoga studio
- A fitness/wellness studio
- Expanded locker rooms
- A child-watch area
- A classroom/party room
- Additional parking

The Windsor Town Board is seeking your input on a sales tax increase of 0.75% (or 3/4 of one cent) to fund the proposed expansion project. The sales tax equates to 7.5 cents per \$10 for purchases made in Windsor. The proposal does not involve a property tax whatsoever, and would derive a portion of its revenue from non-residents.

The estimated cost of the project is \$16.1 million, which includes site work, construction and other project costs.

As you no doubt can appreciate, parks and recreation amenities provide many benefits to a community. They enhance property values; help attract and retain professionals and businesses; help promote healthy life choices and control healthcare costs; provide social interaction, and help keep seniors, family and kids connected. In other words, they improve our overall quality of life.

Given the growing demand for indoor recreation programming and the many benefits of the project, as well as the fact that borrowing costs remain at historic lows, the Town Board believes this is the right time to tackle the Community Recreation Center expansion project. However, no formal action will be taken to place the proposed sales tax measure on the ballot until August 2014, providing time for our community to properly vet the proposal.

Within the next month you'll be receiving a public opinion survey in the mail. Your participation in this survey would be greatly appreciated. We also encourage you to participate in one of our upcoming public outreach meetings to discuss the Community Recreation Center expansion proposal:

- June 12, 2014, 6:00 – 7:00 pm, Clearview Library, 720 3rd Street
- June 18, 2014, 9:00 am – 12 noon, Community Recreation Center, 250 N. 11th Street
- June 24, 2014, 6:00 – 7:00 pm, Community Recreation Center, 250 N. 11th Street
- July 9, 2014, 6:00 – 7:00 pm, Poudre Valley REA, 7649 REA Parkway
- July 22, 2014, 7:00 – 8:00 pm, Community Recreation Center, 250 N. 11th Street
- August 6, 2014, 6:00 – 7:00 pm, Community Recreation Center, 250 N. 11th Street

Conceptual floor plans and additional details regarding the proposed Community Recreation Center expansion project are available online at www.windsorgov.com/CRCEExpand.

Thank you in advance for your thoughts and recommendations.

Sincerely,



John S. Vazquez, Mayor



301 Walnut Street • Windsor, Colorado • 80550

