



Media Release

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Groundbreaking Event Set for Rogue Credit Union Community Complex

The City of Medford's efforts to construct the Rogue Credit Union Community Complex (RCUCC) have now reached a major project milestone: Groundbreaking.

The Medford City Council authorized an earthwork contract that will create the building pad for the 140,000-square-foot indoor event center and aquatics facility, and **a ceremonial groundbreaking event is set for Noon on Friday, September 10 at Howard Memorial Sports Park.**

****Due to limited on-site parking and to provide ample space for social distancing, the groundbreaking event is for invited guests and the news media.****

Despite challenges presented by pandemic-caused market conditions, what will be the largest building ever constructed by the City of Medford remains on time for an August 2023 completion. The highly collaborative project team consisting of Pence Construction, Perkins & Will/CDA architects, and City staff have completed the building's schematic design and are currently finalizing construction documents that will determine the cost.

The RCUCC will feature three areas under a single roof: a 76,700-square-foot event center space large enough to fit eight basketball courts; a 35,500-square-foot natatorium containing a recreational pool, two water slides and a 13-lane competitive pool; and a core area for restrooms, changing rooms, gathering areas, and offices.

The City has already approved \$62 million to build the RCUCC, and the guaranteed maximum price will come to the City Council in January 2022. Sharp increases in construction commodities due to the pandemic, and skyrocketing steel prices in particular, could result in allocation of additional resources for the project.

To achieve the lowest possible construction cost while preserving the size, quality and functionality of the key recreational spaces, the project team made numerous adjustments to the conceptual design, including decreasing the overall building size and height, altering structural methods and materials, and adjusting interior and exterior finishes.

For the project to stay on schedule and to prepare for vertical construction next spring, LTM/Knife River Materials and Pence Construction crews will prepare a 23-acre portion of the Howard Memorial Sports Park over the next three months. Over the same timeframe, the project team will seek Site Plan and Architectural Committee approval of the building design.

The Medford City Council approved moving forward with what was known as the Medford Sports and Events Center in 2019. Following voter approval of a two-percent increase to the transient lodging tax in May 2020, the City Council approved multiple funding sources for the project in June 2020.

Rogue Credit Union and the City entered into a 10-year facility naming rights agreement in November 2020. When the Rogue Credit Union Community Complex opens, proceeds from the \$2.145 million deal will provide free water safety classes to all Medford fourth-graders and help offset building operational costs.

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