

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BURIEN SEEKING INPUT ON NEW COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

(Burien, WA) – The City of Burien is seeking public input on plans for a new community recreation center. A public workshop will be held at 7:00pm on Thursday, July 12 at the Burien Community Center (located at 425 SW 144 Street) to discuss the project and to learn what features are of interest to Burien’s citizens. Additional follow-up workshops for the public will be held on September 20 and October 18.

The feedback from these workshops, along with input from focus groups and stakeholders, will be used by the City to develop preliminary plans for a new community recreation center. The new facility would replace and be built on the site of the existing Burien Community Center. Director of Parks and Recreation, Michael Lafreniere said that this planning process will follow through with citizen recommendations made to the City Council in 2005.

“It’s been a step-by-step process, and so I’m excited that we’re finally getting around to coming up with some concepts and designs,” said Lafreniere.

“Participants will be asked a variety of questions to assess their views regarding the recreation needs of the community, and issues that should be addressed in the Community Center Master Plan.



With public processes such as these, there are never wrong answers, so everybody is encouraged to be open and freely express their thoughts.”

In addition to the public meeting planned for the evening of July 12, participants are needed for future focus groups and stakeholder meetings. These would include residents, partner agency/organization representatives, business community representatives, and users of the facility and its services. Participants will be asked how the future facility should meet the needs of the community, and what features, amenities, services and programs are desired in the new facility. If citizens are interested in participating in these focus groups and stakeholder meetings, they are encouraged to contact the Burien Parks Department.

Some of the questions being considered by the City and its planning consultants include:

- What would make the community recreation center uniquely Burien?
- How should the building contribute to the quality of life in Burien?
- What should the financial guiding principles be?
- What should the functional requirements of the building be?
- What populations should be served in the building?
- What are the recreation program needs of the community?
- Who are the potential partners in the community?
- What are the important characteristics of a new community recreation center?

In addition to the public workshops, interested citizens may provide their thoughts online and learn more at the project website, www.burienparks.net/center.htm. The public can also contact Burien Parks & Recreation at 206-988-3700.

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