

Rollie Miles Recreation Centre

Q&A

Edmonton

Three design concepts have been developed for Rollie Miles Recreation Centre. A public information meeting was held on November 1, 2022, to share details on the concepts. This document provides answers to the additional questions that were submitted during the information meeting. The majority of participant-submitted questions were answered live and can be viewed in the recording of the meeting.

The recording can be accessed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwJoYWvKmrI>

Q: Is there room in the fitness area for younger kids (e.g. an indoor play area)?

A: The fitness centre will not have space for an indoor play area. Similar to other fitness centres operated by the City, this fitness centre will focus on cardio and weight training for patrons aged 16+. 12 to 15-year-olds are always welcome to use our fitness centres after completing a Youth In Action course.

Q: Will there be a kitchen in the multipurpose room?

A: The multipurpose room currently includes provision for a kitchenette.

Q: I only see pools associated with the aquatics centre in the plans. Are you considering areas for children or a hot tub?

A: The aquatic centre plans currently include a lap pool, leisure pool with a shallow area for children, a hot tub, a dry sauna and a steam room. We are reviewing the need for all three “hot” aquatic elements (hot tub, steam room, and dry sauna). We will provide more information in the next round of public engagement.

Q: Will there be diving blocks installed?

A: Starting blocks will be included with the lap pool to support training and swim club use.

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Q: Could this pool have a newer filtration system (similar to Borden park pool)?

A: Systems selection will be addressed in detailed design. A natural filtration experience, which is used at [Borden Natural Swimming Pool](#), is not viable in a year-round facility. “Natural” pool filtration relies on active (outdoor) biological processes that are dormant in our winter.

Q: Is there an opportunity to reconsider the inclusion of an indoor walking track to accommodate those with mobility issues who cannot safely walk outside in the winter?

A: Previous public engagement endorsed a small, compact recreation centre. A walking track was not prioritized as part of that program, in part due to the significant dedicated space requirements for a walking/jogging track. Adding a track above the small gymnasium adversely impacts gym activities by reducing the airspace required for play. Badminton, basketball, volleyball and other gym sports would be unacceptably impacted by such an arrangement.

Treadmills and other cardio equipment included in the facility will allow for similar mobility activities. Additionally, the City offers a variety of both dry-land and aquatic programs that accommodate varying mobility levels.

Q: What happened to the idea of providing pickleball courts?

A: Pickleball courts are being considered as part of the park program. We will provide more information in the next round of public engagement.

Q: What is the current utilization level of the tennis courts across the city? Is the proposed allocation of tennis courts over/under/equal to the current tennis courts?

A: Other than school use, we have no comprehensive record of tennis court use as most tennis court users drop-in and do not book court time. Anecdotally, the tennis courts are well-used.

The proposed allocation for tennis courts is equal to that provided currently (four courts).

Q: How many overflow parking spaces in this area are used by the school? Does the proposed number of parking spaces still cover that need, or will student parking be further pushed into the community?

A: The Rollie Miles Recreation Centre project is retaining the existing parking lots, including stalls used by the school. The recreation centre project proposes the addition of a parking lot with approximately 100 stalls.

Q: Could there be a bus turn-in on the east side of the parking lot?

A: Bus drop-off will be considered by Transit as the design progresses.

Q: Will a bike lane connect the 106 Street bike lanes and the 76 Avenue bike lanes to the building's bike parking?

A: Transportation Planning will identify transportation-related improvements such as bike connections required as part of this development.

Q: Can safe storage for bike trailers (for transporting children, for example) be considered in the design?

A: This will be considered during later stages of design.

Q: How could the Jackknife design option recover heat lost in the winter from below the gymnasium?

A: If this covered approach is undertaken for the project, the soffit will be insulated to mitigate heat loss during colder months.

Q: Could the Power Bar option have a covered extension added to the northwest corner to provide a similar covered area that the Jackknife offers?

A: The Power Bar currently provides a covered overhang space at the northwest corner of the building. There is potential to extend this further depending on the detailed design of the building's exterior.

Q: Could the west part of the JackKnife design be oriented north-south to provide a more useable multipurpose area, skate change room, lobby, and office space?

A: The angle of the north face of the multipurpose and skate changerooms will be investigated to optimize the configuration of these rooms.

Q: Has the City considered community and/or private fundraising to add to collaborative funding from all levels of government to accelerate this project?

A: Yes, this has been considered and was discussed at the May 16 Community and Public Services Committee Meeting (see report [CS00386](#)).

Alternative funding sources such as a Community Revitalization Levy or Local Improvement Tax are not recommended by Administration to be used for the development of the proposed Rollie Miles Recreation Centre, as indicated in the January 31, 2022, Community Services report [CS00387](#), Policy Options for Alternative Financing Tools - Recreation Centres. It is recommended that the existing capital budget prioritization process be used for the Rollie Miles Recreation Centre utilizing funding sources presented to Council during the budgeting process.

Q: Will anything be done to prevent homeless encampments, criminality, and vandalism?

A: The design of the building will be informed by Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED). This includes principles such as Natural Forms of Surveillance, Access Control and Territorial Reinforcement.

Q: Isn't the costing of each option necessary to justify budget expenditure and approval?

A: Relative costing is identified in the presentation. Costing will be refined at each future stage of the project design as more information becomes available to inform costs. At the completion of Design Development, a project budget will be presented to City Council for their consideration and approval.

Q: How will your team help the City Council recognize the necessity of this small-scale recreation centre and bring this project to fruition?

A: The Rollie Miles Recreation Centre Project Team is committed to developing a smart and efficient design that meets the intent of the [Master Plan](#), aligns with City plans, strategies, and policies, and is cost-effective. Bringing the community's voice to Council through Council reports and What We Heard documents is part of how we tell that story to City Council.

Ultimately, the decision-making authority to approve and fund the construction of the facility rests with City Council.