

FAQ regarding new Recreation Center

- Will the Round House be demolished?
 - No. The City has recently passed a resolution in favor of saving the Round House. The City Council never approved plans to demolish the Roundhouse. References to a grant application showing the Roundhouse removed from a site plan are irrelevant. The grant was for the construction of a Recreation Center only. Nothing else on that site plan has any bearing on the grant application.
- What is the cost of the new Recreation Center?
 - The total estimate for the entire project including Design, Engineering, Construction Management, and Construction is 7.5 Million dollars.
- Were “no bid” construction contracts issued to construct the new Recreation Center?
 - No. Construction bidding does not take place until after the building is designed. An Architect and Engineering firm were hired as consultants to design the new Recreation Center and oversee its construction.
- Did the City apply for a Grant to help build the Recreation Center?
 - Yes, The City applied for a grant that would save \$2.5 million on only the construction of the Recreation Center.
- Did the City obligate itself to tearing down the Roundhouse in its IDNR PARC grant application?
 - No, the application deals strictly with the construction of the new Recreation Center. Anything referenced for other parts of the site are irrelevant to the application and in no way obligates the City to follow. The note referencing tearing down the Roundhouse was simply an early version of a Master Site Plan which was never approved. The City has since taken steps to save the Roundhouse, as is.
- Why does the City need a new Recreation Center?
 - The only current indoor facility the City has for recreation is the Round House. The Round House was never meant to be a recreation center. The City is restricted as to what programs can be offered at the Round House due to its small size and configuration. A new recreation center would allow for more variety in what can be offered to the citizens, especially children, of Wood River.
- Where will the new Recreation Center be located?
 - The new Recreation Center will be located on the vacant lot directly North of the Round House.
- Is the proposed location for the new Recreation Center in a 100-year flood zone?
 - No. This property has never been an any flood designation that would require flood insurance.
- Where is the money coming from to pay for the Recreation Center?
 - The money is coming from a 1% sales tax that the citizens of Wood River passed in April 2019.
- Did the City of Wood River put the advisory question, to Save the roundhouse/Not build a recreation center, on the ballot?
 - No, The City of Wood River did not put this referendum on the ballot. A citizen driven group collected signatures to put this on the ballot.
- Does the City have to abide by the outcome of the advisory question on the ballot?
 - No, this is simply an advisory referendum and is not legally binding, whatever the outcome might be.
- Are property taxes going up to pay for this?
 - No, the project will be completely funded by the 1% sales tax.
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- Can site plans and ideas change?
 - Yes, the City Council, along with staff recommendations, will have the final say on the layout for the new facility.
- Are other projects being completed with the 1% sales tax?
 - Yes, the City currently has 3 flood relief projects planned with the new sales tax revenues. One in the State St area to separate storm sewer from sanitary sewer, one in the 6th St area to remove approximately 180 homes from the 100 year flood zone, which would allow those homes not to buy flood insurance, and one just east of the Kia dealership which will remove the rest of that area from the 100 year flood zone and allow the property to become available for commercial development.
- Did the YMCA ever offer to fully fund a Recreation Center in Wood River?
 - No, the YMCA offered a proposal to run programs, if the City built a Recreation Center. Programs would be very costly to the City and the City would not have any control of what was offered to residents.
- Was the City ever approached about designating the Roundhouse as a Historic building?
 - No, the City has yet to be approached regarding historic designations.