



# Park and Recreation Commission

*City of Arts & Innovation*

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**TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS** **DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2018**

**FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE YOUTH INNOVATION CENTER AT ARLINGTON PARK**

## **ISSUE:**

Receive an update on the construction and programming components of the new Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Park and Recreation Commission receive and provide feedback on a report highlighting updates on the construction and programming components of the new Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park.

## **BACKGROUND:**

On December 16, 2014, the City Council directed staff to re-design existing plans for a childcare center to serve as a youth innovation center and allocate funding for the design phase. Staff held off on bidding the project until January 29, 2018, so funding would be available for operating the facility once constructed.

On July 30, 2018, Act 1 Construction was issued a notice to proceed with constructing the approximately, 10,000 square foot Youth Innovation Center (YIC) at Arlington Park. The Project, including the YIC building and associated site improvements (parking lot, landscaping and outdoor classroom/patio area), is anticipated to be completed in June 2018, at which time, staff will furnish and prepare the facility for public use and an anticipated opening in Summer 2019.

## **DISCUSSION:**

### **CONSTRUCTION**

Progress made on the construction phase of the project includes: 1) construction mobilization, which includes preparation of the site for construction, fencing, temporary power, etc.; 2) demolition of existing park infrastructure, including the roller hockey rink; and 3) grading of the site.

## **PROGRAMMING**

In an effort to gain insight on trending topics in technology and makerspaces, Staff continued to research, and tour a variety of facilities. Staff toured the Music Changing Lives facility located at the Redlands Community Center, Riverside Community College's film production facilities, and California Baptist University's film production facilities. Staff also had a conference call with Robolink and Santa Monica Youth Tech program.

Staff met with Executive Director, Pat Person, and Chief Financial Officer, Jose Navarrete, of TechXploration. TechXploration is a non-profit organization that provides STEM programming to underprivileged and underrepresented students to prepare them for careers in technology. Items discussed included the TechXploration program Kids That Code, the new children's technology show "TechXploration with Mista Pat" and TechXploration goals. TechXploration's Executive members are excited for YIC and are interested in assisting with technology, instructors, training, and curriculum.

Plans for the first round of public surveys were drafted. Staff will distribute surveys at various events and to community members to gauge the interest of the community of various future course topic offerings.

Staff met with the Arlington Business Partnership and Image One Camera and Video. Items discussed were the design of a digital 'Hope Wall' that will serve as an interactive display board of visitor messages, class schedules, and student work projects.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Randy McDaniel, Principal Park Planner/Project Manager

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