



# Park and Recreation Commission

*City of Arts & Innovation*

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**TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS** **DATE: OCTOBER 18, 2021**  
**FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**  
**SUBJECT: BOURNS FAMILY YOUTH INNOVATION CENTER UPDATE**

## **ISSUE:**

Present the Park and Recreation Commission with a Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center update.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Park and Recreation Commission provide feedback and receive the report for file.

## **BACKGROUND:**

On December 16, 2014, City Council directed staff to re-design existing plans for a childcare center to serve as a Youth Innovation Center (YIC) and allocate funding for the design phase. Staff held off bidding the project until January 29, 2018, so funds would be available to operate the facility once constructed.

On July 30, 2018, Act 1 Construction issued a notice to proceed with constructing the approximately 9,000 square foot Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park. The Youth Innovation Center would extend services to provide new opportunities for future generations in workforce development, STEM-related fields, and more.

On July 21, 2020, the Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park's Notice of Completion was filed with the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCSD). The facility's furnishing and fixtures were moved in and staff began to complete the installation of technology components of the facility.

On August 18, 2020, the Bourns Family donated \$1,000,000, and City Council approved to name the Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center.

On June 7, 2021, the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center began its STEM Summer Camp with over 20 participants; in August, families were able to participate in a variety of in-person classes including Girls that Code Club, Intro to Python, Garageband, Chemistry 101, etc.

## **DISCUSSION:**

On Saturday, September 25, 2021, from 12 – 3 pm, the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center hosted its official grand opening. The event was open to the public and showcased the building, various programs, and provided class and membership registration opportunities.

On Sunday, October 3, 2021, from 9 am – 6 pm, the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center hosted a free C3 Robotics Expo to over 70 participants. Youth enjoyed the opportunity to work in a team environment while following social distancing and COVID-19 precautions. The themed Wakanda event offered a storytelling experience while providing exposure to robotics, coding, and engineering.

On November 20, 2021, the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center will host the first Lego League competition. The tournament will include 24 teams throughout the day. Teams will be required to build and program robots designed from Lego pieces and electronics.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

The work contributes to **Strategic Priority 1 – Arts, Culture and Recreation** of the Envision Riverside 2025 Strategic Plan, which aims to provide diverse community experiences and personal enrichment opportunities for people of all ages.

The center aligns with **Goals 1.1**. Strengthen Riverside’s portfolio of arts, culture, recreation, senior, and lifelong learning programs and amenities through expanded community partnerships, shared use opportunities, and fund development; and **1.2**. Enhance equitable access to arts, culture and recreational service offerings and facilities.

1. **Community Trust** – Riverside is transparent and makes programming decisions based on sound policy, inclusive community engagement, involvement of City Boards & Commissions, and timely and reliable information. Activities and actions offered at the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center through city staff and partners serve the public interest, benefit the City’s diverse populations, and result in the greater public good.
2. **Equity** – The Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center (BFYIC) is supportive of the City’s racial, ethnic, religious, sexual orientation, identity, geographic, and other attributes of diversity and is committed to advancing the fairness of treatment, recognition of rights, and equitable distribution of services to ensure every member of the community has equal access to share the benefits of community progress. The goal of the BFYIC is to enable everyone to become innovative thinkers and prepare them for a future in STEM-based careers. The center’s offerings of a maker’s space, sound and film studio, computer lab, formal and informal classrooms will be used for school field trips, college courses, career technical education training, public open hours, and much more.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – The Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center is a prudent steward of public funds and ensures responsible management of the City’s financial resources while providing quality public services to all. The BFYIC created the Naming Rights opportunities to ensure that the long-term financial needs of the facility (maintenance, equipment repair, etc) are met. Naming Rights funding will be deposited into an endowment fund to incur interest and be used in the years to come. In addition, the BFYIC has also secured donors to provide scholarship opportunities for the underserved population.

4. **Innovation** – The BFYIC is inventive and timely in meeting the community's changing needs and prepares for the future through collaborative partnerships and adaptive processes. Currently, the BFYIC has secured over 10 partners that will provide an array of free and subsidized programming to Riverside residents.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – The BFYIC is committed to meeting the needs of the present without compromising the needs of the future and ensuring the City's capacity to persevere, adapt and grow during good and difficult times alike. The center is used as a training hub where individuals will learn to develop skillsets that current and future technology will require. This ensures that Riverside will continue to be a place where industries flourish and large companies' recruit.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report. Funding for summer programming was included in the Department's budget.

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