Organization Name(Juneau Commission on Aging Organization Phone(CBJ City Clerk Ph) Organization Email(CBJ City Clerk Email) Submitter Name(Deborah Craig, JCOA Chair) Submitter Phone(907-209-0520) Submitter Email(deborahlc11@gmail.com) Proposal Name(CBJ Office of Aging and Senior Recreation and Wellness Center)

Which schools are you proposing to use? (Marie Drake Middle School) The Valley has an array of community oriented facilities that have ample space and good parking (the library, the Fieldhouse, the Swimming Complex, the Wrestling Center, school gyms, etc.) This proposal is intended to serve the entire community with an added benefit for downtown, Douglas and North Douglas.

If you chose more than one school, which is your first choice and which is second? N/A

Are you proposing to rent or buy the building(s)?(Nominal Rent) Rent Buy

**Proposed Use:** The JCOA is proposing establishment of an Office of Aging to represent the significant and valuable senior population in Juneau and to work directly with JCOA and the AARP Community Action Team in facilitating Age-Friendly Community Planning. The fully functioning CBJ Office of Aging will be staffed by a full time Coordinator who will;

- Facilitate the **Age Friendly Community Planning Process for Juneau** using the AARP Guidelines and coordinating with the AARP Juneau Community Action Team
- Oversee the promotion of age friendly housing policies
- Oversee the **Senior Wellness and Recreation Center** (see proposal below) including but not limited to Gym Space and shared spaces with other organizations
- Work directly with JCOA regarding planning and priority projects to manifest the goals and objectives of the JCOA.
- Work directly with BRH and SEARHC to ensure that all program elements result in a benefit to seniors throughout Juneau via their Wellness Programs
- Supervise a Wellness Recreational Coordinator who will work on site at the **Senior Recreation** and **Wellness Center**, as well as with other associated organizations.

JCOA further proposes allocation of space for a **Senior Recreation and Wellness Center** using space in the current Marie Drake Complex that is identified as the Gym/multi-purpose room, male and female locker rooms, storage, kitchen and Office of Aging office space on the northern end of the complex. While identified as the **Senior Recreation and Wellness Center**, it our intent to ensure the gym space is multi-purpose, multigenerational and is available to other community groups but has a primary focus on healthy aging activities that improve the health and wellbeing of all who are aging in our community.

This space would include:

- Multi-Sport Gymnasium for pickle ball, group sports and an **indoor walking track** with accessibility (not available from the Fieldhouse in the valley)
- Multi-Purpose fitness room(s) for yoga, Tai chi, dance or other classes
- Activity Space for small group meetings or classes, navigational services for seniors, book clubs, gardening clubs, cooking classes, training;
- Game Room(s) for chess, board games or other activities to stimulate the brain;

- Lifelong learning: computer, financial, active aging planning, use of community resources, etc.
- Cultural Arts; small music events, art classes, language arts, etc.
- Companionship and Quiet Space: where people of all ages can gather to enjoy a cup of coffee, share stories, find solitude, read a book, enjoy some quiet time.

Please state which Assembly priority/goal this proposal fills -OR- what benefit your proposed use would bring to the community(*Required*)

See Assembly priorities/goals here.

- 1. Housing C: Office of Aging Coordinator will assist in promoting age friendly housing that meets the needs of community regardless of age or ability
- 2. Economic Development C: providing an enhancement to the Capital Civic Center with implementation of the CBJ Community Center
- Community, Wellness and Public Safety A: Ensuring all members of the community are represented in planning activities using the Age Friendly Community Planning process. B. Ensuring community access to Wellness and indoor recreational activities. C. Enhancing access to Childcare and multigenerational opportunities
- 4. CBJ's 10-year fiscal plan states that a top priority is to "grow the senior economy". In support of this goal, the JCOA seeks CBJ's assistance in addressing the distinct needs of Juneau seniors to enable healthy aging in the community we call home. The JCOA believes that promoting the well-being and vitality of Juneau's aging population, through implementation of Juneau's Age-Friendly Planning and a Senior Recreation and Wellness Center will serve all ages and promote 'livability' concepts that emphasize health and wellbeing. This proposal recognizes the valuable benefit of keeping seniors in Juneau, as well as ensuring that those of us who have lived here most of our lives are able to continue aging in the community we love. CBJ has engaged in an array of diverse planning activities that have been issue or location specific but our community would benefit from a long range, comprehensive plan of action. AARP's comprehensive livability planning tools under the Age-Friendly Community Planning process have been utilized around the world and is a tried and tested mechanism to move through a planning process efficiently while engaging *all* age groups. This is an extremely efficient mechanism to ensure a robust process that will result in broad benefits for all.

What impact would your proposal have on the CBJ budget?(Required)

Our proposal requests the use of the Marie Drake Complex for the CBJ Community Center and specific to our request, use of the gym, locker rooms, kitchen, storage spaces and offices in the north end of the building. Please See MAP



Our proposal also requests funding for 1FTE – Office of Aging Coordinator (host organization TBD) and .5 FTE – CBJ Community Center Coordinator to be housed within the CBJ Parks and Recreation but work extensively with the JCOA, AEYC and other partners within the complex.

Would you be willing to pay fair market value for rent/lease?(*No*)

How much space are you proposing to use?(Please see Map)

What level of retrofit would be needed for your proposal? Who would pay for that work?(*Required*) Office space for the Office of Aging would be a matter of furnishings rather than retrofitting. As the desired Senior Recreation and Wellness Center is currently identified as a gym, locker space, offices, kitchen and storage, very little retrofit is needed. The School District is vacating the building on July 1 at which time, it will be more apparent what is needed to enhance the gym space for recreational activities (walking path, pickleball courts, yoga mats, etc).

How long do you anticipate you would occupy the building(s)? (Required) In perpetuity. Seniors over age 55 now represent <u>30%</u> of CBJ's population (AKDOLWD 2023) and the senior population continues to grow faster than any other age cohort. The dynamic of aging has changed considerably in the last few decades and Juneau seniors reflect that trend. Seniors are healthier and better off (income, insurance, healthcare) than previous generations. Seniors are living longer, healthier lives, and bring an array of "silver dividends" to our community: retirement income, home ownership and property taxes, and a willingness to volunteer and contribute to the community's rich social, outdoor and cultural arts opportunities. Many communities are recognizing the benefit of keeping seniors in the community to maintain cultural vibrance and economic stimulation. Some communities are literally reorganizing to recognize and retain seniors.

CBJ's 10-year fiscal plan states that a top priority is to "grow the senior economy". In support of this goal, the JCOA seeks CBJ's assistance in addressing the distinct needs of Juneau seniors to enable healthy aging in the community we call home. The JCOA believes that promoting the well-being and vitality of Juneau's aging population, through implementation of Juneau's Age-Friendly Planning will serve all ages and promote 'livability' concepts that emphasize health and wellbeing. This proposal recognizes the valuable benefit of keeping seniors in Juneau, as well as ensuring that those of us who have lived here most of our lives are able to continue aging in the community we love.

Describe parking needs associated with your proposed use. (Required) Current parking options appear to be adequate for our use.

Will you be requesting CBJ operating funds for your use?(Yes)

If your organization already receives CBJ operating funds, will you be requesting an increase to support this proposal? If so, by how much?(*Required*) The CBJ previously allocated \$15,000 per year for clerical support of the Juneau Commission on

Aging. Those funds remain available but have not been allocated to an organization for FY24.

For FY25, JCOA is requesting adequate funding for an Office of Aging Coordinator (housed in the Senior Recreation and Wellness Center) and responsible for facilitating Age Friendly Community Planning, assisting in making age friendly recommendations regarding housing to the CBJ, ensuring proper use of the Senior Recreation and Wellness Center and supporting the JCOA.

Juneau Commission on Aging - Office of Aging	
FY 25 Budget Request	
FTE - Office of Aging Coordinator \$40 per hour	\$83,200.00

Benefits - 30% of Salary	\$24,960.00
.5FTE - Snr Rec & Wellness Center Coordinator \$25 per hr	\$26,000.00
Benefits - 30% of Salary	\$7,800.00
Equipment (Computer, printer, etc)	\$3,000.00
Travel (one Conference)	\$4,000.00
JCOA Materials and Supplies	\$5,000.00
JCOA Events	\$10,000.00
Total Requested	\$163,960.00

What other uses would be compatible with your proposed use?

JCOA proposes using the entire Marie Drake Complex for a **CBJ Community Center** to serve the entire community including a **Senior Wellness and Recreation Center**, the **AEYC Child Care Facility**, the **Planetarium** and with the added benefit of proximity to the Augustus Brown Pool. Additional desirable partners include **MakerSpace** and the **Friends of the Library**.

JCOA strongly supports the **AEYC Child Care Center** that includes facilities uniquely suited to serve the CBJ as a community child care center with the added benefit of multi-generational activities between seniors and children, a well-documented benefit to both age groups and the community at large. AEYC has already agreed to fully furnish this space to ensure it is warmly welcoming to people of all ages and amenable to activities such as Elder/Child Story Time, multigenerational arts and culture activities, etc.

The JCOA strongly supports expanded use of the Planetarium for educational and community activities, as well as embracing Friends of the Library as a welcome addition to a Community Center. MakerSpace would literally be the icing on the Community Center cake in terms of providing already established services related to carpentry/shop space, cooking and arts classes, etc. CBJ's Community Center would be a model for other communities to serve it's citizens.

What other uses would not be compatible with your proposed use?

It was also suggested that Juneau Animal Rescue would be an appropriate CBJ Community Center partner. While this could be an enhancement to a child care and senior focused center, it is unclear if the noise level generated by an Animal Shelter comports with the other uses contained in this proposal. In the current shelter, the high level of noise generated by the dog population is a continuous stress to the cat population housed at the shelter. Even animals that are acclimated to a canine companion are stressed by the noise level of traumatized dogs. Perpetual barking is stress inducing to humans, as well. The JAR may be better suited in an environment where there is ample space for separation of dogs and cats, a space buffer for noise impact on other organizations, sufficient covered and open play yards for both shelter and doggy daycare canines, as well as more parking for Animal Control/shelter staff and public visits.