



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 05/07/2024

DATE: May 1, 2024
TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Approve West Valley Community Services, Counseling and Support Services for Youth, and AWO as Potential Community Service Partners to Provide their Respective Services at the Interim Community Center.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve West Valley Community Services, Counseling and Support Services for Youth, and AWO as potential Community Service Partners to provide their respective services at the Interim Community Center.

BACKGROUND:

On August 15, 2023, the Town Council allocated \$866,281 to a Community Center Development Fund to design and construct near-term improvements to the Adult Recreation Center to achieve two major purposes. One purpose is to facilitate the use of space for a variety of non-profit agencies to provide services to the community. The second purpose is to reconfigure the existing space to make it more open and inviting to the community. This effort is referred to as the Interim Community Center.

On November 21, 2023, the Town Council provided additional feedback on the Interim Community Center effort which involves the following steps:

1. *(Completed January 25, 2024)* **Host Community Meeting** to receive community input on:
 - a. Preferred types of community partners/services;
 - b. Community partner selection criteria; and
 - c. Ideas for near-term improvements to the ARC/Community Center.

PREPARED BY: Robert Gray
Chief Building Official

Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Finance Director

BACKGROUND (continued):

2. *(Completed February 15, 2024)* **Receive the Community Health and Senior Services Commission's (CHSSC) recommendation on items relevant to a Request for Interest (RFI) for community partners**, such as the types of community partners and selection criteria.
3. *(Completed March 5, 2024)* **Return to Council with CHSSC's recommendation for Council input and approval on items relevant to the Request for Interest (RFI) for community partners**, such as the types of community partners and selection criteria.
4. *(Completed March 29, 2024)* **Issue the RFI.**
5. *(We are here)* **Return to Council with the final selection of community partners.**
6. **Discuss any potential physical near-term improvements and operational support needed by selected community partners** with Los Gatos Saratoga Recreation (LGS Recreation).
7. **Receive CHSSC's recommendation on near-term improvements and operational support** for Council's consideration, taking into account ideas shared at the community meeting and budget constraints.
8. **Return to Council with CHSSC's recommendation on near-term improvements and operational support** for consideration.
9. **Hire an architect to provide cost estimates for the prioritized items.**
10. **Return to Council with cost estimates** for selection of which prioritized items to move forward for design and bidding.

DISCUSSION:

Based on the direction Council provided on March 5, 2024, staff issued the RFI seeking Statements of Interest (SOIs) from any non-profit service provider serving Los Gatos, with an emphasis on those addressing basic needs such as health, wellness, mental health, food needs, housing, and transportation. The RFI was sent to approximately 30 organizations, promoted on social media and the Town's weekly newsletter, and posted on the Town's website.

Upon the closing of the RFI on April 21, 2024, staff received proposals from West Valley Community Services (WVCS), Counseling and Support Services for Youth (CASSY), and AWO Skin Color Race. The following criteria were used in evaluating the service providers:

- The extent to which the provider serves basic needs and serves an unmet need in the community.
- The extent to which the provider already serves Los Gatos residents and the community.
- The extent to which the provider could expand or enhance services with the additional Interim Community Center space. This would include an evaluation of how much the provider needs additional space for their services.

DISCUSSION (continued):

- The extent of the provider's volunteer base and how they can effectively support a service at the Interim Community Center.
- The extent to which the provider's service lends itself to being successful in a rotational shared space at the Interim Community Center.
- Each service provider selected should provide a service that is unique and not duplicative of other selected service providers. Since service providers can offer a variety of services, some of their services can overlap, but each must have at least one unique offering or service.

The SOIs were also preliminarily reviewed to assess space and schedule needs and to determine whether the services conflicted with current LGS Recreation programs. Services that are more activity-based or involve events may not lend themselves to a rotational desk space model; however, a successful path forward could be to integrate these types of services into LGS Recreation's ongoing programming. For example, some of AWO's activity-based services could be integrated into LGS Recreation's program offerings, benefiting both providers and the community.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the evaluation criteria above, staff recommends moving forward with all the prospective service providers that submitted SOIs.

If Town Council agrees with this recommendation, staff will work with the selected providers and LGS Recreation to determine space allocations, schedules, and appropriate services. All provider requests may not be able to be accommodated, and staff will work towards collaborative solutions. Staff will return to the CHSSC for its recommendations on physical, near-term improvements for the Interim Community Center with consideration for any needs of the service providers.

COORDINATION:

The preparation of this report was coordinated with the Town Manager's Office and the Town Attorney.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The \$866,281 allocated to the Community Center Development Fund can be used for near-term improvements to the Adult Recreation Center/Community Center. Additional funding may be required to support the operational and administrative needs of coordinating and supporting the service providers if the providers do not pay those costs directly.

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SUBJECT: Approve Community Service Providers

DATE: May 1, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Statements of Interest from Prospective Service Providers