

Requirements for a Public Building

Public space is a community asset. It will provide equity and attract capital both human and financial. Edina must provide the kinds of public amenities that will attract and retain active and involved citizens and be perceived as an asset for high-end employers. The public works site is the last centrally located public land available to do so. This center has income potential if managed properly. For example, the (public) Williston Fitness Center in Minnetonka has 4000 members and makes \$200K per year on a \$1.4M budget.

There is an opportunity for consolidation with the current studies of various city Enterprises such as Edinborough and The Art Center. Edina could go from losing hundreds of thousands of dollars annually to making a profit on a well-managed consolidated facility. There is an opportunity to relocate/swap the senior center.

Here is the list of needs that the CNPRWG has identified for a community building on the public works site; the square footage is an educated guess at this point modeled after similar facilities in neighboring communities:

Public meeting spaces (2000 – 5000 sf)

- Flexible/configurable spaces for large and small groups
- Spaces for adult education (eg. Edina University)
- Spaces for business/community meetings with free computer connections

Art Center relocation and expansion (30,000 sf)

- Class spaces
- Gallery space
- Performance/recital spaces (flexible space that could be meeting space)

Fitness center (Edinborough replacement) (70,000 sf)

- Warm pool
- Running/Walking track
- Modular gym and fitness spaces for non-elite athletic programming
- Indoor playground/hourly daycare
- Possibly move/swap Senior Center

Teen Center

- Incubator/business enterprise for teens
- Spaces for teen movie night, dances

Rental Space for cultural/artistic tenants

- Community oven/cooking class space
- James Sewell Ballet (for example)

Inter-generational spaces/gathering spaces

A place to hang out, with or without your iPad (while waiting for your tire to be fixed)

A Café/Cantina

Green spaces

To match the footprint of the public building at a minimum

Green roofs

Glue that binds the public and private realms-green connectors

Indoor/outdoor gathering spaces that could be open in winter

Public art