



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF KING COUNTY
REDMOND/SAMMAMISH



Sammamish EX3 Teen & Recreation Center - Q & A

Q: Where is it?

A: We are renovating the former King County library located at 825 228th Ave. NE in Sammamish.

Q: When will it open?

A: The renovation began on July 18 and is expected to be completed in fall, 2011.

Q: Who will run it?

A: The City of Sammamish owns the property and entered into a partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of King County in October, 2010. The Redmond/Sammamish Boys & Girls Club will operate the facility.

Q: What does EX3 stand for?

A: EX3 stands for Experience, Explore, Excite.

Q: Why do we need a Teen Center? Is it just for troubled kids?

A: There is currently no teen-dedicated place for the 6,000+ teens living in the Sammamish area. More than just a "place to go after school", the EX3 Teen Center will encourage teens to explore new opportunities and challenges, be open to new experiences, and get excited about their skills, interests, and futures. Our teens come from diverse backgrounds and we will be open to all teens in grades 6-12.

Q: What will be in it?

A: The facility will consist of a technology lab, performance stage, teaching kitchen, games room, study space, and a multi-purpose room.

Q: Do you have any experience running Teen Centers?

A: The Sammamish EX3 Teen & Recreation Center is modeled after successful Boys & Girls Club Teen Centers in Federal Way, Rainier Valley, and Mercer Island.

Q: Will there be a membership fee?

A: The anticipated membership fee will be \$120 per teen per year. Scholarships will be available.

Q: Will there be any supervision?

A: Yes, every teen will be supervised by an experienced, adult, Redmond/Sammamish Boys & Girls Club staff member.

Q: What kinds of programs will you offer?

A: We will offer a combination of drop-in activities, structured programs and classes, and special events.

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Q: Where did the funding for the renovation come from?

A: Approximately \$1.2 million was raised for the renovation from private individual, corporate, and foundation contributions. We did not receive any government funding.

Q: I've heard that Microsoft is funding everything. Is that true?

A: While Microsoft has made a leadership pledge, they are not funding the entire project.

Q: What's the deal with the gym?

A: We will build a high school size gym on the west side of the property adjacent to the Teen Center. We must raise \$3-\$3.5 million in order to begin construction.

Q: Why do you need a gym?

A: The gym will provide opportunities for basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, exercise classes and school dances. It will also include a climbing wall. There is currently no space in the Teen Center where teens will be able to engage in ANY physical fitness or exercise opportunities. There is also a severe shortage of gym space in the Sammamish area, and we will provide much-needed and desired additional space and programming.

Q: Where will the funding come from?

A: We have a Steering Committee that is actively seeking contributions from individuals, businesses, and foundations.

Q: I've heard you're also fundraising for operating costs. Is that true?

A: Yes. It will cost approximately \$250,000 to operate the facility in year one. Although membership and program fees will help cover costs, fundraising is necessary to ensure budget goals are met.

Q: Are there any naming opportunities available?

A: Yes, significant naming opportunities are available.

Q: If the City of Sammamish builds a Community Center, why do we need a Teen Center?

A: We have decades of experience working with teens, and one of our main findings is that teens need a place to call their own. We feel there would not be any competition between the facilities and that the community would benefit from the existence of both.

Q: What will take place during school hours?

A: We will offer a combination of open and rental opportunities to the community during school hours.

Q: How do I get involved or make a donation?

A: Contact Jane Ronngren at 425-250-4781 or jronngren@positiveplace.org, or Jeremy Peck at 425-250-4786 or jpeck@positiveplace.org. Our website address is www.rs.positiveplace.org/teencenter.