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The Runestone Community Center Breaks Ground on First Phase of Renovation and Expansion

ALEXANDRIA, MINN. (June 5, 2024) — A groundbreaking event on June 4 kicked off construction of the Runestone Community Center (RCC) renovation and expansion project.

City and project leaders were on hand to celebrate the beginning phases 1 and 2 of construction, which will include renovation and expansion of the lobby, locker rooms, support spaces, and the addition of an elevator.

“It’s always exciting to celebrate projects like this because they truly belong to the community,” said Tara Bitzan, executive director of the Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.

As the initial phases get underway, the RCC Capital Campaign Committee continues working to raise \$8.8 million, which would allow Phase 3 of the project – adding a third arena onto the community center – to proceed. An additional arena will enable the RCC to host more on-ice activities and dry-floor events and is projected to bring \$2 million in increased revenue for the Alexandria area.

“If you went into [the RCC] right now, it’s a great example of how it’s a multipurpose facility,” said City Administrator Marty Schultz. “On one side you’ve got people ice skating, on the other side people are hauling in items for a community garage sale. That’s how this building has been run since it opened almost 50 years ago. We’re really looking forward to enhancing those opportunities.”

Learn more about the project by visiting runestonecommunitycenter.com.

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