

MEMORANDUM

Parks & Recreation Services



To: Bonnie Greiner, Parks & Recreation Services Director
From: Samu Tiumalu, Youth & Teen Coordinator
CC: Jaime Chew, Recreation Services Supervisor
Subject: Relocation of the Milpitas Teen Center to the Sal Cracolice Building
Date: May 11, 2009

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to evaluate relocating the Milpitas Teen Center from the Sports Center Complex to the Sal Cracolice Building.

Background

The Milpitas Teen Center is a free drop in program that provides teens ages 12-17 with a safe environment to enjoy recreational activities. Activities such as break dancing sessions, cooking classes, homework club, pool, table tennis and games are offered to registered teens. The Teen Center currently operates Monday-Friday from 2:00-7:00pm during the school year. During the summer, the Teen Center operates Monday-Saturday from 12:00-9:00pm. The Teen Center averages 30-40 teens per day and membership is currently at 200 and growing. All teens attending the center must have a parent complete the registration form to participate in any activities.

Current Facility

The Teen Center is located at 1325 E. Calaveras Blvd in the Milpitas Sports Center Complex. The center is currently equipped with a computer lab/homework room, a large gathering room, a full kitchen, a loft area and two staff offices.

The current center has some positive elements for the teens that are outlined below:

- The center is located in an area that provides easy access for teens attending Cal Hills and Rancho Middle School. There is also the bus line 46 that provides access for those students attending Milpitas High School and Russell Middle School.
- Because of the location of the current center, the center is able to provide programs to at-risk teens.
- The Sports Center Complex provides additional programming areas such as the pools, access to Cardoza Park and the Sports Center large gym and dance studios.
- Close proximity to shopping plazas and restaurants for teens to access.

The current center also poses some challenges for the teen programs that are listed below:

- Limited space to provide additional teen programming (i.e. art classes, dance classes, Driver's Education, basketball, etc.)
- No dedicated programming space for on-going programs such as basketball, volleyball, etc.
- The teen programs and participation has outgrown the current space.

Potential Facility

The Sal Cracolice is located at 540 S. Abel St and is nestled between the Post Office and the new housing development on Abel Street with open grass areas located near the new development. The center is 9,500 square feet and includes staff offices, a game room, ADA compliant restrooms, additional storage areas and a large kitchen. In addition to the main building, there is an annex equipped with 4 classrooms and restroom areas.

The Sal Cracolice presents a variety of positive attributes for a youth center that are outlined below:

- There is currently built in basketball courts in the parking lot and two new parks directly adjacent to the facility that could be used for the teen programs.

- Additional programs could be offered in the annex building such as art classes, dance classes, Driver's Education, music classes, and SAT Prep classes that would help generate additional revenue.
- Dedicated programming space for teens to use such as the basketball courts and classrooms for classes.
- More programming space to include new elements for the teens (i.e. workout room, larger computer lab, cooking classes, etc.)
- Close proximity to the Great Mall that could help attract additional teens.
- Due to the size of the facility, the Summer Camp programs could also be relocated from Cardoza Park and Kid Fit at the Sports Center to the Sal Cracolice building. This will open up additional programming areas for the Sports Center as well as provide dedicated indoor space for campers at the new facility.
- The youth and teen programs would also help increase revenue through classes and activities offered at the proposed new center.

The Sal Cracolice also poses some challenges for the new center that are listed below:

- Not centrally located for teens to access.
- Elmwood Correctional Facility is located across the street.

Teen Center/Sports Center Transition

Should the Teen Center relocate to the Sal Cracolice Youth Center, the current Teen Center location would provide additional programming areas and opportunities for the Sports Center to expand in programs and classes, therefore increasing membership and attracting new clientele.