

North St. Paul Community Center

Appropriation Ask

North St. Paul respectfully requests \$4 million of state funding to revitalize its Community Center

Facility Need Assessment

Wold Architecture and Engineering prepared a facility assessment that identified the following necessary improvements:

- Roof replacement
- Exterior repairs/replacement
- HVAC replacement
- Window and flashing repair/replacement
- Interior repair and program updates
- Sustainability improvements

Estimated Cost: \$4 million

Renewed Commitment and Vision for a Community-FOCUSED Center

The City seeks to transform the center into a year-round community space serving **all** NSP residents. The space will be flexible to provide for the evolving needs of the community.

The Center will be:

Year-round community hub offering farmer's and craft markets, educational programs, seasonal and cultural events and celebrations, and social gatherings.

Safe zone for the youth to foster positive socialization and recreational space for youth sports and activities. A space for youth-targeted, leadership-building programs like scouting and *Why I Am* (a local nonprofit that aims to break the cycle of hopelessness and youth incarceration).

Place for veterans and seniors to socialize, engage in crafts, dance, fitness and recreation with interior design that is safe and accessible for all abilities.

Multicultural center for ALL residents serving the City's diverse demographics.

Demonstration hub showcasing the City's commitment to sustainability. Renovations will likely include solar energy, electric vehicle charging stations, storm water best practices, and water conservation to promote environmental health in the community.

Why Invest Now?

- Existing facility at a critical need for investment for continued operation.
- Community demographics are younger and is increasingly more diverse.
- Identified need and desire for Veteran services.
- City is growing with much of that growth just blocks from community center.
- Existing 2700 SF library within the center is inadequate to serve population.





Existing Conditions



Facility Information

The 33,179 SF building contains a large gymnasium, track, workout gym and facilities, offices, meeting rooms, and commercial kitchen.

This building was previously used as the public recreation and community center and is currently leased and occupied by Koroko Volleyball, a private volleyball training facility.

The NSP branch of the Ramsey County Public Library occupies the remaining 2,700 SF and has a standing lease with the City through 2030. This building was constructed in 2005 in partnership between the Library, City of North St. Paul, and Ramsey County.

A 300KVA transformer and a 300KW diesel generator is also housed on this site which supplies emergency power to the community center and the City's adjacent Public Works facility. The siting of these utilities solidifies the City's interests in continued ownership and maintenance of this site as a community asset. The relocation of these utilities would be costly and selecting an alternative site would be challenging if this property were ever sold.

Community Priority

City officials have debated the future of the community center for the past five years. Finally, in 2022, City Council declared the center an important community asset and moved to investigate the feasibility for its renovation. In its efforts to engage citizens, the City conducted community listening sessions to key in on resident's needs and desires and identify potential users and local partners.

