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PRESS RELEASE

Cache County Moves Forward with Recreation Center Study

LOGAN -- Cache County Executive David Zook today signed a contract with VCBO Architects to explore options for new recreation facilities in Cache County. The County, with the backing of several cities, is taking the lead in studying options for creating one or more indoor recreation facilities to support the demand for indoor recreational opportunities.

“Cache County families, and especially our kids, need opportunities for healthy recreation,” said County Executive David Zook. “Cache County has one of the youngest populations in the nation - we have a lot of kids - and they deserve to have access to recreational opportunities”

In response to factors such as the closure of the Logan Recreation Center, growing demand for pool access, a prolonged winter season in Cache Valley, and a growing population, there has been an increase in demand for additional indoor recreation space. Several local cities, including North Logan, Nibley and Logan, have been exploring options for new facilities.

Cache County allocated \$75,000 in Recreation, Arts, Parks and Zoo (RAPZ) tax funds to hire a consultant to study and determine the feasibility of one or more recreation centers. The primary goals of the study are to learn what types of facilities are needed and the feasibility of building and operating such facilities. The study will also explore options for long-term ownership and maintenance of those facilities.

Cache County issued a request for proposals to find a firm with experience in designing indoor recreation centers, as well as expertise in ownership and operational options for publicly-funded recreation centers. VCBO Architects was selected by a committee representing the County and partner cities. VCBO has extensive experience in the planning and development of public recreation centers and has completed more than 40 recreation feasibility studies. The selected consultant also has experience working in Cache Valley for many years, including projects with Logan, Utah State University, Nibley and others.

“This study will give us a clear plan for what facilities we need, how much it would cost, and what it will take to make it a reality,” added Executive Zook. “My hope is that this study will result in recreation facilities that provide year-round recreation opportunities to improve the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of our residents - especially our kids.”

The feasibility study will be split into two phases. The first phase will focus on information gathering, visioning, and data assessment and concept design. The second phase will focus on a detailed funding analysis including project visualization, operational analysis, cost estimates, and finalizing funding models. The current RAPZ Tax award will fully fund Phase I. It is likely that another application will be submitted for Phase 2 funding.

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