

Project Brief: Northwood Community Center Revitalization

DATE: October 26, 2023

FROM: City of Northwood, Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: Proposed Revitalization of the Northwood Community Center

1. Introduction

The Northwood Community Center, built in 1975, is a cornerstone of our community but is in significant need of modernization. The Department of Public Works proposes a comprehensive revitalization project to transform the facility into a modern, accessible, and sustainable hub for residents.

2. Project Scope

The project includes the following key components:

- **Structural Upgrades:** Reinforce the existing structure to meet current seismic codes and repair the leaking roof.
- **Accessibility Improvements:** Install a new elevator, accessible restrooms, and automatic doors to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- **Energy Efficiency:** Replace the outdated HVAC system, install energy-efficient LED lighting, and add solar panels to the roof.
- **Program Space Redesign:** Reconfigure the interior to create a dedicated senior activities room, a new computer lab for public use, and a multi-purpose gymnasium.
- **Exterior and Grounds:** Relandscape the surrounding park area, add a new children's playground, and improve parking lot lighting.

3. Budget and Timeline

The preliminary budget is estimated at \$4.5 million, to be funded through a combination of municipal bonds and a federal community development grant. The project is expected to take 18 months from groundbreaking to completion. The city council will vote on the final budget and bond approval in three months.

4. Known Considerations

- The center is located adjacent to a residential neighborhood and Northwood Elementary School.
- A local historical society has expressed interest in preserving certain architectural elements of the original building.
- Several long-standing community groups (e.g., the Northwood Seniors Club, a local youth basketball league) are current primary users of the facility.