

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: August 8, 2019
TO: Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Jennifer Smith, Leisure Services Manager
CC: Jerene Watson, City Manager; Department Directors; Alma Andrade, Deputy City Clerk; Damian Dorame, Assistant to the City Manager
SUBJECT: Community Center Update 2

The report is for information only.

DISCUSSION:

Discussions with the Arizona Army National Guard and the City of Douglas for a Readiness and Community Center continue to evolve. On August 7, 2019, city staff submitted a proposal to the Arizona Army National Guard to begin a short-term pilot program at Armory located at the Veterans Memorial Park.

If approved, the pilot program would allow the city to utilize space in the building to host programs and services based on the needs of the community. The pilot program seeks use of the main drill floor, a classroom, and an area to store equipment. With these resources, the city can provide a wide array of programs and services to include indoor basketball or soccer, senior game night, fine art classes, and meeting space.

If the pilot program proves successful, the City and the Arizona Army National Guard can create a long-term agreement and the Douglas community can have a full-blown Readiness and Community Center.

The National Guard works with the state and federal government and are winding down the federal fiscal year which we are accommodating as the City's efforts and discussions continue. The next teleconference will take place mid-October and should provide direction on whether the pilot program can move forward.

RECOMMENDATION / CONCLUSION:

This report is for information only.



Douglas Readiness and Community Center Concept

Wednesday, August 7, 2019



Introduction

- Efforts to obtain a community center have been ongoing for the past few years. Last year, city staff made contact with the Arizona Army National Guard to explore the possibilities of utilizing the National Guard of Arizona Armory located at the Veterans Memorial Park in Douglas, Arizona.



Partnership with the Arizona Army National Guard

The Concept:

Create a joint-use facility with the Arizona Army National Guard and the City of Douglas to be utilized as a readiness and community center.

- Arizona Army National Guard provides permission to use the facility.
- The City of Douglas provides programming, equipment, and staffing.



Why a Community Center?

- Community Centers are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community.
 - They serve as a hub of information, services, and programs
 - They allow for large gathering spaces
 - In emergency situations they can serve as shelters or command posts
 - They create opportunities for all
- **City of Douglas does NOT have a community center**

Concept & Timeline

Pilot Program

Short Term: 1-3 years

Create one year lease agreement to allow the city to begin pilot program.

Request:

Use of open drill floor

Use of one classroom

Use of Restroom

Allow city to store equipment inside facility OR outside Conex box provided by the city

Use of facility periodically. City will not occupy facility on a weekly basis. Rather, use of the facility will occur when programs are scheduled.

Facility improvements by Arizona Army National Guard will continue. Programs will be coordinated around scheduled improvements.

Long Term Agreement

Long Term: 3-6+ years

If pilot program should prove successful, create a long-term agreement.

Request:

Use of open drill floor

Use of classrooms

Use of restrooms

Storage areas

Improvements where needed

Office space

Programs: Short Term by Utilizing Current Facility



Yuma, AZ



Douglas, AZ

Drill Floor

Color coded striping and portable equipment will allow the drill floor space to be transformed into virtually any sport or program.

Classroom

The classroom allow various programs to be offered to the community. The may include: senior art class, photography lessons,



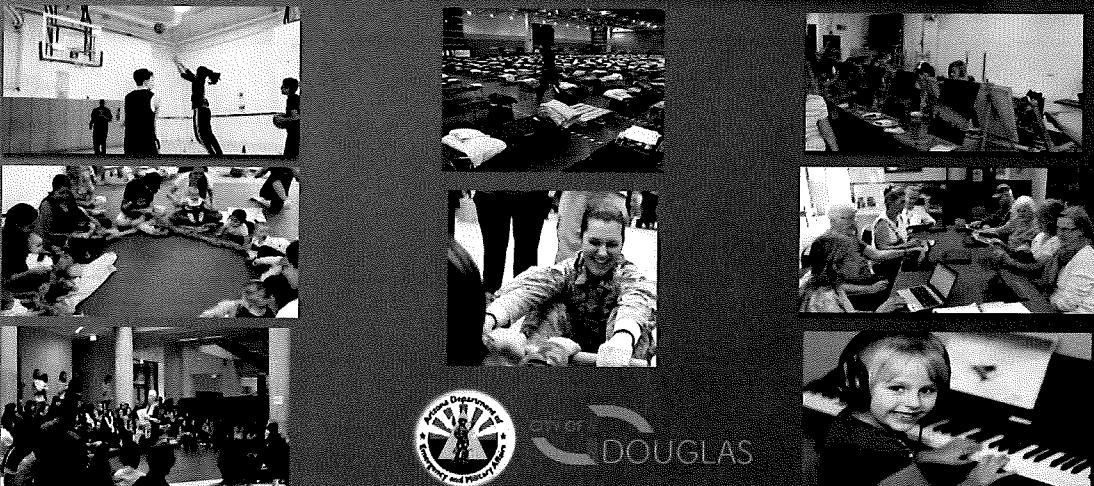
Yuma, AZ



Douglas, AZ

Use by the National Guard will always take priority over city use. Scheduling can be coordinated between the two entities in advance.

The Future Douglas Readiness & Community Center



The collage includes six images: 1. A basketball court with people playing. 2. A classroom with students at desks. 3. A group of people at a long table. 4. A person playing a piano. 5. A group of people in a large hall. 6. A person working at a computer.

City of Douglas
City of DOUGLAS

Moving forward...

The Arizona Army National Guard have expressed interest in moving the pilot program forward.

NEXT STEPS:

- ✓ Arizona Army National Guard will have further discussion with the Chain of Command and obtain legal counsel.
- ✓ The City of Douglas will continue to assess options and potential programs to implement for the pilot program.
- ✓ A future Memo of Agreement may be initiated to move this pilot program forward.
- ✓ More info to come mid-October