Family YMCA of Marion and Polk Counties

Building Campaign

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

1. What does it look like?
A beautiful two story building on the corner of Court and Cottage Street.

2. What does the floor plan look like?
The building will be 51,000 sq ft. There will be a natatorium where the Y’s long tradition of teaching swimming will serve generations for years to come. We will have expanded workout facilities and multi-purpose rooms for individual and group activities as well as a new gymnasium. On the main floor we will have a large Youth Development and Y Childcare area for children of all ages. On the second floor there will be multipurpose studio spaces for dance, martial arts, group exercise and more. On each floor there are rooms equipped with modern technology for classes, meetings, and club activities.

3. When does the existing downtown Salem YMCA close its doors?
We anticipate closing the doors in July 2019. The exact date depends on the timing of permitting and construction.

4. Will there be an outdoor running track?
Yes, it will be on the rooftop and it will be 1/10th of a mile.

5. When is demolition?
We anticipate the demolition to start in the fall of 2019.

6. Where are we moving to?
We are working with the Kroc Center on an agreement to ensure that current YMCA members will be accommodated. YMCA members will be able to have access to the Kroc Center facilities during construction. As the details are finalized we will keep you informed.

7. How long will construction take?
18 months. The anticipated completion date is in the spring 2021.

8. What services are we still going to provide?
We will continue to provide Youth Development and Youth Sports services offsite.
9. What about the programs we currently support, what happens to them?
All in-house programs such as wrestling, gymnastics, and judo will no longer be provided by the YMCA during construction. Members are encouraged to utilize the Kroc Center’s programming during this time.

10. What about racquetball courts?
The decision to not have court space was based on our market study and the current limited use of our racquetball courts.

11. What happens to employees that are affected by the transition to a smaller facility?
We will do our best to keep as many people as possible employed, either in Salem or at our other sites. Those that are affected will receive job placement assistance through our HR department.

12. What about the IKE Box?
We are working closely with the Ike Box as they explore moving the Ike Box building across the street to the First Presbyterian property on the corner. The YMCA board of directors agreed months ago to donate the building to Ike Box. The area the current Ike Box sits in is needed as part of the overall Y Construction project. Once the new Y is complete, a new apartment complex of affordable housing for Veterans will be constructed where the Ike Box sits today.

13. Does this impact any of the camps?
No, our Y camps will continue to serve Salem and the surrounding communities.

14. What does the future of the downtown YMCA look like?
With the new facility we anticipate growth in both membership and programs which will help provide for a financially secure future of the Salem YMCA. Cost savings related to occupancy are estimated at over $200,000 per year.

15. What is happening with the mosaic?
Nearly 10 years ago, the YMCA agreed to allow the development of the Mosaic on the outside wall where it is today. We are working closely with the City of Salem and the Public Arts Commission representatives as they explore their options in re-locating the Mosaic to another location in Salem.

16. Who do we talk to get more information?
Kaitlyn Beals at kbeals@theyonline.org or 503-363-0417.