



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Department of Parks & Community Services

Peter Kirk Community Center

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MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay, City Manager

From: Jennifer Schroeder, Director of Parks and Community Services
Linda Murphy, Recreation Manager
Dana La Rue, Supervisor, Peter Kirk Community Center

Date: November 6, 2007

Subject: Merrill Gardens Donation for Design Enhancement of Peter Kirk Community Center

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council recognize and thank Merrill Gardens of Kirkland for a \$38,000 donation for design enhancement of the Peter Kirk Community Center. Barbara Bowman, Merrill Gardens Regional Director of Operations, will attend the November 20 City Council meeting to receive a certificate of appreciation.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

We are very pleased to report that Merrill Gardens of Kirkland has selected the Peter Kirk Community Center as the recipient of a generous civic contribution. Merrill Gardens has agreed to fund facility enhancements that will create greater multi-use space. This check was presented to the Mayor and two members of the PKCC Advisory Board at their Groundbreaking on September 25, 2007.

This donation allows us to continue the development of multiuse space at PKCC. A consultant was hired in 2004 to develop a design to convert the Gift Shop and lobby area to a multiuse space. Partial funding for the project was available at the time and allowed us to convert the Gift Shop into a small meeting area called the Sun Room. This donation will allow us to complete the design and further develop this space to accommodate more programs. This donation allows us to implement part of the design, incorporating two computer kiosks where older adults can access the internet and stay connected to family and friends through email.

In addition, in recent years it has become increasingly more evident the importance fitness and resistance training plays in developing and maintaining balance, strength and endurance in older adults. As a result, the need and request by older adults for access to fitness equipment has grown. In an effort to provide opportunities for older adults to be more active, development of the north activity area of PKCC, will greatly increase functionality of that space. Adding fitness equipment will avail older adults the opportunity to engage in regular resistance training through classes, one-on-one training and independent use. Development of the space will require the installation of a folding door to close the space off. Purchase of specialized resistance type fitness equipment will need to be procured through further donations.