Beacon Activity Center Program Update and Recommendations

City of Tacoma | Neighborhood and Community Services
Overview

• History/Background of Beacon Center
• Current Beacon Center Operations
  • Senior Services
  • Youth and Young Drop-in Center & Shelter
• Feasibility Study Recommendations
Beacon Activity Center

- Beacon Activity Center
  - Senior Activity Services
    - Operated by Korean Women’s Association
  - Overnight Shelter services for young adults (18-24)
    - Operated by Comprehensive Life Resources
  - Feasibility study completed December 2018
• In 2018, the City moved from direct service to contracting with an external provider (Korean Women's Association) to operate Beacon Senior Center.
  • More than 300 unduplicated seniors attended Beacon since 2018
• The Young Adult Overnight Shelter opened in 2015 as a temporary solution to providing shelter for young adults.
  • More than 180 young adults accessed shelter at Beacon Center during the past year and over 450 since opening.
  • Drop-in services for youth/young adults were relocated to the HYPE Center 2342 Tacoma Ave in July 2019 with the intent of co-locating at Beacon site after renovation.
• The City evaluated the need for an overnight shelter and began work on the feasibility study for Beacon Activity Center to determine its capability.

• Study included consultations from both the Youth and Young Adult Drop-in and Overnight Shelter Operator and the Senior Center Operator.

• Conducted senior surveys and coordinated with Metro Parks Tacoma to determine seniors’ interest in moving to People’s Center (two field trips).
  • Field trips - People’s Center not preferred by seniors
  • Survey results – comfortable with co-location at Beacon
• Study was completed in late 2018 and provided recommendations for physical improvements to the Beacon Center to accommodate both Senior Services and Youth and Young Adult Services.

• The renovation will utilize the existing footprint more efficiently with minor building entry expansion, to develop a permanent youth and young adult drop-in center and young adult overnight shelter at Beacon.

• The renovation will create separate spaces for senior and youth/young adult services, and remodeled shared spaces such as a kitchen and/or fitness area to enhance the experience of all participants.
Proposed Renovation

• The renovation will accommodate:
  • 25-30 young adult overnight beds (potential for 50)
  • 35-50 youth/young adult day-use
  • 55 seniors day use

• The renovation will also address deferred repair and replacement needs including:
  • New Heating Ventilating and Air Conditioning system
  • Upgraded electrical distribution
  • Fire protection enhancements
  • Upgraded plumbing
  • Exterior improvements such as a new roof and siding
Preliminary Concept
Anticipated Schedule & Budget

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- Current Funding: $4.58M