

Glen Ellyn Park District Determines Appropriate Action to Resolve Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center Leaking Roof Issue

Glen Ellyn, IL – The Glen Ellyn Park District Board of Commissioners will solicit bids this February for work to achieve a comprehensive repair of the roof at Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center. Construction will begin in Spring 2012 and is expected to last for four months, with a projected total cost in excess of \$1 million. The building will remain open during construction.

“We’re confident this repair work will give us a permanent solution for our leaky roof at Ackerman. It is important to fix all of the problems before the interior of our building is further damaged. By investing in a long-term solution now we can avoid a vicious cycle of temporary patches to the roof and expensive repairs for years to come,” said Melissa Creech, Glen Ellyn Park District Board President.

The Park District hired roofing experts from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates (WJE) to evaluate the condition of the roof and make recommendations for repair. WJE is an international interdisciplinary firm of architects, engineers and materials scientists that has been called upon to solve some of the world’s most challenging construction-related problems. Most recently, they have been in the news for their work on the repair of the Washington National Monument and analysis of the Minnesota bridge collapse.

After thorough review and analysis by WJE, including a detailed examination of the building, infrared study and document review, the Park District has determined the most effective long-term solution for repairing the roof is to overclad the existing roof with an insulated and adhered single-ply membrane.

Funding for the repairs will be provided through capital funds, which have been reserved in anticipation of this project. The Park District will aggressively seek to recoup any and all costs for repair of the roof.

“It is unfortunate that the Park District has to expend the money to repair the roof; however we believe it is in the Park District’s best interests to fix the problems as soon as possible while at the same time pursuing legal action to recoup those costs. The Park District will aggressively pursue all available legal remedies,” said Dave Harris, Glen Ellyn Park District Executive Director.

The Glen Ellyn Park District became aware of significant interior water leakage within Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center before the building opened. The leaks were first apparent in the corners of the building and in the central portion of the roof. Additional leaks were observed in the fitness center, fitness classroom, multipurpose room, along the exterior walls in both the gym and the indoor turf area, throughout the center of the gym and the second floor mezzanine area. Glen Ellyn Park District staff constructed a system of buckets, tarps and flexible piping to control the flow of water from at least 20 leaks in the building.

“The staff has been extremely resourceful in dealing with the ongoing and increasing leaks. Despite never having a completely functional facility, they have done an outstanding job in operating and maintaining the Center. Additionally, facility members and patrons have been supportive and patient during this time as well,” said Harris.

“With these repairs we will finally have a fully functional building and can focus on making Ackerman a vibrant center for our community. I’d like to thank the Ackerman members and Glen Ellyn residents for their patience and support as the Park District works towards finally resolving the issues,” said Creech.



About the Glen Ellyn Park District

Established in 1919, Glen Ellyn Park District's mission is "driven to foster diverse, community based leisure opportunities, through a harmonious blend of quality recreation programs, facilities and open space which will enhance the quality of life into the future."

The Park District serves 36,000 residents: 27,000 in Glen Ellyn and 9,000 in unincorporated Glen Ellyn, Carol Stream, Glendale Heights, Lombard and Wheaton. The Park District owns and maintains 30 parks and facilities and offers cultural, athletic and general interest programs and special events for its residents, from infants through seniors.

GLEN ELLYN PARK DISTRICT

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