

March 28, 2019

Scott Pingel and City of Fircrest Mayor and council
City of Fircrest
115 Ramsdell St.
Fircrest, WA

RE: Pool and Recreation Center project

Dear Scott, Mayor and Fircrest City Council,

Congratulations on such a wonderful step forward on our Fircrest Park assets! I am thrilled that you have all put your hearts and minds into the progress of completing a new pool and community center for us to enjoy for the rest of our lives, as well as, the future generations. You should all be quite proud. And best of luck in the upcoming bond vote. I will do my part in promoting people to get out and vote.

One major concern I have with the presentation at the last open house down at the community center was the Emergency Services facility needs. I strongly agree with Mr. Len Smith regarding his opinion on the location of the emergency generator being located on site. It is not reasonable to think that a generator of that size could be easily transported to the facility in a major event. We need to plan and use our creativity in making sure that all the needed equipment is there on site. I think your support of anything less than that would be a disservice to the community. I would recommend having a first responder (Fire and Police) take a look at the project from an emergency management view point and ensure that we have thought out all of the needs and include them. It's much cheaper to plan for these things in advance than to try and make something 'fit' later. I have the same opinion regarding the solar panels. How about getting an expert in the field come in and look at the designs and make recommendations? It cannot hurt. We get much better products in the end with great collaboration. The generator can easily be screened if the view of it is a concern. And I would much rather see less grass and know that we have a center that will serve us in an emergency. I cannot stress enough how important I believe this is. I have also heard there is grant money to pay for the generator and other equipment related to EMS if we plan for it in our designs. Don't rely on one opinion - either mine or the architects - please reach out to your constituents and let them provide valued opinions and advice.

We have the opportunity to create not only a great leisure and sports facility but to also add the amenity of safety and emergency services. Please, please, please - take advantage of that!

Thank you,
Kathy Owens

Landscape Architect, Fircrest resident, Business Owner, commercial and private property owner in Fircrest!
(I have much interest in making sure we do this right!)

SUBMITTED PUBLIC COMMENT