

Recreation and Community Services Center Construction Update



Construction and demolition began in mid-June on the new Recreation and Community Services Center located at 2450 S. 68th and is progressing at a steady pace. Almost all of the former retaining wall has been removed and construction crews are working hard to ready the property for structural construction. Work now consists of removing fencing, digging, excavating, structural preparation and plenty of earth moving.

Some of the questions being asked frequently are:

What is being done with the brick from the retaining wall?

The retaining wall was constructed as part of “The Works Progress Administration” (later known as the Work Project Administration) created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Great Depression. The program was designed to create jobs for unskilled and unemployed. A brick stamped with the initials FDR, along with many other bricks, are being kept and preserved. Working with Groth Design Group, we are planning a tribute wall incorporating those bricks in the Center’s main lobby area.



What is happening with the ball field?

The ball field has been removed. The West Allis Central Varsity Softball team has relocated two blocks west to the recently upgraded Klentz Park softball field. Upgrades are being made to the existing fields at Irving School and Mitchell School to relocate other baseball and softball programs that formerly may have played on Dorow Field on the property. The Department is currently working on a different way to commiserate and recognize Ernie Dorow, former Director of Recreation, for whom the field was named.

**When will the project be done?**

The entire construction process is scheduled to take 10-12 months. The WAWM RCS Department hopes to be completely moved in and operating by this time next year (July 2020).

We encourage you to follow the construction through pictures and updates posted at <http://www.wawmrec.com/construction>.