



Bismarck Parks and Recreation District Administration Division

DATE: August 12, 2026

TO: Commissioners Gilbertson, Hanson, Herzog, Redmann, and President Jeske and Executive Director Leker

FROM: Dana Schaar Jahner, Community Relations Manager

SUBJECT: Update on Bismarck Indoor Recreation & Sports Facility Feasibility Study

The City of Bismarck and Bismarck Parks and Recreation District have partnered on an Indoor Recreation and Sports Facility Feasibility Study to explore the future recreational needs of our growing community. This study will assess current facilities, programs, services, and operations while evaluating the community's interest in, and need for, a potential indoor recreation and sports facility. Its findings will help guide future recreation investments that support community quality of life and economic vitality in Bismarck.

The project consultant, CHA with UBL Design Group and RRC Associates, led a July kickoff meeting with the City-BPRD project team to finalize the project strategy and timeline.

The first phase of the project is community engagement. The consultant will be in Bismarck the week of August 24 to learn about community recreation needs from BPRD and City staff, stakeholders, and focus groups. In addition, there will be a public Community Open House on August 26 from 6:30-8:00pm at Bismarck Public Works. There will not be a formal presentation, but attendees will have an opportunity to speak with consultants and the project team. Residents who are interested in the future of indoor recreation and sports opportunities in Bismarck are encouraged to participate in the Community Open House.

Additional project phases this fall include a statistically valid survey and additional public feedback opportunities with the final project report anticipated in February 2027.