



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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CITY TO CELEBRATE GRAND OPENING OF ITS FIRST LEED CERTIFIED BUILDING

WINTER PARK, Fla., an internationally recognized ICMA Excellence Award winner with accredited fire, police and parks & recreation agencies (August 10, 2011) – The city will celebrate the completion of the new Winter Park Community Center, located at 721 West New England Avenue, with a Ribbon-cutting Ceremony on **Friday, September 23, at 10 a.m.** The 38,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility will be open to the public for an interactive open house on **Saturday, October 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** As part of the city's sustainability initiative, the center was specifically designed to be more energy efficient, conserve water, and improve indoor air quality for visitors and guests making it the city's first "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design" (LEED) certified green building.

The project has been a three-year process that began in 2007 when the Community Redevelopment Agency's strategic plan identified building a new community center as its number one goal. The city worked with Turner Construction to build a center that will meet the needs and desires of the community as pertaining to programs, design and layout. In the spirit of true community-building partnerships, many local neighborhood, business and philanthropic organizations have helped to make this project possible. The city's Parks & Recreation Department will manage the center and facilitate all programming.

Amenities of the new center will include:

Extensive meeting spaces and classrooms; rental opportunities for large and small receptions, events, meetings and banquets; multipurpose pool facility with lap swim, zero depth spray play with recreation area; regulation-size gym; outdoor theater stage; state-of-the-art resistance and cardio equipment in fitness center; computer lab; game rooms; and a community garden.

Programming at the new center will include:

Childcare programs for grades K-5 throughout school year; after-school Teen Club with mentoring and tutoring opportunities; youth and adult sports leagues; adult group fitness classes; youth and adult enrichment programs; summer camp programs for grades K-8; summer volunteer program for grades 9-12; health and wellness programs focusing on creating a healthy community; weekly seniors program composed of health/wellness education; disease prevention and social opportunities; seasonal aquatic facility featuring open swim, lap swim, water aerobics and swim lessons.

For additional event information regarding the Winter Park Community Center or to book event space, please call 407-599-3334.

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CITY OF WINTER PARK

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Winter Park, Florida

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