

COLUMBIA PARKS AND RECREATION PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Please comment on what you like about the proposed potential improvements. Please be concise.

Institute a "Bring your own playing shoes" policy to keep street shoes off the playing court.

I like the look and openness of the building.

Great idea to expand capacity and allow more availability for Armory and ARC

Courts are probably needed

Love the 6 pickleball courts!

Baseball and softball hitting cages would be a nice addition to the gym area. Drop down cages with a matt flooring and potential mound for pitching. Along with protection nets for pitchers. It would also be nice to include pitching machines for hitters only.

For tournaments a concessions area with outdoor patio seating would be a perk.

Word spacing on the signs needs work. A few quarter lockers outside locker rooms.

This looks to be an ideal design for so many sports and activities. Impressive to say the least!

The desks look VERY similar to those at the library-the edges are sharp and staff always get bruises from bumping into them. Round the corners!! I would also like to see an enclosed space for dogs to run off leash in the back, and for the trails for be maintained for runners.

Nothing

Guarantee access to all sports, such as futsal, bike polo, and roller hockey to enhance community building and diversity.

We need a facility like the ARC to serve this side of town.

We need more pools! Pools for lap swimmers and for competition! It would also bring money to Columbia. We spent a fortune taking our kids to competitions.

I think the space would accommodate a variety of sports that often have difficulty finding space to hold practices or competitions. I think as long as the bleachers between courts are movable, the space would work for roller hockey, bike polo, flat track roller derby, and maybe even quidditch. Each of these sports have local leagues already organized.

It would be so great if there was a public supported exercise gym on this side of town. There is nothing even close. Something similar to the ARC would be great but an exercise room with equipment and

classes at the minimum would be great. The only place close is a Aria and they won't sell a membership or let us use the facility unless we live there. Thank you. Joan Smith jfsmith312@gmail.com

Make sure you plan appropriately for pickleball courts (inside and outside). Fastest growing sport in America. ARC courts are crowded and wait times continue to grow. I am a 'southsider' and looking forward to this development.

To ensure that the bleachers in between the basketball courts are removable, so if a sport, like roller derby, needed slightly larger than a basketball court area to play. Those bleachers could be removed for larger area game play. The addition of locker rooms would also be convenient for any adult recreation league sport that has visiting skaters and referees to place during games. Make sure the flooring is some sort of multipurpose flooring, like sport court. So a variety of roller and other sports can use the basketball courts. Place WFTDA sanctioned lines on the courts for roller derby bouts. Regulation guide can be found here: <https://static.wftda.com/resources/wftda-regulation-track-layout-guide.pdf>

Please consider putting in turf fields outside of facility. There are many teams that would pay to practice there. It could be used as alternate fields when games get rained out on the grass fields. Also you could run a league on them & it would also be available for 3v3 tournaments.

It would be wonderful if a roller sports court could be included. Roller derby requires at least 100'x120' bike polo requires a court of 155'x80' or more. Roller hockey games are played on a rink of about 180'x80.' Currently the only publicly available space for these games is outside at the Cosmo Park Rink.

I would like to advocate for a WFTDA (women's flat track roller derby) regulation track to be laid on the hard court floor so that Columbia's nonprofit women's roller derby team can play games there. They require 108 feet long, 75 feet wide for track dimensions. Most cities and towns make space for women-run non-profit sports teams and ours is in their 11th season and without a game venue. The CoMo Derby Dames have proven that they are a reliable, professional amateur team. They have even won awards for empowering women within the community from the city of Columbia. It would be a powerful statement for city of Columbia to support them in this way. For 11 years, they have been fighting negative stigma about women in a full contact sport and erroneous stigma based on the WWE-esque nature of 70s roller derby. Modern roller derby (WFTDA) is inclusive of all genders, including trans and nonbinary. It is non-profit and does not exploit skaters. It is team run and operated. Nonetheless, facing this stigma means they have had to struggle for institutional support that allows so many other amateur sports (soccer, softball, etc) to thrive. Despite this stigma, the CoMo Derby Dames have managed to persevere, even winning the unsanctioned tournament at Mid-Missouri Derby Festival in Lebanon, Missouri in 2016. They provide an invaluable resource and are an important and unique part of the Columbia community and it would be amazing if our city could show the support these women so thoroughly deserve. It would also offer a lucrative opportunity to offer concessions income, collaborate on potential intramural events with other community sports, and negotiate venue fees with the league.

Asking that they lay a WFTDA regulation track (dimensions are 108 feet long, 75 feet wide) and make sure the bleachers between courts are easily movable.

Weight room for adults only. Indoor walking path. Weight and strengthening classes for adults. More for seniors in the community. Not a place for the High School to use all the time. Roads of Gans and Bearfield too small for the traffic.

Please support the option for a roller derby track. The derby dames and visiting teams are organizations that bring revenue to town and serve as a great experience for our community.

Make sure it includes room for roller derby please

Would love a hard floor that can accommodate multiple sports such as roller derby

I would like to advocate for the Como Derby Dames to have space in the new facility. This is one of the few spaces available big enough. Como Derby Dames has an extremely strong uplifting goal building community. I really enjoy their bouts!!! I have followed their team across the state and Midwest. This is a diverse sport that makes a huge difference in each team member's life.

As a member of the Como Derby Dames it would be great to see derby considered with the planning of the space. It would be great to incorporate some WFTDA regulated lines into the space to allow us to have a track already outlined. However, most of all, staying open to the idea of working with the dames to have a space for our bouts would be fantastic!

It would be amazing if you could give the local roller derby team a home. They already have a floor they can lay on top of the hard court, if that is a concern. For the last ten years the COMO derby dames have been part of the community, and I think it would be nice for them to be able to use a space reflecting that.

I would really appreciate consideration of roller derby in the plans. I am a member of the roller derby team and we are a committed part of the community focused on health and giving back, but are consistently looking for new venues. Often issues arise due to track size requirements or crowd sizes when we cannot afford 1000s in rental fees for spaces

Roller derby would be EASY to include in your plans. The Como derby dames are an important entity in the Columbia area, but we have had to hop from venue to venue for 10 years. Please include us.

I would like to see a roller derby track laid in. The sport is very popular and currently lacks a Columbia venue, even though there are teams looking to compete here.

Please make a place for women's roller derby.

A derby track

Who will staff the building at night? Please make sure you have permanent employees and not minimum wage staff that don't know what's going on. It's a problem at ARC. Make your current sports staff finally earn their money!

I would love to see a permanent roller derby track painted on the floor for use by the CoMo Derby Dames bouts and, ideally, practices. In the fall of 2005, a group of women decided to form the CoMo Derby Dames. They were interested in creating a space where women could improve their health, find a supportive atmosphere, and get involved in the community. They decided to get together and create a roller derby league. Over the next few years, this small group of women grew into an established nonprofit. Today we have people of all backgrounds in the league. Facts About CoMo Derby: We have 200 members of the league. At each of our bouts, we have about 175 spectators, 50 skaters and other officials, and 50 other volunteers. Derby leagues from all over the midwest travel to Columbia to skate in our bouts. In addition to local bouts every couple of months, we skate in practices three times a week. The league attends community events multiple times a year including Earth Day, Pride, the American Legion charity trivia night. CoMo Derby is accredited by the Women's Flat Track Derby Association - a national roller derby group.

Can there be a flat track painted for roller derby in the phase 1 building? I really like roller derby and my daughter wants to help form a junior league. She feels excluded from a lot sports but the Como Derby Dames make her feel like she can be a part of a real team.

I would like to add a regulation sized, roller derby track (108 feet long, by 75 feet wide) to support the CoMo Derby Dames. A local, non-profit, team owned and operated program.

What would you change about the proposed potential improvements? Please be concise.

Move basketball away from pickleball if playing on the same night. Basketball is so noisy the pickleball players can't hear the scores being called. Also the basketball players run into divider (at the ARC) and push it into the pickleball players back to serve.

Roads in the area will not hold the traffic.

A facility like the ARC would help people on the south side of town.

We need more indoor and outdoor pickleball courts. This is the fastest growing sport in the country – great for all ages – young to old.

Not necessarily an improvement but a "woodless" hardcourt for uses such as roller hockey, bike polo, futsal, roller derby and other activities that may scuff a basketball/wooden surface.

I like the use of existing trails, and how the shelters are spaced out.

This is a great idea!!!! Love this!!

The outdoor loop trail

We need more pools! Pools for lap swimmers and for competition! It would also bring money to Columbia. We spent a fortune taking our kids to competitions.

I like the lobby area with locker rooms and concession area. This would allow local groups to host athletic competitions that accommodate spectators (thus bringing money to the parks department through rental fees and concessions AND tourism in CoMo for tournaments and larger events).

The location (south side of town) and it appears there will be at least 4 courts to play on.

The size of the area seems very big and open which gives sports like roller derby the opportunity to play here. Seating seems expansive which is great. And having a lobby/concession area is very nice.

I like the idea of more basketball courts for people to utilize.

It's so exciting that this building is going to be built. Our city has seen an influx in new and exciting sports that could really benefit from this building. I'm excited that our city planners at parks and rec are so forward thinking and supportive of our communities within Columbia.

This will be beneficial to a lot of non-profit community sports leagues that do not currently have a place to go.

I love that we'll be able to play roller derby!

We need another facility like the ARC on the South side.

I love the idea of a permanent Roller Derby facility in Columbia! *Our name is the CoMo Derby Dames. We are a local WFTDA chartered women's roller derby team. We were established in 2007 *We are asking that they lay a WFTDA regulation track (dimensions are 108 feet long, 75 feet wide) *We are a local non-profit team-owned & operated *We are trans and Non-Binary inclusive *We bring in (on average) 200-500 spectators to games *We have a track we could lay and pick up for each game, if skating directly on the floor is a concern

I like that it will have a hard surface appropriate for indoor roller derby

This space would provide a great home for The CoMo Derby Dames!!!

Sounds like a great facility for our community!

I really like the four court layout of the proposed phase I. I think it will allow for larger events and more opportunities within the community. As well, at the meeting yesterday it was mentioned that the courts would ideally be able to be sectioned off by a wall or something. This would be incredibly valuable to allow for concurrent programming to be happening with fewer distractions.

I like that there is a hard court with many possibilities for use!

The proposal looks amazing. My teammates that have attended public comment sessions highly recommend the building.

Please allow roller derby to also use this facility.

I think the proposal looks great, but I would like to make sure there is adequate space for flat track roller derby - our local league is amazing and deserves to have a home in our community!

I think this would be a great place for the CoMo Derby Dames to skate and hold events. A track for them would be great!

Support for local amateur sports like roller derby would be so valued by our community. It's so important to encourage all demographics to stay physically active.

The potential for Roller Derby that is safe for skaters, and a fixed venue.

A derby track

Great plans!

I'm 21 lived in Como forever and have always felt like we needed another place similar to the Arc.

Movable bleachers Hardwood floor, suitable for skating Affordable access for community sports groups
Sufficient parking All-season access

I like the location and all the planned expansion!

I like that the CoMo Derby Dames are trans and non-binary inclusive, my family and I enjoy attending games with 200 - 500 other spectators, and I think roller derby is a great and inspirational sport for my daughter and other young ladies.

The above record(s) is subject to Missouri's open records laws and may be provided to the public if requested and/or placed in public domain.

Thank you for your participation.
City of Columbia, MO
Parks and Recreation