

02-16-2011

FAQ

Demolition of the Former YMCA Building

The former YMCA building, which was built in 1965, is located on a nearly 40,000-square-foot site with 227 feet of frontage along the south bank of the Spokane River.

What is the current status of the project?

Considerable work has been underway the past few months to secure the necessary permits, review proposals and award the contract to allow demolition of the building.

Specifically, when will demolition begin?

At a Special Meeting of the Spokane Park Board held January 31, 2011, Board members approved a demolition contract with Rob's Demolition Incorporated for \$574,700 plus tax. The demolition permit is now in hand and the Notice to Proceed was received on Thursday, February 10th.

What happens next?

By contract, Rob's has 75 days to complete the demolition. The building will be taken down in stages beginning with asbestos abatement. Interior walls will then be removed and once that is complete exterior walls will be taken down, from the top, piece by piece. It's crucial that none of the debris falls into the river so great care will be taken to ensure that does not happen. That also means that there will be no spectacular toppling or implosion of the walls.

What happens after that?

Work is currently underway on the restoration design and that project will be bid in the near future. The hope is to have restoration begin immediately after demolition ends and to have that completed by the end of the summer/early fall.

Were there grants the Department was going to pursue regarding the demolition and restoration?

Yes. The Department has applied for an acquisition grant and there is the possibility of applying for a restoration grant as well.

Previously Parks and Recreation applied for an Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) grant and had received word that the Department's proposal ranked 2nd and would be funded in 2011 with an award of \$1 million for acquisition of the former YMCA

building. Unfortunately that entire funding source was pulled from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and put into the State's general fund by the Governor because of state budget woes.

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