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The much-anticipated groundbreaking for the Bartlett Park Recreation Center will take place at 10 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 1.

Members of the council will give opening remarks as well as detail the history of the project and what it means to the citizens of Burleson. All Burleson City Council members and park board members have been invited. The ceremony will take place on the former Bartlett Park field #1.

The cost for construction of the center is locked in at \$17.441 million. The membership-supported center will be constructed on a 34.459-acre site that will also be home to soccer fields and an outdoor swimming pool. The 65,000-square-foot center will be two stories and include meeting rooms, park offices, an indoor swimming pool, 5-lane lap pool, large fitness center, twin gymnasiums, and elevated jogging track. The Recreation Center will be constructed at 550 Summercrest Dr. in the heart of Bartlett Park.

The original concept for the center included only a 2-lane indoor lap pool before the Burleson Independent School District partnered with the City for the construction of three additional lanes to provide a local training facility for their swim team. The citizens will also have use of the expanded exercise pool and the district will reimburse the City \$957,154 for the added lanes.

Funding for the construction of the center comes from a combination of sources including 4B Sales Tax and gas revenues. None of the construction or operational expense is supported by property tax.

Hill-Wilkinson, Ltd., is the 11<sup>th</sup> largest builder in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The company has completed 11 projects for the YMCA and recreation centers similar to the Bartlett Park Recreation Center project. Construction is projected to be complete by March 2010.

Bartlett Park, which has hosted Burleson Youth Association softball and baseball games in the past, will become home to the Bartlett Soccer Complex. Beginning in the spring of 2010, all BYA baseball and softball games will be played at the all new Fields at Chisenhall Farms.

For more information about this release, call the public information officer at 817-447-5400, ext. 286.