

Legislative Proposal 2026



Promote community wellbeing with an enhanced Northwest Metro Regional Athletics Facility

The challenge

Since 1983, Brooklyn Park has been home to a regional northwest metro sports facility, attracting over 350,000 visitors annually.

However, the northwest metro's population - especially among youth - growing sharply, demand for programs and space has soared. For over 20 years, the city has faced a shortage of gym space to support youth sports associations and adult recreation.

Positive, accessible recreation is a proven component of violence prevention and community wellbeing. At present, the facility's limited space and aging facilities fall short of fully meeting these needs. As Brooklyn Park strives to promote holistic, regional approaches to public safety, providing recreational outlets for young people is more critical than ever.



The facility's current offerings, including two ice arenas, racquetball courts, a shared-use gymnasium (with the Minnesota National Guard), and banquet rooms, are aging and insufficient to meet community needs.

The proposal

The City of Brooklyn Park requests \$11 million to design, construct, furnish and equip the NW Metro Regional Athletics Facility, including the addition of a multi-court gymnasium, improved ADA-compliant entrances, expanded community event spaces, splash pad, and upgraded parking.

This project will support a dynamic regional multiport and cultural center, accommodating the community's diverse recreational and social needs.

Why it matters

Expanding the existing facility to include gymnasium space, ice for hockey and figure skating and flexible activity space will provide a needed regional asset that serves Minnesotans from across the state.

The RAF increases access to multiple offerings and reduces the need to travel outside the city for recreational opportunities, allowing for a positive healthy outlet for Brooklyn Park's young people and seniors alike.

The proposed renovations will provide much-needed gym space for youth athletics, preserve important ice space, and increase access to recreational sports for all ages. Additionally, enhanced exterior spaces will create a venue capable of hosting large cultural events, fostering connections for Minnesotans from across the state.



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Brooklyn Park grows champions.

The Northwest Metro Regional Athletics Facility will feature an attractive entryway designed to maximize safety for all. New multi-use courts will support pickleball, basketball, and more, including ample space for congregating, meetings, and large-scale events.

