



The YMCA plans to convert the former theater at 11th & Central streets into a \$39 million community center that will include workout facilities, childcare and many other amenities. The YMCA is in the midst of a \$20 million fundraising campaign. The Downtown Council of Kansas City (DTC) will develop the YMCA project through an affiliate called DTC Community Development Inc.

The Greater Kansas City YMCA selected the former Lyric Theatre building for its long-awaited return to Downtown Kansas City. The vacated theater at 11th & Central will become a \$39 million, four-level, 75,000-square-foot community center.

A \$20 million fundraising drive is currently underway to meet the total costs. The City of Kansas City has already allocated \$16.9 million in Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds by amending the existing 11th Street Corridor TIF plan to include the Lyric renovation. The YMCA anticipates the fundraising to be completed within nine to 12 months. Construction would begin immediately after fundraising is completed and would take 12 to 15 months. A new YMCA could be ready for use in early 2018.

The Lyric Theatre opened in 1926 as the Ararat Shrine Temple. It subsequently became the 3,000-seat home to the Lyric Opera, the Kansas City Ballet and the Kansas City Symphony until the opening of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in 2011.

The Downtown Council will serve as the developer in the public interest through DTC Community Development Inc., a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. The organization will work with Broadway Square Partners on the transfer of the 11th Street Corridor TIF development rights and will work in conjunction with the YMCA to structure a long-term lease and develop a coordinated redevelopment plan for the former Lyric Theater. The new YMCA facility will have:

- \$2 million payroll with 15 FTE's and 120 PTE's
- Two regulation-size gymnasiums on the third floor for basketball and volleyball
- Exercise rooms and classes for yoga and pilates
- A wrap-around, indoor track on the fourth floor
- A lap pool, a warm-water therapy pool and locker rooms on the subground level
- A preschool, community meeting rooms, a healthy eating food bar and facilities for a future partner to provide preventive care

The facility is being designed to meet desires expressed by Downtown residents in a survey conducted by the YMCA. The Downtown YMCA will also be a physical fitness partner with the nearby Crossroads Academy charter school.

