

# GYMNASIUM/NATATORIUM REPLACEMENT



## PROJECT OVERVIEW

**Intent:** To demolish the original 57-year-old Gymnasium/Natorium facility that no longer adequately supports the current or future space needs of UW-Madison, its students and the community, and to construct a replacement facility on the same site.

**Summary:** In 2014, a record-breaking number of students voted on the Rec Sports Master Plan in a referendum. Eighty-seven percent of student voters approved an increase to segregated fees to support new construction of recreational facilities — including the Natatorium — based on its deteriorating quality and limited capacity.

The mechanical system controls, electrical power, lighting, and telecom systems of the facility are obsolete, energy inefficient and require replacement. Upgrades to those systems are infeasible because of age, the prohibitive cost, and a lack of required space.

The original facility was constructed to host primarily physical education classes. Today's annual participation includes 1.5 million campus users and 100,000 users from hosted events.

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### The project constructs a replacement facility that provides space for:

- A Wellness center for student Recreational Sports
- A new gift-funded ice arena that replaces the Camp Randall Sports Center sheet of ice
- Basketball courts, an indoor track, fitness space, and racquetball courts
- Enhanced activity areas that will generate additional revenue for the Recreational Sports program.

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**Request:** \$126.4 million (\$92 million PRSB, \$26.4 million gifts. A \$20 million lead gift is already secured). This is a program revenue project, funded entirely by non-state dollars.

Learn More: [budget.wisc.edu](http://budget.wisc.edu)

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## PROJECT NEED

The project will address shortcomings in the current building.

- Current challenges include inefficient and outdated building equipment (including heated water and air filtration systems, pool sealant and plumbing, flooring and roofing, etc.), insufficient fitness space and equipment, poorly designed and underutilized locker rooms, windowless corridors and lack of daylighting, and substandard vertical circulation and access to many spaces
- New facility features may include increased fitness square footage, a recreational and instructional pool, an ice arena, several multipurpose rooms and gymnasiums, an indoor track, an instructional kitchen, and a wellness center with space to support expanded mental health services for students.
- As a fully ADA-accessible site, the new facility will also help support growth in student enrollment, campus retention and recruitment, adaptive fitness programs, mental health and student wellness services, and campus and community special events as a primary hosting site.



In addition to daily recreational use, a variety of campus and community groups rely on the current Natatorium for practices, competitions, meetings, and other special events.

- The facility hosted nearly 400,000 annual participations from 2013 to 2017 and 570,000 participations in 2017-2018 (the increase in usage can be attributed to the loss of the SERF).
- Usage by groups unaffiliated with Rec Sports accounts for approximately 55,000 participations each year (15,000 by UW student organizations and 40,000 by community groups)
- Community group usage includes the School of Kinesiology, WIAA Swimming and Diving, Madison Metropolitan School District and surrounding school districts, Midwest Ultimate, USA Swimming, etc.
- Upon completion of the Natatorium project, the Camp Randall Sports Center will transfer back to Intercollegiate Athletics and all impacted groups (including club and high school hockey groups, the ROTC, and others) may relocate to the new facility.

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