

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: Feb. 23, 2022

City of De Pere
335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115-1199
www.deperewi.gov



Nelson Family Pavilion coming to De Pere's Voyageur Park

DE PERE, WIS. – The Nelson Family Pavilion is a new performance venue coming to one of the City of De Pere's most renowned and popular spaces: Voyageur Park. The facility will serve as an important amenity for existing events and provide an opportunity to increase programming at the park.

De Pere Mayor James Boyd formally unveiled this project at the 2022 State of De Pere Luncheon, held Wednesday, Feb. 23 at St. Norbert College.

Situated along the Fox River and incorporating the Fox River Trail, Voyageur Park is a premier destination in De Pere, hosting numerous community events, including Yoga in the Park, De Pere Beer Gardens, Community Band concerts, Celebrate De Pere, art walks, and more. In addition, with scenic, natural beauty, the site boasts biking and walking paths, large greenspace, the City's largest inclusive playground, and is adjacent to the popular De Pere Riverwalk and Wildlife Pier.

The planned Nelson Family Pavilion will be situated near the current restrooms and will include interior space that can accommodate 250 people for private gatherings. The garage doors will open to a stunning patio situated on a hill, overlooking a one-acre open space.

The patio can be used as a stage for music festivals and concerts for crowds of 5,000 people or more.

The Nelson Family Pavilion is designed to provide a wide range of uses from small intimate gatherings to major concerts and weekend festivals. It is anticipated the variety of programs and events will bring over 100,000 visitors to the area each year.

The facility will host existing events, and plans are underway to launch a music series featuring local, regional, national, and international artists.

Project leaders hope the venue is a perfect setting for year-round activities such as art shows, markets, and the new holiday light show.

Timeline and fundraising

The project is currently scheduled to start construction in late summer 2022, it could open as early as winter 2022, with a full calendar of events in 2023. Fundraising has been kickstarted by a generous donation from the Dave and Rita Nelson Foundation, and, to date, the project has already raised more than half of its goal for the projected \$1.5 million dollar facility.

Donation levels include:

- Up to \$999 / Bronze
- \$1,000 - \$4,999 / Silver
- \$5,000 - \$9,999 / Gold
- \$10,000 - \$99,999 / Platinum

Donations can be made online or via physical check. Silver level and up donors will be recognized on a building plaque, all donors will be listed on the website.

Checks should be returned, along with donation form, to:

Parks, Recreation & Forestry
925 S Sixth St.
De Pere WI 54115
(920) 339-4065)

More information on the project, including donation forms, resources and links, can be found at www.deperewi.gov/nelsonpavilion.

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