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Idaho Falls plans to start building an events center in 2017

By: Teya Vitu June 2, 2016 0



The Idaho Falls Events Center will have 4,000 fixed seats and up to 6,500 seats for concert seating. Image courtesy of Idaho Falls Auditorium District.

The Idaho Falls Auditorium District is in the home stretch of a nine-year quest to build a multi-purpose event center.

Idaho Falls-based Kevin DeKold at CRSA Architects of Salt Lake City has completed schematic drawings for a 4,000-fixed-seat event center, and detailed development drawings will most likely be done by the end of the year, said Cindy Ozaki, chairwoman of the Idaho Falls Auditorium District. The district was established in 2011.

Ozaki hopes to start construction next year.

Ozaki said the Idaho Falls Events Center will be home to a minor league hockey team. The center could also host indoor football, soccer, rodeo, truck pulls, concerts and other events with upward of 6,500 seats. It may also include a 10,000-square-foot banquet space.

"There is nothing in Idaho Falls that can handle this kind of crowd," Ozaki said. "That's why this is so important."

The largest center in Idaho Falls is the 1,900-seat civic auditorium.

The Idaho Falls Events Center would be built on 23 acres near Interstate 15 at Snake River Landing, the 450-acre mixed-use development that includes offices, retail, residential and a hotel. Snake River Landing developer Ball Ventures donated the land to the auditorium district.

The center is budgeted for \$35 million with about \$6 million raised so far at the rate of about \$1.6 million a year.

DeKold started schematic designs in summer 2012.

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ABOUT TEYA VITU



Teya Vitu is an Idaho Business Review reporter, covering commercial real estate, construction, transportation and whatever else may intrigue him in the moment.

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