

Gwinnett County Government Communications Division NEWS RELEASE

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COUNTY'S OLDEST GYM WILL GET RENOVATION

(Lawrenceville, Ga., Oct. 22, 2015) – The oldest gymnasium in the Gwinnett County park system, built at Best Friend Park in the mid-1970s, will look like new again after commissioners on Tuesday agreed to a \$1.68 million contract with low bidder Kevin Price General Contractors Inc.

The 2014 SPLOST program will pay to replace the roof, wood flooring and ceilings; renovate office space, locker rooms, restrooms and entry; and improve drainage, landscaping and handicapped parking.

"Best Friend Park has provided recreational opportunities to the Norcross area for decades, said District 2 Commissioner Lynette Howard. "This is the second major renovation project there recently, and I look forward to the improved programs and services that will be possible after these upgrades. I'm also really excited that the gym is getting a new, welcoming entrance."

"We promised to use these SPLOST funds to maintain and improve existing County park facilities," added Board of Commissioners Chairman Nash. "We thank Gwinnett voters for their support that enables us to make needed capital improvements to our older recreation centers."

The 43-acre Best Friend Park, at 6224 Jimmy Carter Boulevard, also has outdoor pools, 17 lighted tennis courts, indoor badminton courts, outdoor basketball courts, baseball/softball fields, a pavilion and grill, a playground, and a three-quarter mile paved, multi-purpose trail. Gwinnett recreation staff offers summer day camps, year-round basketball play, general recreation and facility rentals at the park.

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