

# Kelly Senior Center Listening Session FAQs

Milwaukee County DHHS is proposing relocating the Kelly Senior Center to the Heritage Building on the Bucyrus Campus, two miles south in South Milwaukee. The proposed new senior center will be more than 22,000 sq. ft.- approximately double the size of the existing center and will provide dramatic aesthetic, physical space, and programmatic improvements for seniors who currently utilize the Kelly Senior Center.

## **1. Why are you suggesting moving the senior center site?**

The current buildings are not sustainable. Capital repairs and maintenance are estimated at \$2.5 million. This maintenance is required to keep the buildings safe and does not include costs for building improvements. Moving the senior center site, within a couple miles of the existing center, ensures older adults living in the surrounding south side community can enjoy a new center for decades to come.

## **2. Who will own the new site?**

The new building will be owned by Bucyrus ACME LLC. The senior center and its activities will continue to be the responsibility of Milwaukee County DHHS. The proposed lease with Milwaukee County is for 25 years with two 10-year options with terms that are still subject to negotiation.

## **3. What will happen with the Kelly Center buildings?**

A decision has not been made about the existing Kelly buildings. If the senior center activities move out of the Kelly site, Milwaukee County DHHS will work collaboratively with Milwaukee County Parks and Milwaukee County Facilities to propose some potential options to the County Board.

## **4. What will the name of the senior center site be?**

There has been no decision yet on the name of the potential new site.

## **5. What are the next steps?**

We will engage with you to design the use of the building, including the types of spaces needed and potential activities there. We anticipate continuing all current senior center activities and adding services that participants desire.

The target date for completion will be early next year. In the months leading up to this target date, we will be engaging the community in conversations around the use of the space and activities older adults would like to participate in there.

The project will offer southeast Milwaukee County residents access to a newly-renovated and centrally-located senior center in a building and campus with historic value. The Heritage Building housed the former Bucyrus museum and is equipped with a full commercial kitchen, dining area, movie theater, gift shop, fully accessible restrooms, entryways, and signage, and open space easily repurposed to meet the programming attributes of the HUBS report and identified needs of the participants.

## **6. Is the current Kelly Senior Center closing in November?**

No. The Kelly Senior Center will remain open until the new location is complete.

We are holding a listening session to hear your thoughts at the new Bucyrus building on **Tuesday, September 23 at 11:30am**. More information to come!