

Envisioning the Future of Milwaukee County Senior Centers

VISION STATEMENT (Draft)

The **Select Committee on Senior Centers** has been charged to explore the future of the 5 MKE County Senior Centers. The **New Models for Seniors Center Subcommittee** has, in turn, taken on the task of beginning to give some sort of form to what a 21st Century “solution” might take. During its discussions the Committee has asked a series of questions including what sort of **locations** and **building types** might be appropriate? What **size** should the building be? What sort of **intangibles** might strongly affect its development?

The Subcommittee is also conscious of the fact that we are in a distinctly different social construct than we were during the period when the current Seniors Centers were conceived and developed. A new generation of users, the Boomer Generation in particular, is now present and ready to participate in a more intensive use of these buildings. Plus, in 2025 the first wave of Gen-Xers will turn 60! **Simply stated the expectations of these new users will likely far exceed what the current product has to offer.**

But what will the alternative be? If the goal is to create a place where Mature Milwaukeeans (note the lack of the use of words like senior or elderly) can gather to live their lives to their full potential, we advocate for the development of a series of **MKE HUBS**. Hub, per the Oxford Dictionary, “the effective center of an activity, region or network”. Therefore, our Mission Statement might be:

THE MKE HUBS

Imagine innovative and vibrant environments programmed and designed to encourage a holistic approach to an engaged life.

Imagine spaces, activities and experiences created to support the vital and active lifestyles of new and existing generations of mature Milwaukee County residents.

IMAGINE THE MKE HUBS!