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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FAMILY RECREATION COMPLEX RENOVATIONS COMPLETE** ***Ribbon Cutting Slated for Friday, June 21 at 9am***

(TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. – June 11, 2019) The City of Temple Terrace will officially unveil the new, improved Family Recreation Complex next week. The nearly year-long renovation included the construction of a new fitness center, improvements to outdoor basketball courts and the gymnastics center, revamped pool locker rooms, offices, classrooms and upgrades to the lobby of the building. The public is invited to a ribbon cutting ceremony at 9 a.m. Friday, June 21, on the grounds of the Complex, 6610 Whiteway Dr., Temple Terrace.

City of Temple Terrace Mayor Mel Jurado, members of City Council, City Manager Charles Stephenson and Leisure Services Director Karl Langefeld will be joined by Project Architect Giovanni Betancourt and Contractor Jeremy Brown and other city officials and honored guests at the ribbon-cutting. Children attending the summer camp will give a brief performance.

In addition to the structural upgrades, a snack bar/coffee shop also was added to the Complex. Now open, the Focus Cafe is staffed by students in the Transition program at Focus Academy, a charter school for special needs students ages 14 to 22 years located in Temple Terrace. In addition to providing soft drinks, coffee and other menu items to patrons and staff, the Cafe provides the students with real world job experience. They plan to expand their offerings this summer to include smoothies and ice cream.

Another bonus feature that was added is a colorful mural on the pool wall. “This is something that I have wanted to get done for many years,” said Leisure Services Director Karl Langefeld, “and with funding from the Arts Council and a great local artist we were finally able to get it done.”

“There is so much to be excited about with the renovations,” Langefeld continued. “All the years of hard work and planning have really paid off in a complex that exceeds my expectations. I think the public is most enthusiastic about the renovations to the fitness center and the locker rooms. Staff are happy about the playground that is now inside our fences and provides a place for kids in the youth programs to play. And parents who have one child in a gymnastics class or swim lesson but another child in tow now have a fun place to go while waiting.”

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The original Family Complex was constructed in 1979. This was the first major renovation and expansion of the facility since 1998. Funding for the renovation was split over two fiscal years, with \$1.4 million budgeted in Fiscal Year 2017-'18 in the Community Investment Tax (CIT) fund and the balance of the total of \$2,608,000 budgeted for 2018-'19.

Woodroffe Corp. Architects completed the current renovation design for the Family Recreation Complex. Bades Construction managed construction for the project, which began with relocating the Fitness Center to the upstairs gym late last year. The area that originally housed the Fitness Center was converted into a youth programs activity space. New dance studios and an outdoor multi-purpose play court were included in the upgrades.

The second phase included renovations to the locker rooms and the addition of "family restrooms," among other improvements. The final phase focused on the entrance and lobby area to address traffic flow and enhance customer service areas.

The ribbon cutting will take place at the back entrance to the facility, near a new playground and covered area used by children in the after-school program and participants in the Complex's summer camp.

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*The Mission of the City of Temple Terrace is to deliver professional services to our community while promoting, protecting and preserving the heritage, natural resources and quality of life for future generations of our amazing city.*