

Below are a few questions we have received regarding the Town Square Project:

Q. How long is the term of the bond?

A. Thirty years.

Q. How much will I pay over 10 years?

A. As this levy is based upon annually fluctuating property value, two factors are at play here. The first is the value of your property, and the second is your property's value in relation to the total value of all the property in the city. This is easiest to understand with an example. Say you own an average home assessed at \$250,000. At the present rate of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value, you would pay \$125 per year -- or \$1,250 over 10 years. It is likely this number is on the high end, however, because historically the total valuation of your property is not increasing as rapidly as the total valuation of all the properties in the city. This is because the city is growing, bringing more property owners and more improved properties sharing the same tax burden. A growing, thriving city means more people investing into the city, which is why your share is likely to be less in year 10 than in year 1.

Q. As a Liberty Lake resident, how much will it cost for me to use the facility?

A. Proposed rates for use of the facility are purposely favorable to the city residents who are funding it. For instance, proposed adult (\$4) and youth/senior (\$2) rates for the aquatic center are half what will be proposed for non-residents. Room rentals in the community center are set to be similarly half-priced, and local nonprofits will have free access to meeting space. Why? The priority of the project is local use for Liberty Lake, not a destination facility for the region.

Q. How long will it take to build Town Square?

A. About a year from the start on construction, which is scheduled for this coming April. This means a targeted completion of late spring 2018.

Q. Why was the proposed location at Appleway/Signal/Mission chosen?

A. The choice of location was citizen-driven and based upon at least three factors. Both the citizen task force and community surveys considered multiple sites, but the proposed location was preferred for its central location within the city boundary, its ample size for accommodating both an aquatic and community center and the fact the property was already owned by the city.

Q. I heard that the project will have traffic impacts. Tell me about the traffic and parking situation.

There are so many ways to get to Town Square with access from all directions: Appleway, Signal, Mission and Meadowwood Lane, Trails and sidewalks. The project is orientated with safety in mind keeping the plaza, kids and the pool away from traffic and congestion. The project includes a new Parking Lot and revised/expanded on Street Parking on Signal. Much like parking for Farmers Market on Saturday morning, there is an array of parking options and modes of travel to Town Square.

We've all experienced increased traffic during peak commute times. For this reason the City has a traffic study underway that evaluates the entire Appleway corridor and will factor in the build out of Town Square. This report will provide an informed evaluation for additional modifications and benefits far beyond Town Square.

If you have questions, please contact us here at City Hall!