

News Release

For immediate release

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Jurries Family Makes Generous Donation for Community Ice-Skating Park

The City of Holland is thrilled to announce a gift from the Jim Jurries Family of \$1 million toward the community ice-skating park. Building upon the initial generous \$1.16 million gift and dream of local retired educator Frank Kraai, the City has approved a plan to bring an ice-skating outdoor facility to the City of Holland, for everyone to experience the joy of skating.

Jurries shares, “I am motivated for this gift by my respect for Frank Kraai and his contributions to this community. Holland has been very good to my family over our lives here, and I want to acknowledge that in this way.” Jurries has fond memories of skating as a child at outdoor rinks in public parks in Grand Rapids, his home town.

Since 1997 the City of Holland has explored potential locations and designs for an ice-skating park through early visioning efforts and within the 2019 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Through further study, the City has identified Window on the Waterfront Park as the ideal location for the ice-skating park. This park has a wide breadth of amenities from flower beds, athletic fields, a boardwalk, the Sally Smoly Nature Playscape and so much more.

Frank Kraai’s initial gift launched the implementation of the plan, and the City of Holland hosted several community listening sessions to ensure the space is inclusive for all. This gift from the Jurries Family builds momentum as the City requests bids for construction and launches a public fundraising plan in 2023. The City of Holland has partnered with the Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area to receive donations for this project. The estimated cost for the ice skating park and overall campaign goal is \$8 million. This is a transformational community project, providing a lasting legacy for generations to come.

(more)

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The Jurries family has been generous supporters of many initiatives and facilities in the Holland area. City Manager Keith Van Beek shares, “We are delighted that the Jurries family has embraced the vision for this new outdoor community space and we are so grateful for this generous gift. We look forward to this being an area of community joy and togetherness.”

More information about the project and previous community engagement sessions may be found at icerink.cityofholland.com.

About the City of Holland:

The City of Holland, Michigan is a vibrant community in a beautiful lakefront setting. It is a world-class city with a small-town feel, making it one of the best places to live, work and vacation. Holland has been recognized by Forbes Magazine and Money Magazine as one of the safest and most beautiful places in the U.S. and was voted as the “Second Happiest and Healthiest Places to Live in America” by Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index. In 2015, Holland landed the number three spot on the Livability.com list as one of the “10 Best Cities for Families.”

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