

\$27M Central Parkway Y renovations to start soon



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(Photo: Enquirer file)

The Central Parkway YMCA in Over-the-Rhine is going to close Dec. 8 in preparation for a \$27 million building redevelopment.

Board members from the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati approved spending up to \$4.5 million for the project Thursday. The board also committed to raising between \$2 million and \$3 million as part of a capital campaign to ensure the nine-story, nearly century-old facility's long-term health.

The decisions allow the project at 1105 Elm St. to move forward, which is slated to be complete in early 2016. The redevelopment calls for upgrading the fitness facility and constructing senior housing on upper floors. YMCA

offices will be consolidated on the building's third floor.

Next month, the YMCA will hold meetings for Central Parkway members to share information and answer questions about the project design.

Work had been delayed as a result of its partner – the Cincinnati Center City Development Corp. – missing out on receiving federal New Markets Tax Credits earlier this year. 3CDC officials told The Enquirer they were continuing to work with other community development entities to secure tax credits to support the development.

Walnut Hills-based real estate developer Model Group and Fairfax-based Episcopal Retirement Homes are working together to develop more than 60 apartments for seniors on the upper six floors of the building.

Now, plans call for the Central Parkway YMCA to feature a two-story health and wellness center that incorporates natural light into the building. The fitness center will have new cardio and strength equipment, a free weight room, locker room lounges for men and women with 50-inch high-definition flat screen televisions, group fitness rooms, cycling studio, welcome center, renovated indoor pool, three racquetball and handball courts, refurbished gym, and new heating, cooling and plumbing systems.

The YMCA has 12 other locations, the two closest ones being at 1425 Linn St. and in West End and 14437 S. Fort Thomas Ave. in Fort Thomas.

<http://www.cincinnati.com/story/money/2014/10/13/central-parkway-ymca-renovations/17207057/>