EUGENE FAMILY YMCA MOVES FORWARD IN CAMPAIGN FOR NEW Y

The Y exercises second option of land purchase agreement with 4J School District

Eugene, Ore. - August 16, 2018 - The Eugene Family YMCA is moving one-step closer to a shovel in the ground for its new facility by exercising its second option of the land purchase agreement with Eugene School District 4J and making its first significant payment toward the property where the former Roosevelt Middle School building once stood.

The Y and 4J entered into a land purchase agreement in 2014, following a lengthy search by the Y for land with contiguous acreage and vital proximity to public transportation and schools. Now that the school board has voted unanimously to approve the Y's presentation of progress in the campaign, the Y will exercise its second option and will pay $712,500 to the district this week.

"We are so excited to convey to the school board and the Eugene community that this project is moving forward and that we have raised ample funds to make this first payment," said Y CEO Brian Steffen. "The Y continues in earnest to develop partnerships and donor relationships that will ensure continued impact in this community for generations to come."

In 2017, the Eugene Family YMCA served 14,700 individuals in the Lane County area ranging from south Eugene to the Ferry Street Bridge area, Cottage Grove and beyond. The Y provides health and wellness programming including vital chronic disease prevention and management classes and is the largest afterschool childcare provider in Lane County, with 17 afterschool programs throughout the 4J district.

"4J is pleased to collaborate with the Y to provide a great location for its programs and services," said 4J Superintendent Dr. Gustavo Balderas. "The district is committed to maximizing resources to serve the Eugene community, and partnering with an important non-profit organization like the Y goes hand in hand with our work to strengthen Eugene's youth."

The Eugene Family YMCA plans to build a 65,000 square foot facility to address the complexity of Eugene’s growing population that includes serious health challenges like childhood and adult obesity and gaps in instruction time for youth after school and throughout the summer. Modernized programming space will allow the Y to continue its proactive approach to health and wellness, while building strong connections in the community. The current Y building on
Patterson Street, across the street from South Eugene High School, was built in 1955 to serve a 1950's community that numbered fewer than 50,000 people. Since that time, the Y has continued to grow its reach in the community and averages 21,000 facility visits to its current location on Patterson Street each month.

More information about the Eugene Family YMCA is available at www.eugeneymca.org.

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**About the Eugene Family YMCA**

The Eugene Family YMCA is one of the region's leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across Lane County, the Y engages nearly 15,000 men, women and children – regardless of age, income or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation's health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. The YMCA has the long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change.