



Outdoor Rink Partnership Creates New Winter Adventures

NiceRink® System Transforms Howelsen Tennis Courts into Frozen Playground

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-September 22, 2020-The magic of backyard skating slides into Howelsen Hill when the tennis courts are converted into two outdoor lighted oval ice sheets for the upcoming winter season.

“In a time where indoor capabilities are limited and public opportunities are scarce, we’re able to create unique recreation opportunities for the community,” said Parks & Recreation Director Angela Cosby. “As we continue to think creatively, activities such as this are only possible through public/private partnerships.”

While hours of operation are still being finalized, the rinks will be available for FREE from December through early March depending upon weather. Public skate, figure skating and hockey will be provided on the new outdoor sheets, managed by the Howelsen Ice Complex staff. The rinks will utilize the tennis court’s current lighting system during evening hours.



The project is possible primarily due to generous contributions and donations from numerous individuals and sponsors. However, if the community would like to support this new winter capital project or other Ice Complex capital projects, donations are being accepted through the Howelsen Capital Improvement Fund: Ice Arena, housed at the Yampa Valley Community Foundation (YVCF). Donations of \$250+ can be made through the [YVCF online portal](#) and contributions under this amount should be by check and can be mailed or dropped off at any city facility or the YVCF office.

“This type of partnership is exactly what our community values,” continued Cosby. “We are excited to bring together a new outdoor winter activity in order to better serve the community and fuel its passion for recreation.”

The city will purchase a complete rink system including liners, brackets, sideboards and other accessories from NiceRink, a Wisconsin fourth-generation, family-owned business that’s been around for nearly 70 years creating frozen traditions and memories.

With changing public health guidelines, Parks & Recreation has had to adapt daily while being flexible and looking at things from new angles. This was evident last spring, when crews groomed cross-country trails for the benefit of the community when many other opportunities shut down. This vision is what drives the department to come up with new ways to enjoy where we live in a safe manner.

-WeServeTheCity-

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