FREESE CENTER

A SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX CONCEPT PRESENTED BY:

GALION PORT AUTHORITY

GALION Ohio

RECREATION. EVENTS. COMMUNITY.

CRAWFORD: 20/20 VISION STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE, DECEMBER 2010

"Create more activities for families and jobs for Crawford workers by developing an all-year sports complex near Route 30 to host sporting activities, classes, and other events to draw in regional revenue and tourism spending and promote county fitness."

PROJECT MOMENTUM TO-DATE

- An initial feasibility study conducted by the National Association of Sports Commissions (2015) + financial feasibility study (2016)
- USDA grant awarded for approx. $50,000 (2017)
- Land donation valued at $720,000 finalized to the City of Galion (2017)
- H.B. 529: State Capital Bill (Ohio support) funding awarded for $500,000 (2018)
- Timken Foundation (NW Ohio regional support) $200,000
- The Community Foundation for Crawford County (local support) $500,000 over 10 years
- Contract with Sports Facilities Advisory (SFA) of Clearwater, FL for institutional-grade financial & strategic feasibility planning (2018)

SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

1. The Freese Center will drive an economic impact of $2.9 million in tourism spending within the first five years, based on projections from SFA.
2. The center will attract an average of 1,000 visitors per tournament weekend (more than 25,000 visitors per year) based on projected demand for tournament space.
3. The facility will feature three basketball courts, six volleyball courts, and one turf field, attracting travel sports and tournaments on the weekends, and filling a local need for practice space on weeknights.
4. To date, more than $1.3 million dollars have been invested toward the development of the center.
5. Based on SFA projections, the Freese Center will generate on average $1.1 million in revenue in the first five years.
6. Due diligence work completed, as part of the USDA grant award: Phase 1 Environmental, Wetland, Cultural Study, Threatened & Endangered Species, and Soil Borings.

JANUARY 2021