

# Community-Driven. Community-Focused.

## Ballot Question for the Miners Event and Convention Center

Guided by the overwhelming feedback from the community-wide survey conducted in the spring of 2018, and from meetings with over 30 user groups, the Virginia City Council has recommended a ballot question be placed on the November 6, 2018 general election for up to a 1% sales tax to fund the construction of a new Miners Event and Convention Center.

You Can Vote Early Beginning Friday, September 21 to Monday, November 5 at Virginia City Hall  
OR You Can Vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, 2018 Between 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.



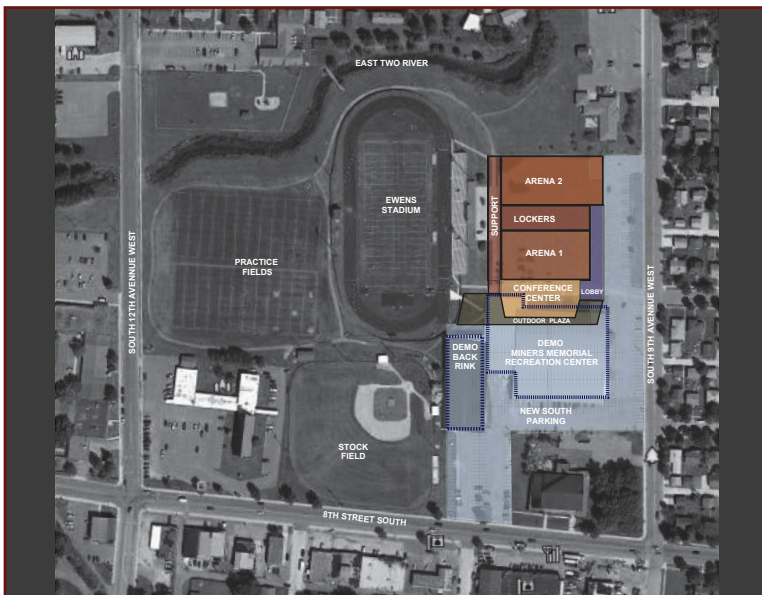
### Challenges With The Existing Miners Building

- Inadequate building infrastructure that impacts programming and activities.
  - People and organizations have become less inclined to hold receptions and events at the facility due to its condition.
  - The building scored a 1.8 on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the best in a 2004 facility condition assessment. 14 years later, the building condition has continued to decline.
  - Ongoing mechanical and electrical system failures and a lack of reliability have resulted in the costly repairs and continued expenditures.
  - Poor indoor air quality, ventilation, noise disruptions and aesthetics have a negative impact on programs and activities.
- The building is over 61 years old and has exceeded its service life.
- Programming and space needs have changes significantly since the building was built in 1957.
- Future of the Virginia community, as it relates to regional market competitiveness.
- The annual economic impact of renovating the existing Miners building is just 1/3 of the annual economic impact as compared to new.
- The cost to renovate and expand the existing Miners Event and Convention Center is estimated at \$33.2 million and the cost to build new is estimated at \$42.8 million. Renovation still leaves us with a 61 year-old building.
- By itself, the \$12 million state grant we have secured does nothing to improve program space, economic impact, quality of life, etc. Instead, the \$12 million by itself will only pay for improvements to the mechanical and electrical systems.
- In the event of a fire, the current condition, structural design and likelihood of a roof collapse would prevent fire fighters from safely entering the building.

### Potential Solutions

- Economic Impact**
  - An additional \$2.25 million in economic impact is generated each year by a new Miners Event and Convention Center as compared to the existing building.
  - A new Miners building will generate nearly 3 times the total economic impact as compared to renovating the existing Miners building.
  - Will increase significantly with additional private development of hotel/restaurant project(s) that will likely result from the new Miners building.
  - Event and conference space, commercial kitchen and breakout rooms are most significant drivers.
- Modern space to improve programs and activities in 2018 and beyond:**
  - Accessible for all.
  - Regional event/conference/convention space.
  - Banquet/reception/meeting hall for 500 people.
  - Commercial/catering kitchen.
  - Concessions area.
  - Breakout meeting rooms.
  - Indoor walking track.
  - Two ice sheets with locker rooms and spectator seating.
- Improved quality of life in Virginia**
- Funded with a \$12 million state grant and up to a 1% sales tax**
  - The majority of sales tax revenue will be generated by people living outside the City.
  - Purchases exempt from sales tax: Automobiles (already pay vehicle tax), food and clothing.
- The City is seeking private sector partnership opportunities**
- Job creation: permanent and construction**
  - At least 10 permanent jobs will be created to operate the proposed new Miners Event and Convention Center.
  - Approximately 450 jobs (in job years) would be created based on the \$42.8 million project budget.
- Revive Virginia! future private development driven by the new Miners Event and Convention Center project**
- A pool is not included in the project scope**

### Site Plan



### Vote Ahead of Time

Early voting with an absentee ballot is available at the Virginia City Hall beginning Friday, September 21 through Monday, November 5 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. City Hall will also be open for early voting from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 3, and will remain open on Monday, November 5 until 5:00 p.m.

### Vote on Election Day

PRECINCTS	POLLING PLACE	POLLING TIMES
Precinct 1,2, 4 and 5	Miners Memorial Building 601 9th Avenue South Virginia, MN 55792	7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Precinct 3	Columbia Apartments 600 3rd Avenue North Virginia, MN 55792	7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Voter registration also available. Be sure to bring identification showing proof of residence on election day if you have not registered to vote or have not voted in four years or more.

## Questions?

For more information, contact Mayor Larry Cuffe the Virginia City Hall at 218-748-7500 or visit the City's website at [www.virginiamn.us](http://www.virginiamn.us).