

New Bedford to Reopen Andrea McCoy Recreation Center



On Monday, February 13, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. Mayor Jon Mitchell and other city officials will join with Congressman Barney Frank in re-opening the Andrea McCoy Recreation Center at 181 Hillman Street in New Bedford. This will mark the first time the fully renovated recreation

facility is open to the public since it was badly damaged by fire in 2004.

The center was the product of a multi-year effort to restore the old gymnasium into an interactive recreation facility for New Bedford residents. The redevelopment project was overseen by the New Bedford Office of Housing and Community Development and the facility will be operated by the New Bedford Office of Parks, Recreation and Beaches.

The project involved the complete restoration of the Andrea McCoy Gym located at 181 Hillman Street. The first and second levels of the Recreation Center have been completely restored; including a new gymnasium floor and restoration of the stage area. Additional repairs to the basement level will be completed in 2012 to offer programming space for a variety of community based programming. The building was originally part of the New Bedford Vocational Technical High School, sustained significant fire damage in 2004, and has not been open for public use since.

The Project was funded through two Economic Development Incentive Grants as well as funding from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development -Community Development Block

Grant Program.