

BRS Wins National Design Competition!

Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture Wins National Competition for Design of the \$22.5 Million Olathe Community Center in Kansas



Sweeping roof forms, a covered walkway and expansive windows welcome visitors as they proceed to the main entry - ©2012 Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

(Denver, Colorado - January 26, 2012) - [Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture](#) (BRS) of Denver, in association with [SFS Architecture](#) of Kansas City, Missouri, has won a national design competition for the \$22.5 million Olathe Community Center planned for Olathe, Kansas. BRS will serve as the architect-of-record and design architect, with SFS as associate architect.

"Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture and SFS Architecture are thrilled by Olathe City Council's selection of our team, and we are honored to design the new Olathe Community Center and signature park," said BRS Principal Steve Blackburn, AIA, LEED® AP. "We are creating an iconic, timeless and durable facility for the citizens of Olathe."



A combination of wood and stone tie the modern building into the existing fabric of the Olathe community - ©2012 Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

With total funding established at \$22.5 million, the current construction budget for the 60,000-square-foot project stands at \$16.5 million. The site for the Olathe Community Center is planned at Stagecoach Park, bordered by Kansas City Road and Ridgeview Road. The Olathe City Council has expressed interest in a modern building that ties into the existing fabric of the Olathe community with a façade composed primarily of wood and stone. The center will include a

gymnasium, fitness center, indoor aquatics, community rooms, "outdoor living room" spaces, an amphitheater and great lawn.



Dynamic forms on the interior and exterior complement the rolling landscape and dynamic activities planned for the facility - ©2012 Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

The final selection of the team led by Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture and SFS Architecture marked the end of a multistage selection process that began with an open RFQ inviting firms to submit their qualifications for design of the community center. Subsequently, Olathe City Council narrowed the selection to a shortlist of three teams, inviting each to submit a proposed conceptual design in response to an RFP. Finally, each of the finalist firms was invited to present its qualifications and design concepts as well as field questions before the City Council in Olathe. A final decision to hire the BRS-led team was made within two weeks of the presentation date.

The winning team included landscape architect [Confluence](#) of Kansas City, Missouri; mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineer [Henderson Engineers Inc.](#) of Lenexa, Kansas; structural engineer [GBA](#), also of Lenexa; civil engineer [SK Design Group Inc.](#) of Overland Park, Kansas; and aquatic consultant [Water Technology, Inc.](#) of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Kansas-City-based [McCownGordon Construction](#) has been selected as construction manager.

About Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture

Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture's mission is to design inspired, sustainable community architecture. Working closely with owners and communities, the firm achieves visionary goals with cost-effective solutions. Winners of more than 40 design awards, BRS has completed projects for more than 180 communities in 37 states. The firm's expertise includes recreation centers, wellness facilities, field houses, aquatic centers, park structures, ball fields, spas, resorts, clubhouses, senior centers, water parks, libraries and recreation facility master plans. For more information, visit www.brsarch.com.