

**For Immediate Release**

March 15, 2019

## Sam Johnson Recreation Center for Adults 50+ Reopens Monday

The Plano Parks and Recreation Department will hold a special grand reopening of the newly expanded and renovated Sam Johnson Recreation Center for Adults 50+ (SJC).

The event will take place at **10 a.m. on Monday, March 18 at 401 West 16<sup>th</sup> Street**. Attendees will have an opportunity to tour the facility immediately following the ribbon cutting.

Voters approved funding for the project in the 2009 bond election. The city worked with architectural firm SmithGroupJJR of Dallas on the design. Byrne Construction Services served as the construction manager for the project.

Formerly the Plano Senior Recreation Center, City Council members unanimously approved the renaming of the facility to honor Plano's own Rep. Sam Johnson, a decorated war hero and native Texan who ranks among the few Members of Congress to fight in combat.

The refurbished center includes a new, 2,800-square-foot cardio and weight room addition, overlooking Harrington Park. The center's famed Gazebo Café has also received an extensive facelift with more dining space and a reconfigured kitchen, which will allow staff and volunteers to better serve patrons.

### **Other project amenities include:**

- New fitness class space
- Additional classroom space for classes, seminars, meetings, etc.
- Additional parking and restrooms
- Expanded area for the Wellness Center for Older Adults

Built in 1997, the SJC is a popular meeting spot for many older adults in our community. It offers a variety of classes and activities for the 50+ population, such as various health and wellness activities, fitness classes, personal development courses, as well as fine arts classes, games, dancing, day trips and more.

For more information, call 972-941-7155 or visit [www.samjohnsonrecreationcenter.org](http://www.samjohnsonrecreationcenter.org)

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## **About Plano**

Plano, Texas, is the largest city in Collin County with a population of 273,900 as of January 2016. Incorporated in 1873, the city is located 20 miles north of Dallas. Plano was recently named the third Best Run City in America by 24/7 Wall Street. The City offers a high quality of life that includes: nationally-recognized schools, award-winning parks and sustainability initiatives, designation as one of America's safest cities by Forbes magazine, and a wide variety of multi-cultural neighborhoods appealing to families, young singles and retirees. Plano is home and future home to the headquarters or regional operations of major international corporations such as Toyota, Liberty Mutual, JPMorgan Chase, Fannie Mae, FedEx Office, JC Penney, Dr. Pepper/Snapple Group, Rent-A-Center, Cinemark Holdings, Denbury Resources and Alliance Data Systems. The dynamic community features excellent restaurants, vibrant shopping and entertainment venues, a lively historic downtown district and active local arts scene. Easy access to DART light rail and major highways makes Plano a convenient place to live, work and visit. To learn more about Plano, go to our website at [plano.gov](http://plano.gov).