

Rep. Peter Welch announced a \$166,000 federal grant for the Robert Miller Community and Recreation Center Monday at a Burlington press conference with Mayor Bob Kiss.

The grant secured by Welch will support Burlington's transformation of the Gosse Court Armory into a multi-use community center with a gym, a community room, a teen center and other public space. The \$1.2 million project also received funding from the City of Burlington, private donors and developer Robert Miller.

Managed by the Burlington Parks and Recreation Department, the Center coordinates programs and recreational opportunities for people of all ages. Since its opening in January, the Miller Center has attracted roughly 6,600 visits by residents each month.

"The creation of the Miller Center was in every way a community effort. Since 2005, the people of Burlington, city officials, private donors and Bobby Miller himself have teamed up to turn this dream into a reality," Welch said. "I am pleased to make this community resource available for North End residents and others to enjoy for years to come."

Welch was joined at the announcement by Mayor Kiss, Parks and Recreation Director Wayne Goss and Parks Commission member John Ewing.

"The transformation of the Gosse Court Armory into a community center is a significant event for Burlington's North End and the city as a whole," said Mayor Kiss. "Congressman Welch's persistent support for this project and his securing of federal funding for its completion have been very important to the project's success. On behalf of the city and people of Burlington, I'd like to thank the Congressman for all his efforts to make this project a reality."