



Resolution Label: ASNAU SR-38-02

Date Introduced: 26 March 2026

Authors: Senator Letofsky, Senator Denstaedt

Sponsors: ASNAU Academic Affairs Committee, ASNAU Student Affairs Committee, Campus Recreation, Office of Inclusion, Office of Leadership and Engagement, Peer Jacks, Unions and Activities/SUN Entertainment, Veteran Success Center, Criminology and Criminal Justice Club, Ice Jacks Division II, Ice Jacks Division III, NAU Club Swim, NAU Green Fund, NAU Men's Volleyball, Self Love Club, NAU Skate Club, Flagstaff Avalanche, Flagstaff Figure Skating Club, Flagstaff Youth Hockey Organization, Just For Fun Hockey Program

Signatories: Senator Carter, Senator Cash, Senator Denstaedt, Senator Dukarm, Senator Earl-Leal, Senator Geisler, Senator Gibson, Senator Harb, Senator Larios, Senator Letofsky, Vice Chair Orduno, Senator Ruelas, Senator Welty

Letter of Support for the Completion of the Fieldhouse Multipurpose Facility

Whereas, The University Union Fieldhouse has served as a hub for a multitude of NAU's valuable departments and resources including but not limited to Career Development, the Office of Inclusion, Peer Jacks, SUN Entertainment, and the Veteran Success Center;

Whereas, Being located in an ideal location for student access, the Fieldhouse plays a key role in student engagement and wellbeing. This includes promoting a positive relationship with the

Flagstaff community, increasing student interest in attending NAU, enhancing student experience, and using and promoting sustainable resources and practices;

Whereas, The completion of the Multipurpose Facility at the NAU Fieldhouse will boost engagement and cooperation with the Flagstaff community, including Flagstaff-based ice sports organizations such as the Flagstaff Avalanche, Flagstaff Youth Hockey Association, and the Flagstaff Figure Skating Club;

Whereas, The completion of the Facility will foster a stronger relationship with the community and City of Flagstaff, bringing opportunities to collaborate, host ice sports tournaments, and elevate NAU's role in Flagstaff;

Whereas, The completion of an ice rink at the NAU Fieldhouse will foster a more competitive environment at NAU, ensuring that NAU can remain competitive with Arizona State University and the University of Arizona;¹

Whereas, NAU Ice Jacks hockey games hosted at the Jay Lively Ice Center often have 675-800 student attendees.² By having the games on campus, it benefits the student body by promoting student safety, increasing accessibility to events for all students, generating more on-campus activities, and creating a sense of school spirit and pride on-campus;

Whereas, A second ice rink in Flagstaff would alleviate the current strain on the Jay Lively Ice Center, which currently operates from 5AM to 1AM daily;

Whereas, Flagstaff features a four-season climate, but the only winter-specific recreation and sporting venues, the Arizona Snowbowl and the Jay Lively Ice Center, are inaccessible to many

¹ Amanda Silverman Kosior, "Mosaic Quarter Iceplex Celebrates Topping-Off ," JLG Architects, December 22, 2025, https://jlgarchitects.com/mosaic-quarter-iceplex-celebrates-topping-off/#:~:text=The%20MQ%20Iceplex%20is%20part%20of%20a,SF%20facility%20*%20NHL%20regulation%2Dsize%20ice%20rinks.

² "Northern Arizona University Ice Jacks Hockey," Flagstaff365.com, accessed February 27, 2026, [https://flagstaff365.com/organization/northern-arizona-university-ice-jacks-hockey/.](https://flagstaff365.com/organization/northern-arizona-university-ice-jacks-hockey/)

students due to their distances from campus, limited capacity,³ high costs,⁴ current land arrangements issues,⁵ and limited public use times;⁶

Whereas, There are over 4,800 signatures from the student body and the Flagstaff community to support the completion of the facility;^{7 8}

Whereas, The completion of the facility will allow over 25 different activities and intramural sports, including but not limited to: intramurals, ice hockey, ice skating, figure skating, open skating, curling, sled hockey, broomball, batting cages, summer camps, trade shows, and career fairs;⁹

Whereas, In 2017, the NAU Union Fieldhouse installed piping and cooling for an ice rink, totaling \$750,000. Another \$456,000 has been spent on pre-construction and design fees. An additional \$1.4 million has been allocated for renovations of locker rooms, bathrooms, and flooring;¹⁰

³ Nathan Ecker, "Hockey May See the Fieldhouse Soon," The Lumberjack, March 3, 2023, https://www.jackcentral.org/sports/hockey-may-see-the-fieldhouse-soon/article_a9c14088-b9f0-11ed-8b20-cb8a8ae5e6d1.html.

⁴ Michael Salerno, "Arizona Snowbowl 2024-25: Everything to Know about Skiing in Flagstaff," The Arizona Republic, January 8, 2025, <https://www.azcentral.com/story/travel/arizona/2024/12/06/arizona-snowbowl-2025-visitor-guide/75998151007/?gnt-cfr=1&gca-cat=p&gca-uir=true&gca-epi=z1157xxp000450c000450e1157xxv002756d--43--b--43--&gca-ft=263&gca-ds=sophi>.

⁵ Matthew Nelson, "Arizona Snowbowl Season Opening Met with Renewed Protest against Snowmaking," The Arizona Trail, November 26, 2025, <https://aztrail.org/arizona-snowbowl-season-opening-met-with-renewed-protest-against-snowmaking/>.

⁶ Jay L. Lively memorial ice arena calendar February 2026 Sunday Monday Tuesday, accessed February 28, 2026, <https://www.flagstaff.az.gov/DocumentCenter/View/92321/JLAC-February-Calendar-2026?bidId=>.

⁷ Ecker, "Hockey May See the Fieldhouse Soon."

⁸ "NAU Fieldhouse Ice Rink Petition," Change.org, September 27, 2022, <https://www.change.org/p/nau-fieldhouse-ice-rink>.

⁹ "University Union Fieldhouse Ice Rink & Facility Improvement Project," Google Drive, accessed February 27, 2026, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TYXAftixMpMAaKIE9tg5wwWeuYnuPYC1/view>.

¹⁰ Abraham Denstaedt, Meeting with TC Eberly, October 28, 2025, https://nau0.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/ASNAUStaff/_layouts/15/Doc2.aspx?action=edit&sourcedoc=%7B684d64c9-9a76-4491-ac11-ffb4dd60acba%7D&wdOrigin=TEAMS-WEB.teamsSdk_ns.rwc&wdExp=TEAMS-TREATMENT&wdhostclicktime=1772243010017&web=1.

Whereas, In order to finish the construction of the new rink the facility needs: an ice chiller, construction of a Zamboni garage, and at least one Zamboni. The total estimated cost is approximately \$3.7 million;¹¹

Whereas, The completion of the Fieldhouse Multipurpose Facility fits well-within NAU's sustainability goals and 2030 carbon neutrality goals, with plans to use chillers that greatly reduce NAU's electricity use and carbon emissions;

Whereas, The chillers have the ability to be connected to thermal ice storage facilities which can be constructed in the North Campus Heating Complex. These facilities have the ability to freeze eight feet by six feet blocks of ice at night when electricity is cheaper, which can then be melted throughout the day to cool off the entirety of North Campus in place of air conditioning;¹²

Whereas, The thermal ice storage facilities are already in use at the University of Arizona, cutting electricity costs and fostering a more climate-friendly campus;¹³

Whereas, The completion of the Fieldhouse Multipurpose Facility will allow NAU to host Olympic level athletes, boosting NAU's international athletics reputation, increase NAU's athletic recruitment capabilities, promote NAU's role in ice sports, create opportunities for NAU to create additional ice sports teams, and boost NAU's revenue similar to the Wall Aquatic Center;¹⁴

¹¹ Denstaedt, Meeting with TC Eberly.

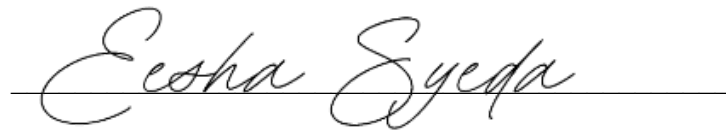
¹² "Thermal Force One," Cimco Refrigeration, accessed February 27, 2026, <https://www.cimcorefrigeration.com/TF1>.

¹³ Remy Albillar, "To Cool the School," The Daily Wildcat, June 8, 2011, <https://wildcat.arizona.edu/143417/news/to-cool-the-school/>.

¹⁴ Michael Popke, "Northern Arizona University Pool Becomes International Training Destination," Athletic Business, June 4, 2019, <https://www.athleticbusiness.com/facilities/aquatics/article/15157333/northern-arizona-university-pool-becomes-international-training-destination>.

Therefore, be it Resolved by the Associated Students of Northern Arizona University: That NAU to prioritize the search for donors and outside funds to support the remaining cost of the project;

Be It Further Resolved, That NAU re-prioritize the completion of the Fieldhouse Multipurpose Facility in the NAU 10-Year Master Plan from Tier 3 to Tier 1.¹⁵



Eesha Syeda
ASNAU Student Body President
Date of Approval: 03/31/2026



Brooklyn Clayton
ASNAU Vice President of Student Advocacy
Date of Approval: 3/31/2026

¹⁵ DLR Group, Northern Arizona University Comprehensive Sustainable Smart Campus Master Plan, October 2023, https://in.nau.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/139/2023/11/NAU-Smart-Campus-Master-Plan_11202023_DLR-Group-Part-1.pdf.