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ROXBURY

## Revived Roxbury recreation center looks to enroll more free members

Posted by Matt Rocheleau August 23, 2011 10:00 AM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

The recently reopened Melnea A. Cass Recreational Complex will hold a drive Wednesday evening in an effort to boost the number of area residents signed up for free memberships.

The state closed the former ice rink near the corner of Washington Street and Martin Luther King Boulevard two decades ago due to a lack of upkeep and funding constraints. But earlier this summer, the 43-year-old, 24,000 square-foot building [reopened](#) after undergoing a \$4.2-million renovation.

Since a [grand opening](#) held nearly two months ago, about 600 people have signed up as free members, according to the state's conservation and recreation department, which owns and operates the site.

District 7 City Councilor Tito Jackson helped organize, and plans to attend, the complex's first-ever membership drive scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m. on Aug. 24.

His office and state officials said extra staff will be available to answer questions and take programming suggestions at this week's drive. There will also be additional sign-up tables set up to help expedite the application process.

Jackson's office said the Councilor is particularly interested in speaking with local senior residents about what types of programming and resources they would like to see and make use of at the complex.

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