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Curtis Hall community center in JP to reopen after \$6m in upgrades

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Curtis Hall will officially reopen on Nov. 19 at a ceremony with city officials.

By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

A Jamaica Plain community center, housed in a building with nearly a century-and-a-half of history, will reopen next week after being closed for more than one year during which it underwent nearly \$6 million in renovations.

On South Street near the neighborhood's Monument Square, Curtis Hall will host a grand reopening on Nov. 19, city officials announced this week.

The community center's recent renovation included the installation of a new roof, gym floor and walking track, boilers and controls, the city said in a press release. The center's parking lot was resurfaced and new outside steps were installed, and the building also features new furniture and equipment.

Additional work was done on the building's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system, and upgrades were made to its electrical, plumbing, masonry, paint, interior lighting and teledata equipment, officials said. An earlier phase of the renovation included [work to the swimming pool](#).

Over the years, Curtis Hall has served an array of purposes, operating at various times as a library, health center, recreation space, municipal building, and holy place, where services were held while a nearby church was under

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construction.

Curtis Hall was rebuilt 99 years ago – four years after a fire burned the original Curtis Hall, which was constructed as a town hall in 1868 on land that at the time stood at the center of the then-town of West Roxbury.

The adjacent Jamaica Plain Branch library, which [recently-celebrated its centennial](#), was also built during 1912 while Curtis Hall was being rebuilt.

Mayor Thomas M. Menino and Boston Centers for Youth & Families executive director Daphne Griffin are among those expected to attend the upcoming unveiling ceremony, which begins at 11 a.m. and will include a brief speaking program followed by tours of the building, children’s activities and refreshments.

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