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County to weigh new youth club for Mecca

*City Service
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Riverside County supervisors are expected next week to approve a \$6.2million budget for the construction of a youth recreation and counseling center in Mecca.

The 30,000-square-foot Boys & Girls Club is "very important to the community, which is in desperate need of recreational facilities for the young children and families who live there," said county Economic Development Agency spokesman Tom Freeman.

He said redevelopment funds, drawn from property taxes, will be used to cover the project's costs.

The board of supervisors will vote on the budget during its Tuesday meeting.

Redlands-based Parkwest Construction Co. was selected to build the club, which will be located near the intersection of Avenue 66 and Highway 111, across the street from the Mecca Library.

The facility will include indoor basketball courts, a gymnasium, computer lab, a tutorial center and outdoor patio.

Freeman said the project will take roughly 18 months to complete and will generate some 200 construction jobs.