

# Let the YMCA Pay Its Own Way

The City of Wichita is negotiating with the Wichita YMCA to build a YMCA on taxpayer owned property at 1st and Waco. **This could cost the taxpayers of Wichita millions of dollars.** Taking the YMCA's proposal instead of the \$700,000 offered by a private developer will possibly cost the City the \$700,000 in lost revenue from the sale of the land. The developer also proposed a new building that would pay nearly \$2.8 million in taxes over the next ten years.\* **This means the Downtown YMCA could cost taxpayers as much as \$3.5 million dollars.**

## The YMCA Does Not Need City Assistance

The YMCA made nearly \$12 million\*\* in 2007 (excess earnings after paying all expenses). The YMCA's total for the last few years of additional revenue more than **expenses exceeded \$34 million.\*\*** The YMCA can afford to pay cash to the City for the taxpayer owned ground. Most non-profits provide unique services not offered by private businesses. However, the YMCA receives the majority of its revenues not from donations or contributions but rather from the sale of fitness memberships, like those provided by taxpaying health clubs.\*\*

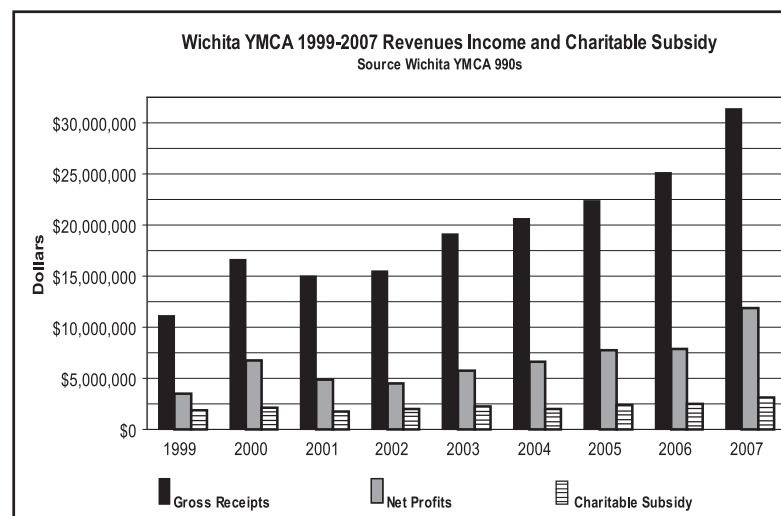
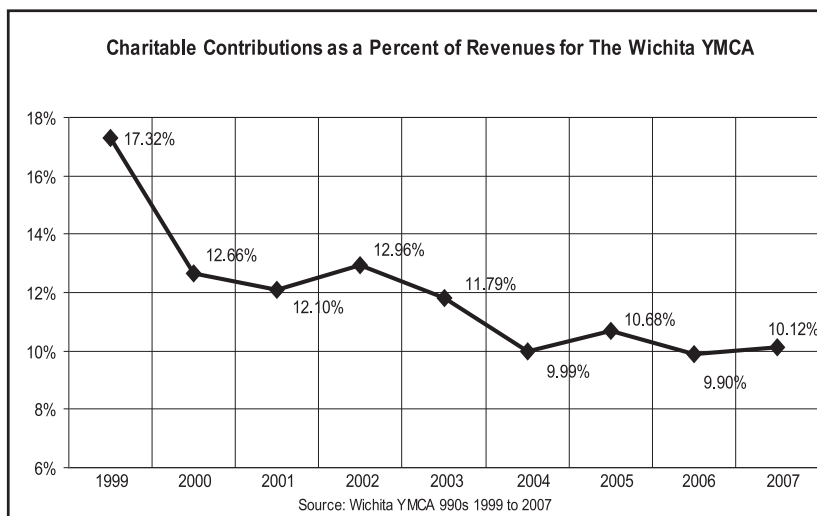
## Taxpayers Are Already Paying for the YMCA's Tax Free Status

Taxpayers are already subsidizing the YMCA in an amount over **THREE MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY** in taxes the YMCA is exempt from paying and collecting on its other Wichita locations. Add to this the nearly \$1.8 million in government grants and the total **taxpayer subsidy of the YMCA exceeds \$4.8 million annually!**

## The YMCA Provides Very Little Charitable Subsidy Compared to Its Revenues

The YMCA provided just over \$3.1 million in Charitable Subsidy in 2007.\*\* This means that out of the nearly \$31 million in annual revenue and \$19.5 million in expenses the YMCA has provided a very small fraction to its "charitable" mission. A mere 16.3% of its expenses goes towards serving charitable purposes and less than 19% of the total people served at the YMCA need assistance. **\*\* The amount of Charitable Subsidy the YMCA provides as a percent of its revenue has DECLINED over 40% since 1999 to barely 10% of its revenue in 2007. \*\***

## The YMCA can no longer claim that it "earns its exemption."



## Let the YMCA pay its own way

The YMCA can afford to go wherever it wants. There should be no opposition to the YMCA locating wherever or whenever it wants. **However, if the YMCA wants to go on TAXPAYER owned ground the YMCA should pay at least the \$700,000 offered by the private developer and Property Taxes.** Contact the Mayor and City Council members at 268-4331 and ask that they negotiate, at a minimum, these fair requirements to protect the interests of all taxpayers. **Taxpayers deserve support for a change – they've "earned" it!**