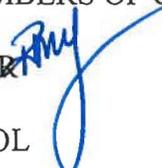


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 16, 2012

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: RASHAD M. YOUNG, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO #37: OLD TOWN POOL

The purpose of this memorandum is to follow-up on discussions during the February 27, 2012 City Council/School Board Subcommittee meeting and the March 28, 2012 City Council/School Board joint work session relating to the Old Town Pool, located adjacent to the proposed Jefferson Houston K-8 School. The Jefferson-Houston K-8 project is presently in the planning stage.

Background

The Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities is working with the consultant team of AMEC/Kimley-Horn/Counsilman-Hunsaker to provide an assessment and analysis of the all of the City's aquatics facilities as a means of establishing a basis from which to determine future strategies for meeting community aquatics needs.

The professional consulting team will present its findings to Alexandria stakeholders this month. Staff received a summary of those findings this winter, including an in depth analysis of aquatics based on economic cost/benefit factors that will help in making recommendations regarding the future of the City's aquatics programs. At the meeting later this month, the consultant is expected to present a number of alternatives to address the currently deteriorating and less than optimal aquatics facilities in the City.

Old Town Pool

The Old Town Pool is one of the most heavily used and scheduled outdoor pools in the City of Alexandria. Along with a high number of recreational users, the City's Swim Team also uses the facility for practice. The existing pool dates from the 1970's and includes a 25-yard, 6-lane pool with a dive well and small wading pool. The pool site also contains a bathhouse and deck areas.

Of the alternatives to be presented, the consultant's preferred alternative for this site is complete renovation of the facility. Their analysis recommends that the pool be replaced with a medium-sized family oriented aquatic center that includes an 8-lane, 25-yard pool with springboard diving and a smaller leisure pool with play features. Included in the renovation would be a new

bathhouse and deck with shade structures, storage and staff areas, a family changing room and other tertiary supporting features not currently provided on the site. The current site has adequate space and capacity for this renovation based on the preferred options for construction of the new Jefferson-Houston K-8 facility. The current estimate for this renovation includes demolition of the existing pool and site, inflation, construction contingency costs and indirect costs and totals approximately \$5.51 million. The facility would be closed during construction, which could take 12-15 months.

Proposed FY 2013 – 2022 Capital Improvement Program

The Proposed FY 2013 – 2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes approximately \$9.44 million (including 1.44 million in FY 2013) for new or renovated aquatics facilities. The CIP currently identifies the majority of those funds for facility renovation at the Chinquapin Aquatics Center (\$1.44 million in FY 2013 and \$5.0 million in FY 2017 – 2020) and for construction of new spray parks (\$3.0 million in FY 2019 – 2020). The current CIP does not include specific funding for the Old Town Pool. Once the final consultant’s report is released, staff can present City Council with possible reprogramming options based on the results of the report to include renovations at the Old Town Pool if requested.

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