



Future Aquatic Center Project

Frequently Asked Questions about the Feasibility Study

Do we really need a larger aquatic center? Aren't there enough nearby options already?

The market analysis completed as part of the feasibility study confirms that there are no comprehensive, public, indoor aquatic/recreation facilities in the studied service area, and that the demographic make-up of the full service area can support a larger aquatic center that serves a variety of aquatic needs from competitive swimming to aquatic programs and recreational swimming. While there are a number of other aquatic providers on the Eastside, the population base is large enough to support another indoor aquatic center, particularly since many of the current facilities are older, conventional pools, with none of the appeal of a leisure pool.

How were the proposed features chosen?

Based on community input at a visioning workshop, an online survey, and the information gathered from the demographic and market analysis, the facility features were chosen to adequately serve all age groups including youth, seniors and families.

What will happen to the current Si View Pool?

Future of the current Si View Pool space is open. While the community cannot sustainably support two aquatic centers, the current Si View Pool can be repurposed for another community use. This would be a public planning process to determine the best use of the space. Given the landmark status of Si View Community Center and Pool, there are some restrictions that may apply to renovation plans.

How have the estimated capital costs been calculated?

The capital cost estimate for both full build out and phased model has been prepared by Cumming as part of the feasibility study, and is based on 2019 construction costs escalated to 2021, which is the estimated start of the project. The cost estimate is based on the proposed schematic design without any alterations. It includes Washington State Sales Tax. The phased build out option includes escalation of construction costs to 2025 for phase II.

How much will it cost to access?

The feasibility study included an operations plan that is based on market rates for public pools. This includes drop in options, punch passes and monthly passes as well as rental rate structure. As an example, resident youth drop in daily rate recommendation is \$6, or \$20 for a family. The full operating budget with rates can be found online <https://www.siviewpark.org/downloads/newpool/Operating-Model-and-Budget.pdf>

If project is phased, why would the recreation pool be built before the competition pool?

If the project needs to be phased, recreation pool will be built first as that supports the widest range of users from family play to swim lessons to therapy programs and aquatic fitness. As such the recreation pool can be sustainably operated as a standalone pool, whereas the competitive pool cannot due to more limited use.

What happens if Snoqualmie moves forward with the YMCA expansion which includes addition of a pool?

According to the market analysis completed as part of the feasibility study, Snoqualmie Valley are can support one large aquatics center with components included in the proposal. If another pool is built in the service areas, which includes Snoqualmie, the plan would need to be modified to ensure sustainability.

Have any partnerships for capital contributions been confirmed?

As of today, no. The District had been in discussions with both City of Snoqualmie and Snoqualmie Valley School District for potential partnering options to deliver a regional aquatics center that serves the entire Snoqualmie Valley's needs. We are still open to discussions.

Frequently Asked Questions about Propositions 1 & 2

Where would the aquatic center be built?

Currently there is a preferred location identified within the City limits of North Bend. As part of the feasibility study, two potential sites were studied including lot size requirements for full build out, traffic study, local codes, and flood regulations. According to District voter survey conducted in March 2020, preferred location for this project would be a site in North Bend that is easily accessible for all Snoqualmie Valley area residents.

When would the aquatic center be built?

With approval of this capital bond and levy lift proposal, the project design would begin in 2021 with Phase 1 construction as early as mid-2022 and Phase 1 completion by end of 2023. Based on voter survey responses, the aquatic center would be located within the city limits of North Bend.

What features are included in the proposal?

The proposed aquatics center is expected to be approximately 46,000 sf and built in 2 phases, depending on available project funding. The proposed phase 1 features include a 4,600 sf beach entry warm temperature recreation pool with interactive water features, river current, flexible programming space with a three lane 25 yard lap area, and a separate 109' long water slide as well as a 2,000 sf outdoor splash pad with spray features. For comparison, the size of the current Si View Pool area is 2,534 sf. Proposed dry spaces include classrooms, family locker rooms and restrooms, office area, maintenance and storage spaces. The proposed facility design is such that spaces can operate independently or simultaneously with a later addition that could include a 6,200 sf cool water competition pool, associated infrastructure, and a 2,500 sf multi-purpose room.

What programming could the aquatic center accommodate?

Si View Pool currently offers group and private swim lessons for ages 6 months to adult, lap swim options, limited water fitness and therapy, and private party rentals. Si View's aquatic program offering would be greatly expanded to include variety of interests and user groups in a larger facility. Leisure pool activities and recreation options for families, competitive swimming, diving and water polo, aquatic fitness and community water safety courses are just some examples.

What is the cost of Proposition 1 & 2 to District residents?

The cost of land acquisition, construction and operations of phase I of the aquatic center would be funded through a combination of the ballot measures, grants, collaborative partnerships, and other available District capital funding. The District voters would need to approve both Proposition 1 - a \$23.7 million capital bond measure, and Proposition 2 - a levy lid lift measure - to fund the phase I construction and operations of the aquatic center.

Capital bond and levy lid lift measures are financed by property taxes. If Proposition 1 passes, it will cost the average District homeowner, with an assessed home value of \$500,000, \$9.10 per month.

Proposition 2 would cost the owner of the average District homeowner about \$2.69 per month.

Qualifying seniors, veterans, and others would be exempt from the levy lid lift, per RCW 84.36.

Why propose an aquatic center now?

In order to present the most relevant and cost-effective project proposal that addresses the priorities our community has voiced, time is of essence. Available land in locations feasible for a project this size is becoming increasingly sparse in our community, and each year we wait to move forward, construction costs are likely to increase.

The current Si View Pool facility was originally constructed in 1938 and sized appropriately for the 600 residents of North Bend that it served, not the current Snoqualmie Valley population of base of 40,000 residents. The aquatic feasibility study recommendations for facility size and amenities are based on the specific needs and program elements compiled during demographic and market research, through a multi-layered public outreach process, and in accord with Si View Metro Parks' mission to provide parks and recreational services to improve the quality of life and benefit the health, safety and well-being of area residents.

Do you have a question? Please contact us at (425) 831-1900 or email info@siviewpark.org.