



LINDON CITY AQUATICS FACILITY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

As you may already be aware, the Lindon Aquatics Center opened to the public in May, 2009. Below, you will find answers to questions you may have as a resident regarding aquatics facilities in Lindon.

- **How much public input went in to the decision to build an aquatics facility?** In recent years, the City Council has been approached several times by groups of residents expressing concern regarding the availability of aquatics programs to Lindon residents. As facilities in neighboring communities reach capacity, other cities have begun to restrict access for non residents to aquatics programs, such as participation in the Swim Team. Non-resident fees for use of facilities in neighboring communities were also increased in recent years. The only feasible way to provide unrestricted, affordable access to aquatics programs for Lindon residents was to construct aquatics facilities in Lindon. A community open house was held on February 20, 2007 to discuss the results of community survey conducted by VCBO Architecture to receive input from the community regarding aquatics and recreational facilities in Lindon. An additional community open house was held on October 23, 2007 to discuss the results of the feasibility study.
- **What were the results of the survey regarding recreational facilities?** The results of a 2005 Dan Jones poll of 320 Lindon residents indicates that 66% of respondents feel that there is definitely or probably a need for additional recreational facilities in Lindon. In that survey, 89% of respondents indicated that they would support construction of the facilities if no new taxes were required. An additional survey of 330 Lindon residents conducted by Dan Jones in July 2007 showed that 77% of those surveyed felt that there is definitely or probably a need for recreation and/or aquatics facilities in Lindon, and that 76% of those surveyed would support construction of the facilities. The survey completed by VCBO Architecture also showed broad support for construction of recreation and/or aquatics facilities.
- **How will the City pay for the aquatics facility?** The City Council initially investigated the possibility of a General Obligation bond to fund construction of both a recreation center and aquatics facility in Lindon. Findings of the study indicated that the majority of Lindon residents would support a General Obligation Bond to fund construction of both a recreation center and aquatics facilities. However, after the City Council became aware of significant increase in the school district portion of property tax assessments to Lindon residents in 2007, they felt that a further tax burden to residents at that time would not be appropriate, and decided to not place a General Obligation Bond question on the

ballot. Construction of the state of the art aquatics facility was funded using a sales tax revenue bond. Using this method, property taxes for Lindon residents will not be increased to fund construction or operation of the aquatics facility. Other recreational facilities may be phased in over time as sales tax revenues in the City increase.

- **With all the other needs in the community, such as street and sidewalks, is an aquatics facility the appropriate use of sales tax revenue?** There will always be multiple priorities competing for tax dollars in the City. What is a priority to one resident may seem completely unimportant to another. However, results of every survey show broad support for construction of an aquatics facility. In particular, the study completed by VCBO Architecture showed that 312 of the 481 respondents ranked recreation and/or aquatics facilities as a very high or high priority as compared to other needs in the community, with an additional 88 respondents feeling that an aquatics facility would be a moderate priority. The City Council feels that construction of aquatics facilities for the residents of Lindon is a prudent use of tax dollars, and the City is very excited to offer this amenity to residents! The aquatics facility is being provided for Lindon residents in addition to other services, not instead of other services. The City will continue to maintain and improve streets, pedestrian walkways and other capital facilities.
- **Where is the Aquatics Center located?** The new aquatics facility is located on the property just north of the City Center, which is already owned by the City. New baseball diamonds have been constructed in Pheasant Brook Park to accommodate baseball recreation programs.
- **What amenities are included in the new facility?** The aquatics facility is designed to meet the needs of residents of all ages. Amenities include a zero entry family play area with slides and other toys, as well as a lazy river and a lap pool area. The FlowRider offers recreational opportunities for many ages, but appeals particularly to teenagers and young adults. Offices and locker/changing rooms are also part of the facility.
- **How will operational costs of the pool be paid?** Fees charged for admission, rentals, swim lessons, swim team and concessions cover the operational costs of running the aquatics center. In fact, revenue generated by the pool to date has more than covered the operational costs for this season, and the pool is currently operating in the black.

The Lindon City Council takes great pride in responding appropriately to needs of our growing community. They welcome comments and input from you as residents on any issue that is important to you. Contact information for elected officials is available on our website at www.lindoncity.org or you may contact City staff at the City Center at 785-5043 at any time with questions, concerns or comments. Results of each of the surveys can also be found on our website.