



RAY POOL BOND QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Taken from the public meeting hosted June 17, 2024.

1. What is the total cost of the proposed bond?

If passed by the voters, the bond measure allows up to \$10M to be used towards the renovation project. The total cost of the bond depends on several considerations such as realized expenses and the terms of the bond. The Park District is well positioned to keep bond costs low and has estimated a homeowner cost of approximately \$60 per year (for a house valued at \$1M) for approximately 15 years.

2. What is required for the bond to pass?

The bond measure on the August 6, 2024, ballot requires a supermajority of 60% support. There's also a voter turnout requirement of 40% of total votes cast in the previous year's General Election, which is approximately 4,000 participating voters.

3. Can you explain how the \$10M in bond funding would be used in the project?

The bond funding would be used for both phases of the renovation project towards the goal of expanding the pool. If passed by the voters, a new project budget would be established that takes into account fundraising and available District funds. It is anticipated a loan will not be required under this funding plan.

4. If the bond were to fail, the District will be required to take a loan for the original rehabilitation project. What are the loan costs in total for the original project?

The required loan of approximately \$3M, associated with what is called "Phase 2A", is not yet negotiated. The Park District is well positioned to keep loan costs low and has estimated that the loan would be paid back by with district funds through annual payments of \$350,000 for approximately 15 years.

[For more details about the project, see the Ray Williamson Pool Renovation FAQ's.](#)

5. Is there any scenario under which the bond passes and the result is still a six-lane pool?

As long as expansion remains financially feasible, the intent is to expand the Ray Williamson pool to an eight-lane width and create an even depth of six-and-a-half feet. This is per a motion by the Board of Commissioners ([made on May 16, 2024](#)),

If the bond passes, the project will advance into final design and then face evaluation at critical moments regarding the scope of work.

6. Are there going to be more operational costs with the potential pool expansion?

There are minimal increases anticipated in operational costs due to the expansion. [For more information see the Ray Williamson Pool Renovation FAQ's.](#)

7. Is the building structurally sound?

Yes, the Natatorium building is sound, per evaluations by structural engineers.

8. Understanding that the Ray Williamson Pool piping system will be replaced if the bond passes, what happens if the bond fails? Do you know the condition and lifecycle?

The piping system supplying and circulating the pool water is original to the pool, making it 54 years old. There is no set life cycle for these pipes. They will be evaluated at the time of construction and appropriately addressed.

9. Are there any other costs not yet included in the project funding plans, such as amenities like the collapsible bleachers shown in the presentation?

The project funding plan primarily focuses on the construction costs but includes critical incidental items such as spectator seating. Non-critical amenities are not guaranteed at this stage but will be considered as funding allows.

10. Why is fundraising needed given that funding sources so far identified appear to be more than cost estimates for the pool expansion?

Fundraising has the potential to decrease the level of reliance on taxpayer funding.

11. Can you explain the closure requirements?

Closure requirements are established by contractors through their construction means and methods. The Park District is committed to minimal closures and makes this goal a consideration in selecting and negotiating with construction contractors. We will work for minimal closures. Closure information will be updated whenever schedules are available to the District.

12. How will this project impact the use of the Don Nakata Pool?

This project will cause minimal impact on the Nakata Pool itself. The Nakata Pool is anticipated to be fully operational during this project and does not face significant closures. The programs and the schedules, however, will be impacted due to less available pool space when the Ray Williamson Pool is closed.

13. What will be done for Aquatic Center users who have paid for entry, such as punch cards, but won't be able to use the Ray Pool when it is closed?

The District will work with its customers on this important issue.

14. What will happen to the coaches during closure?

The Park District intends to keep all full-time coaches as employees, regardless of pool closure periods.