

# POOL PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

- **REFERENDUM VOTE:** May 1<sup>st</sup> 7:00am-8:00pm at City Hall
- **AMOUNT OF REFERENDUM:** Not to Exceed \$2M (Will only borrow what is actually needed)
- **VOTES NEEDED FOR REFERENDUM TO PASS:** 60% Approval
- **OTHER FUNDING SOURCES:** Community Attraction & Tourism Grant (possible \$450,000 - \$480,000)  
Capital Pool Reserves almost \$600,000  
Capital Campaign
- **HOW WILL DEBT BE PAID BACK:** Using Local Option Sales Tax that is already being collected by the City of Cascade. This means that anyone shopping or getting gas in Cascade will help contribute to paying off the pool debt. **Property taxes will NOT be affected** with constructing a new pool!
- **LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX AND SEWER DEBT:**  
An alternative proposal had been made to use the local option sales tax revenues to assist with future payments of sewer utility revenue debt, instead of the pool project. For clarification, **Iowa law does not allow local option sales tax funds to be used for the payment of principal and interest on utility revenue debt**
- **AGE OF CURRENT POOL:** 51 years
- **REPLACEMENT INCLUDES:** New Pool Vessel, 6- 25 yard swimming lanes, 2 diving towers, a zero-depth entry with water features, pool stairs and shade umbrellas
- **REASONS FOR NEW POOL:** ADA Compliance, provide an area for young children, healthy family living, people from other towns will come to Cascade, provide activities for youth; like swim lessons and swim team. Provide a safer experience for people with mobility issues.
- **ATTENDANCE LAST YEAR:** 136 pool passes, 242 swimming lessons, 59 swim team
- **HOW THE CITY GOT TO A POOL REFERENDUM VOTE:** The City went out for bids to repair the pool and it was going to be \$980,000. At that time, Council decided that repairing the pool might not be the best option. A new Pool Committee was then formed to review options for the pool. After months of reviewing and discussing the options, the Pool Committee presented 3 options to the City Council. **Option 1** was a **Repair Option** with an Opinion of Probable Construction Cost of **\$980,000**. **Option 2** was **Renovation Option** with an Opinion of Probable Construction Cost of **\$2,006,000**. **Option 3** was **Replacement Option** with an Opinion of Probable Construction Cost of **\$2,431,000**. City Council voted to move forward with the Replacement Option, which includes holding a pool referendum vote for the financing.
- **TIMELINE FOR THE PROJECT:**

Bond Referendum Vote	May 2018
Authorize preparation of plans and specifications	June 2018
Apply for Community Attraction Tourism (CAT) Grant	July 2018
Submit Plans and Specifications to City Council and IDPH	August 2018
Advertise for Bids	January 2019
Open Bids	February 2019
Award Construction Contracts	April 2019
Begin Construction	August 1, 2019
Construction substantially complete	May 2020



## Frequently Asked Questions

The Pool Committee's research over the last four years also looked at the following questions.

### **1. Why can't the current pool just be fixed?**

The Pool Committee asked Burbach Aquatics, Inc. to work with City Staff to assess the cost and scope of work to bring the existing pool into Code compliance and good repair. The first step was taken in 2016, the City publicly bid replacement of the wading pool, with a new ADA compliant wading pool, along with making several other improvements to the surrounding pool deck. The bid results from contractors resulted in a repair cost of \$900,000. This project would have been an improvement to the existing facility, but would not ensure or prevent any new problems from occurring in the 52-year-old pool vessel and did not address any concerns with the existing bathhouse. With no guarantee the investment would be sufficient, the pool improvement option was then dropped. The new pool, is proposed for construction in 2019 and opening in 2020, and has a design life of 50 years.

### **2. Why can't we have an indoor year-round pool?**

The Committee asked Burbach Aquatics, Inc. to research the cost of an indoor pool. The Opinion of Construction Cost was over \$5M. In addition, the year-round cost of operating the pool would be an ongoing stress for the City budget anywhere between \$175,000-\$250,000 annual operating cost per year. Two other concerns included the challenge of finding year-round guards, and the preference of many patrons for an outdoor experience during the summer. With these known obstacles, the Pool Committee took that option off the table and focused on replacement of the current pool.

### **3. Can the Cascade School District partner with this project?**

The School Board will be approached to learn about the project and to see if they want to contribute a financial donation to the project since it will provide an amenity that families look for when relocation to a community.

### **4. Will the new pool be able to continue to support a swim team?**

The new pool will continue to have the capacity to support a swim team, since it will have 6-25-yard swimming lanes. The swim team had 72 participants in 2018.

### **5. How many people took swimming lessons and purchased pool passes in 2018 and where do those who took lessons live?**

There were 213 children who took swimming lessons in 2018. Out of that number, the majority of the children were from Cascade, but there were children from Bernard, Dubuque, Dyersville, Hopkinton and Worthington. Additionally, 141 pool passes were issued in 2018.

**6. Are all gifts to the Wave of the Future campaign tax deductible?**

Yes, the charitable gifts are tax deductible on the itemized state and federal return for the year the gift was made, and the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque creates and mails a gift acknowledgement to all donors for tax filing purposes.

**7. How is the project being funded?**

- Bond \$2M ceiling
- City Capital Pool Reserves \$600,000
- Enhance Iowa Grant \$400,000
- Other Grants \$200,000
- Capital Campaign \$1M

*The Wave of the Future Campaign will be working to reduce the bond ceiling of \$2M.*

**8. Why is so much money trying to be raised?**

The \$2M bond can be reduced if we raise enough funds. Additionally, the donated funds can be used specifically to purchase additional amenities for the pool, such as shade umbrellas, water features, water slide, lighting for the pool, etc.

**9. What contributes to the bathhouse cost?**

The bathhouse is budgeted for \$667K and will include a separate mechanical shelter. The required plumbing, plumbing fixtures, number of fixtures, changing areas and ADA required pathways all contribute to the high cost. As an example, the bathroom and kitchen areas are expensive rooms in a house with plumbing and fixtures being the cause. The construction of the bathhouse will present the greatest opportunity for local vendors and construction professionals to provide in-kind support for this project, and these contributions are an important part of the finance plan.

**10. How does the new pool compare with the existing pool in terms of size?**

The existing City of Cascade Swimming Pool has approximately 4,320 square feet of water surface area, the existing main pool vessel is approximately 3,945 square feet and the existing wading pool is approximately 375 square feet.

The proposed City of Cascade – Swimming Pool – Version #31 has 5,617 square feet of water surface area, which is an increase of 1,297 square feet, or 23% larger than the existing pool vessel. When the pool was built in 1966 the population of the City of Cascade was 1,601 compared to today's population of 2,281, which is a 30% growth in population. However, the new pool vessel has a much more efficient use of water depth which can accommodate the City's future population growth.

**11. Where can a citizen view the concept drawings of the new pool?**

Concept drawings are on display at City Hall, Fidelity Bank & Trust and Ohnward Bank & Trust.

**12. Can citizens donate online?**

YES! Here is the link for donations:

<https://www.dbqfoundation.org/cascadewave>

**13. How is the bond being repaid?** The bond will be repaid by using Local Option Sales Tax that is already being collected by the City of Cascade. This means that anyone shopping or getting gas will help contribute to paying off the pool debt. **Property taxes will not be affected by constructing a new pool!**

**14. Is there a scaled-down version of the pool?**

The cost to replace the existing pool is \$2,431,000, which is considered the most basic version of the project. The proposed new amenities, which would bring added value to the pool, include a new bathhouse, concession area, deck slide, water features in the zero-depth entry, and shade structures. These features will only be added if fundraising efforts are successful; creating a total project cost of \$3,602,000.

**15. How will the new zero-depth entry area compare in the size with the current wading pool?**

The zero-depth entry area starting at 0' and going towards the 3'5" swim lane area is 1,262 square feet. Included within this number is the 0' to 2' depth area of 894 square feet. The existing wading pool is approximately 375 square feet. The zero-depth area will be the heaviest used area by both children and adults.

**16. What is the timeline for the Enhance Iowa grant application?**

The targeted date to submit the Enhance Iowa grant is October 2018. The capital campaign committee will work hard to secure donations prior to that date and continue through September 2019.

**17. What is the timeline for the project?**

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|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Conduct Bond Referendum  | May 2018                          |
| 2. Establish Capital Campaign Cabinet   | August 2018                       |
| 3. Begin Capital Campaign   | August 2018                       |
| 4. Authorize preparation of plans and specifications  | August 2018                       |
| 5. Apply for grants   | October 2018                      |
| 6. Submit plans and specifications to the City Council and Iowa Department of Public Health | Late November/Early December 2018 |
| 7. Advertise for Bids   | January 2019                      |
| 8. Open Bids  | February 2019                     |
| 9. Award Construction Contracts   | April 2019                        |
| 10. Begin Construction  | August 2019                       |
| 11. Conclude Capital Campaign   | September 2019                    |
| 12. Substantially Complete Construction   | June 2020                         |
| 13. Final Payout/Complete Construction  | December 2020                     |