



ATTACHMENT 6

Aquatics Complex Options

In the last six months, every possible option for an aquatics complex has been thoroughly investigated, including a “field trip” to Hollister to an identical pair of pools which have been installed in the last year and follow-up contacts literally around the world. We have also reached out to other North County schools including Cuesta College to determine alternative sites. Administration is confident now in making the following recommendations.

Proposed Site:

The only long-term viable option is the site previously identified on the Paso Robles High School Campus.

Resale of Pools:

Resale of the pool will without a doubt cost the District substantial dollars upfront while leaving the District back at “square one” without an appropriate competitive aquatics facility which all parties agree is needed. While the purchase of the pool was inarguably premature and less expensive options should have been approved instead, moving forward to install what we have now at the PRHS site is really our only defensible option.

Cost of Installation:

Measure M allocated \$5.7M for the Aquatics Complex. The Facilities Master Plan Update has identified numerous projects at the existing six elementary and two middle schools which can be delayed or deleted. These savings, however, will if adopted by the Board, be more than offset by added needs at those sites for basic infrastructure and multi-purpose rooms. There thus will be no monies freed up for the aquatics complex.

The Citizens Oversight Committee has also made it explicitly and abundantly clear that they will NOT bless any allocation of Measure M monies beyond the original \$5.7M unless they are absolutely certain ALL basic needs have first been fully addressed at the sites that were the priority of the ballot measure.

The District has, however, applied for State Modernization funds which will become available in the not-too-distant future if Proposition 13 passes in March. If that happens, the District may allocate any of those funds to any project listed on the original measure including the Aquatics Complex, and that will be our recommendation. A total budget with contingencies would likely need to be in the \$13M range, meaning we would need the original \$5.7 plus another \$7-8M from modernization reimbursements. The Board may be able to accelerate the construction process if we receive certain guarantees on probability of future funds.



Maintenance and Operations

The next concern has always been the high cost of maintenance and operations of the pools once they are installed. Based on research and personal contacts with San Benito USD in Hollister, we are confident in a number of \$400K per year in cost. The District is proposing a “four-legged stool” of support for that purpose. The District would increase its budget for Aquatics from its current \$72K to \$100K. Swim Paso has committed to raising through usage fees the amount of \$100K per year, a number which is less than the \$120,000 per year that San Benito is projecting for outside income.

A third leg could be the County of San Luis Obispo and a fourth the City of Paso Robles. Meetings have been held with Supervisor Peschong and with Mayor Steve Martin and City Manager Tom Frutchey. Neither entity can make any firm commitments of any kind but both were receptive to our plans and promised to explore all options following the November elections when they will know better what their sources of new and ongoing income may be.