

COLUMBIA PARKS AND RECREATION
Public Comments from the Columbia Swimming Summit
Meeting Held January 28, 2020

How do we move forward growing competitive swimming and diving in Columbia while sustaining current recreational swimming opportunities?

- As long as we have future facility that is at least what Hickman is we should be able to do both.
- Have a facility that allows 50m – moving bulk head – separate 25m pool – warmer for programs
- 4th grade swim program – bring it back – introduce kids to swimming
- Use strategies like Heartland soccer to build and grow competitive soccer.
- Hydrotherapy pool
- Availability to start a community masters swimming program
- Show Me Games
- Look at facilities in communities of our size that will accommodate different events/programs
- Who is not being served in our community that could be served if we had a facility to accommodate them ie. Adaptive therapies. Disability accommodations and members of our community for seniors, lessons for infants/toddlers.
- Lessons for elementary, middle school, high school, as part of a free or curriculum to ensure all kids learn to swim reducing the risk for drowning – a leading cause of mortality in young kids.
- Show Me State Games – We could provide a premier center to host games esp. swimming for these games.
- Lack of pool space, no room no opportunity for more programs and expanding programs
- Moving forward with a competitive focused, indoor swimming facility while maintaining Hickman and other facilities.
- Having a more competitive pool with deep ends and shallow activity areas while encouraging hosting activities.
- Hickman is critical to swimming in Columbia, however, it will die or it will become cost prohibitive. A new facility is critical to maintaining swimming and aquatics in CoMo. This will need to address all aspects of aquatics: competitive swimming/water aerobics, swim classes, learn to swim, etc. These are all community-based opportunities that would have a broad-based support. However, the new facility needs to envision all of these opportunities. It will be more expensive up front, but for long-term success, all aspects need to be engaged.
- Potentially have separate pool/area – Recreation not as space consuming
- System like the ARC – assigned times for different things, check in system
- Timing – have more time to swim

- Have fun – advertisements, a bigger pool, bill boards, swimming lessons, a good indoor pool, multiple pools
- Build a new facility to support all the community needs (parking, spectating, teaching, recreation classes, etc)
- If we have the facility to support, the options are wider and will attract participants and visitors.
- Renovating Hickman limits any kind of growth.
- Designated time for different activities.
- 50 meter pool with bulkhead.
- Indoor facility
- Split facilities: Hickman – more recreational, New: Competitive focus.
- Think about scheduling and priorities
- HHS reno – renovate , plus add a facility, having Hickman for Parks and Rec, outside opportunities
- Use what we have now, planning for the future
- More Water – expand!
- Have a list of short term, midterm and long term priorities.
- Thinking about partnerships with private pools (W. Broadway, SW) for winter swim – add a temporary “bubble”
- Build a new complex with multiple pools
- Attach kids from other communities
- Large facility – accommodate many groups
- Learn-to-swim program
- Hickman – not currently used for recreation
- Could close communities use pool such as Hallsville, Ashland, etc
- Mid Missouri LACKING in large facilities
- Look at accessibility – Mizzou very accessible
- Multiple recreation amenities in one facility
- If we build it, they will come.
- Hickman needs renovations and a new facility would benefit all levels of swimmers and swim consumers.
- The lap lanes at the ARC are insufficient in number, not of regulation length, and the pool temperature is not appropriate for swim workouts.
- Access to private pools is limited and expensive (Wilsons, MU)

- Swimming is unlimited to the number of team members and is wholly inclusive to all ability levels.
- Build a partnership with other nearby communities.
- Building a new facility that can accommodate the needs of the recreational, competitive swim needs along with additional functions.
- A new facility for swimming & diving with a separate diving well that can be used for lane swimming. New facility with 50 meter pool that can be split into 2x 25 yards. New pool with part of depth that will support water aerobics.
- Vested parties – rec opportunity
- Classes/lessons/Learn To Swim
- Boys and Girls club – demographics
- Limitations to facility/access
- Teach, schedule, maintain
- Construct quality
- Transportation to pool
- Provides revenue
- Good swimmers available to instruct
- Talent is crucial - \$\$?
- Clinics for triathletes, aquazumba
- Arthritis foundation
- First aid and life guard training
- Partner/Grants
- Full size facility
- Space, seating
- Continue to support Hickman Pool as a bridge to supporting growth of CSC, rec swimming, and lifeguard training while a new facility is built. Make it a healthy place to be for our swimmers.
- Bring back swimming to public school from elementary age up to reduce drowning and provide swimming instruction to all Columbia children regardless of economic status.
- Include all interested parties in the planning phases to ensure that all details possible are included and that all parties goals may be reached together.
- Continue to build the current competitive swim program, including the support for the team and meet hosting staff- trained officials, volunteers ,etc.
- We need another competitive swimming pool in Columbia because of condition of Hickman pool, and the amount of kids who swim w/ CSC. The lanes are always crowded.

- The competitive swimming community has outgrown all facilities in Columbia. We need facility that can accommodate multiple groups in the pool at the same time: swim lessons, therapeutic swimming etc with varying temperature zones.
- The facilities location needs to be close to hotels
- The relationships between CPS, CSC, P&R and the community at large are what will allow growth and space for both competitive and recreational aquatics. Clear communication and scheduling blocks will help all 3 find a place, as would a larger pool/deck space.

What could a new indoor aquatic facility bring to Columbia?

- Swim competitions
- Water polo competitions
- Economic development
- Money
- New and bigger events
- Expand things that already exist – Show Me State Games
- Public Pool = More access to ALL
- Money
- Growth of the sport
- More diverse sports – water polo?
- Scuba skills – bigger draw
- Specials Olympics
- We can promote swim teams for middle schools and high schools
- Expand swimming into middle school
- Allow summer swim teams to swim year round
- Better training for athletes
- Improved air quality
- State high school meet – Central location
- SEC Meets
- More opportunity for swim lessons, etc
- More lane space
- Sports Tourism - \$\$\$
- Wouldn't have to pay MU for their pool

- More funding from CSC – wouldn't have to rent out Mizzou
- More people
- Host big meets
- More health
- More money
- Accessibility for all – not limited to only summer swim lessons
- Bring more money – more meets, more revenue
- Big meets bring big business to Columbia
- Reduce expenses
- More seating/more spectators
- Expanding athletic events (water polo, synchronized swimming, diving)
- Money, Jobs
- New opportunities for partnership
- Health/welfare of swimmers currently using space at Hickman (air quality)
- Equal access to the sport/activities in pool
- Investment in land
- REVENUE!
- Como already losing money due to Lenexa Pool (1/25-1/26 – normally 50 teams, this year 19 teams due to Lenexa Pool having a meet 2/1-2/2)
- Being centrally located would incredibly help
- HS level – everyone can join – only inclusive sport
- Healthier community, swimming is something everyone can do no matter the age
- Safer community, even Pediatricians speaks importance of learning to swim
- SCUBA
- Larger facility, larger meets/more meets mean more money
- Tourism – economic to business, hotels and restaurants
- More awareness of Columbia and the community
- Other colleges to have a swim program
- Private groups access such as Scuba training
- Support of growing swimming community
- New Meets – TYR Pro Series, NCAA's, JR Nationals

- Columbia Swim Club currently hosts 5 large meets ranging from 800-1300 swimmers. These are some of the largest meets in the country.
- Water Polo – adds a sport
- Expansion of Sports currently
- Increased economic impact for the community
- Home meets for HS – less travel for students, transportation and food
- Individual teams for HS
- More opportunities for recreational activities (more space- more options)
- Opportunities for other aquatic activities
- Bring more people/interest to swimming/aquatic activities
- Being centrally located, Columbia would be ideally situated to host state meets, and competitive teams of multiple sports.
- Jobs, money, opportunity, increase livability
- High School State back to Columbia
- Host high level meets (USA swimming)
- Special Olympics – aquatic training
- Increase availability for rehab and medical based therapy
- Increase safety! Revive 4th grade swimming for CPS
- Facilities for homeschool programs
- Show Me Games
- SEC Meets, large College meets
- Water polo team
- Synchronized swimming
- Diving at CPS pool, currently diving at Mizzou
- SCUBA
- Water Sports
- Use by other area colleges (Columbia College, Stephens)
- Recruitment for new residents, appeal for Columbia
- Revenue! CSC hosted meets currently bring over \$2 million in total and bring lots of families through Columbia throughout the year. Grant writing also opens up recreational swimming opportunities for the entire community and grant writers may be more motivated to invest in a community that has invested in itself with a new facility.

- CSC hosts several large meets including districts, Champs and Sectionals (hosted at MU) those bring in \$\$ for hotels, food, stores. Some of those meets bring in 1300 swimmers that contribute to the economy of Columbia.
- Recognition with our community, state, Midwest.
- Increase recruitment of persons to MU.
- Driver for economic development to Columbia as Columbia has a premier position along I-70
- Combination Facility/Sports Complex/Basketball/Baseball that houses swimming/hockey ic. Rec plex in St.Peters or Lee's Summit. Placing a new facility with an area of Discovery Ridge where other complex sits like Columbia Sports Fieldhouse.
- Up the summer swim leagues and up in competitive swimming.
- Ability to host large championship meets, bringing athletes and boosting Columbia's economy. USA Swimming meets alone have brought over \$2 million in 2019 – hosting larger meets would bring more.
- High School swimming provides a true team environment regardless of ability level – this should be available to all students in Columbia. Taking on hosting state swim meets (men's and women's) would provide revenue to Columbia, Recreational opportunities/rehabilitation.
- PreK – High School swim classes via CPS and private schools. This would make swimming accessible to children in Columbia regardless of economic status.
- Solid Parks and Recreation swim lesson program – crucial for reducing drowning and providing a route to personal success for kids that cannot or do not have the chance to succeed in other ways.
- Increase attendance at Show Me State Games – provide other water sports at Show Me State water polo, diving
- State Meet Returns
- Central Location – draws people
- Boys and Girls – use for badges
- Diving competitions
- District and regional competitions
- Water Polo
- Synchronized Swimming
- Wipe Out obstacle course
- Economic benefits – hotel room rental, restaurant meals, entry fees, entertainment over a weekend
- Possible aquatic surcharge to participate in the meet
- Every dollar spent in the community brings in sales tax and has potential to create jobs
- Development of a sense of community around fitness activities
- Encourages year round fitness

- This would easily fit with the Columbia agenda for quality of life. Similar to community the city by bike and maintaining the trail systems and a healthy sports community. This immediately attracts businesses to the community.
- Swimming and aquatic activities are accessible to all age levels age and ability
- Creates opportunities for healthcare partnerships
- Increases safety for children and adult to be safe in and around water
- CPS could offer water oriented PE/fitness classes
- Creates opportunities for PT, OT
- Opportunity to expand SCUBA training
- Build community across race, religion, culture, disability and socioeconomic lines.

What funding resources are available for the construction/renovation of indoor aquatic facilities?

- Variety of fundraisers by CPS, P&R and CSC. University of Missouri Swim & Div. Grant Writing. Take it to legislators. University HealthCare. Veterans United.
- Hotels, other businesses that benefit from visitors.
- Olympics
- Look for all possible locations, donated land.
- Think about partnering with Mizzou for a bigger facility for SEC.
- Private sources, grants
- Water & Light has extra money, right?? \$3 million
- CSC
- YMCA
- Expanded partnerships – local schools/colleges
- Grants, Bonds, Donations, Fundraisers
- Donations –long shot
- Bond Issue
- Park Sales Tax
- Investors (groups, hotels, CVB, MU Health Care, other large businesses)
- High School Booster Club projects (naming rights, big donors)
- Special tax, donors, grants, low interest loans, CPS bonds, donations

- Team up with local restaurants like Chic-Fil-A, Smoothie King, Panda Express family
- Wall of donors, bricks with donor names
- Large businesses like Hyvee, Walmart, Beyond Meat, FedEx, UPS
- Laurie/Kronke Family
- Fundraising
- To maintain money: charging vendors, entry fees
- Donors such as MU Athletics and Healthcare, Veterans United, Private donors, banks, larger local businesses, CPS, City of Columbia, legislation Bonds, property owners with land donation, private health and medical like OT clinics, Rusk.
- Explore idea of putting aquatic center near other rec facilities and sharing costs on construction of land/parking/etc.
- Grants
- Stephens and Columbia College BOTH are interested in having swim teams
- Fundraising through local businesses for CSC and the high schools
- High School Boosters
- More efficient budget use for a certain period of time
- Fundraising
- USA Swimming
- Partnerships w/ businesses such as hotels, restaurants, medical facilities, pharmacies, potential discounts
- Tax Levy, Grants (BBB, State, Federal), Hotels, Restaurants build around facility pay a certain percentage.
- Transportation improvement district tax
- Collaboration with hospital wellness program
- Show Me State Games/Missouri Lottery
- Business investments
- Rental from clubs
- Swim lessons
- The power of people and community raising money and donations
- Option to partner with MU, Columbia College and Stephens College.
- Bonding or where it would qualify for a tif.
- Fee based, rent income

- Summer camps at facility (USA Swimming has programs that would draw in people around the country)
- Swimming pool grants
- Larger regional meet hosting
- Use donated land ie. Boone County Fairgrounds
- Master's Meets
- USA Swimming, MU Health, Local advertising, Health organizations, Park Sales Tax, MSHAA, School Districts, Missouri Valley Swimming, Veterans United, Advertisements, Local Boosters, YMCA
- Funds from Park Sales Tax
- Corporate Sponsorships
- Fund raisers
- Admission fees for events, attendance, lessons, group rentals, etc.
- Sponsors for the building "Name"
- MU could "gift" land
- Sponsorship for smaller rooms (meeting rooms, etc)
- Bond Issues for CPS (see Shawnee Mission, Belton, Kirksville bond issues)
- USA Swimming to build a pool
- Donations from local elite
- Corporate sponsors (tax deductions)
- Park Sales Tax
- Colleges, Universities
- Athletic Boosters, Grants, User fees, funding from other Mizzou sports, Donate the land, name the pool, Boone County Funding,
- Alumni could have naming rights to seats
- There are many grants available to support sport programs. Lowes and other foundations.
- Online fundraising i.e. Sell a brick for a walkway for \$1-\$5 each
- YMCA invests in these types of facilities. Are they are possible resource?
- Crowdsourcing funding. Kickstarter, GoFundMe, Indigogo, Patreon, and Barnraiser.
- Health Department State of Missouri
- Healthcare Partnerships i.e. COG and the ARC Track
- Grants, donations, taxes, bonds, partnerships with local wealthy who are interested in community

What amenities would be needed in a new indoor aquatic facility to support competitive and recreational swimming?

- Bleachers, concessions, deck space, locker rooms not shared by other sports. New lane lines. Separate bathrooms for spectators. Storage rooms for rec swimming and competitive swimming. An 8 lane 25 yard pool w/ an open area for other activities. ADA compliance updates. A functional space.
- Diving well, 50 m. pool with 8 lanes. Electronic timing system. Zero Depth entry, locker room with showers, stands for spectators (crowd seating) Wheelchair lifts, healthy food options
- Is it possible to blend a competitive facility with another recreational pool to enhance overall community involvement?
- Deeper water, good gutters, warm crash area, more lanes, good showers, nice water temperature, shallow warm water for swimming lessons, better diving blocks, big water slide, diving boards, hot tub, bigger pool, bleachers with backs, more seats, tile floor, a couple of pools in one building.
- Locker room with bathrooms and showers, crash area, we need an Olympic size pool for swim meets, a pool that is warm and shallow for therapeutic concerns, space for a large group of people to watch swimmers, plenty of parking spaces (garage).
- Locker room with bathrooms, food and kitchen, spectator seating, ventilation, record board, temperature regulation, electronic timing system, competitive pool (50m and/or 2x25yd) and warm up pool, crash area, spectator space for 2000-3000, audio/visual scoreboard.
- Parking, just more water, pool and ice rink (great combo), outdoor pool with a bubble, separate pools (warm water, etc) easy access, deep water, clean, regular hours – ability to have rec swim, lessons, laps, etc that don't interfere.
- Pool heater, air filtration system, sufficient HVAC/air conditioning filtration system, locker room dehumidifier, bleachers/seating, crash area/deck space, 50m pool like Mizzou, Diving well and warm up pool, separate area for recreation (doesn't require as much space), sufficient/multiple locker rooms (showers, toilets), meeting space, large organized supply closet, score board, record board, U seating, parking, tech room for timing system, lifeguard training equipment, ROUTINE CLEANING
- 50m pool w/ deep end and cool down/warm up lane pool, minimum of 8 lanes, dive well, large stand area/lots of seating, large crash area, large locker room facilities (family changing), space behind the blocks for swimmers, lots of deck space, floating pool floor, audio system, multi score boards/timing systems, flexibility to accommodate new sports such as water polo and scuba diving, special Olympics, special needs therapies, shallow pool scuba
- Water polo equipment, time set aside in morning and evening for adult lap swimming, diving wells, locker rooms (more than one per gender). Olympic size both long and short course (10 lane LC and split 2 short course pools with 8 lanes). Warm up pool in addition to LC/SC pool. Appropriate capacity for spectators. Good location. SUGGESTION: Good Location like across from Tolton/Gans Creek area.
- 50 meter, diving well, spectator seating for at least 2000, parking, crash area with ample deck space, separate and extra locker rooms/bathrooms, and amenities to support membership. See: Rec Plex in St. Louis, New pool in Lenexa, KS, Pool in Jenks, OK, Kirkwood, Belton, Gladstone Facility.

- 50 meter pool with bulkhead, diving well, consistent air /water quality, sports therapy/medicine, at least 8 lanes, separate diving well, adjustable floor level, consistent dept for comp, at least 1500 seating capacity, parking, crash area, big locker rooms, scoreboard, storage space for equipment not in use, bright lighting
- 50 meter with 8-10 lanes, zero entry lane, seating capacity for 1500, warm up/warm down and competition pool, Recreational and therapeutic area/hot tub, lazy river, timing system with Alphanumeric score board, diving towers/diving well, locker rooms for 1500 swimmers, paragon starting blocks/wedges, Adaptive Aquatics – equipment for water yoga, adaptive aquatics, lessons, etc.
- Appropriate locker rooms to support swimmers. Personal showers. UV filtration/advanced water treatment system/air handler. Spectator space/parking/bathrooms separate from athlete locker rooms/open space for athletes “crash area”. 50m with movable bulkheads to accommodate all seasons. Warm-up pool could also function as a therapy/instructional pool for healing from injury, water aerobics, and programs for individuals w/ muscle/nerve diseases, etc. Easy to navigate. Diving well. Membership ability for Columbia citizens/visitors/surrounding communities. Integrated timing/scoreboard/PA announcement. ACCESSIBLE.
- Seating on both sides- more than Mizzou. “Crash Area”. Min 8 lanes in 50 meters and min 8 25 yd lanes. Meeting rooms, official rooms, hospitality rooms and classrooms. Warm water instruction pool for learn to swim, adaptive, rehab. Rec Areas – slides, lazy river, etc. Deep end. Full diving area-platforms. Bulkheads to reconfigure pool. Parking. 50 meters by 25 yards, diving, warm water, locker room, fully accessible for disabilities. “Shining star of Missouri Valley”. Masters, Seniors water aerobics. Community lap swim, use all day, every day. Dryland space. Weight room. Concessions (sell beer – make \$\$) Green space. Media room. Space for water safety class like lifeguarding. Equipment storage. Party rooms. Therapy, whirlpool, sauna and hot tub. Sports Medicine – PT, OT, Rehab.
- Crash room, like size of ARC rooms. NO BUGS OR ROACHES. Indoor soccer field or lacrosse. 50m moving bulkhead, separate 25m pool warmer water 84-86 for lessons. Adjustable floor and diving well. Hospitality room w/ kitchen and concessions stand. Nice locker rooms with hot water. Suitmates and hairdryers. Closed circuit TV, PA systems. Weight room for dry workouts. Section w/ assortments of lifejackets. Storage space, hooks on walls to place bags. Large bleachers areas, lots of space for spectators. Room for community swim during swim practice. Wedges, nice starting blocks and Colorado system. Family locker room and separate restrooms First aid room. Attach ice skating rink.
- Pump room and chemical space. Large locker rooms for athletes, coaches and spectators. Concessions, parking. Deck space. Team crash space. Strength and conditioning room. Spend money on tile. Rehab facilities. Dive well. 50m pool with bulkheads. Audio scoring system. Scoreboards. Videoboards. Storage space. Meeting room, hospitality room, first aid room. Increased seating. Water aerobics area. Configuration to keep swimmers from diving to avoid interruptions. Proper staff. Take input from aquatics facilities directors.

What have other communities done to expand or improve their capacity?

- Other places have fully updated their pools, involved public input. They’re worked w/ private clubs. They haven’t waited till it’s in crumbles and almost unfixable. They didn’t just put a band aid on the problems. They have updated their facilities to acquire all levels of swimming w/ adequate space along with safety. They appreciated what swimming brought to the community.

- ARC's membership only essentially. Build a facility to gain revenue from membership, lessons, large meets and events, classes, rental/parties/space, concessions.
- If the facility was able to host MU would potentially host meets USA swimming national and regional USA swimming, local swim meets. Could bring revenue from national and international sources. Large meets bring in big \$\$.
- Shawnee Mission (County & School), Belton (School), Henley (School), Free State – Lawrence, KS (City/School), Topeka (County & School), Lee's Summit (School), Rex Plex (City), Pattonville (School), Kirksville (School & City), Platte City (YMCA), IUPUI (Indianapolis, IN) Hosted Olympic Trials for 20 Years – University, Gladstone. If you are going to do it, do it right.
- Lenexa, Platte City (recreation portion, included well), Tennessee (UT), Jenks, St. Peters Rec Plex, Lawrence (Hummer Sports), Topeka, IUPUI, Iowa (Iowa City, University Pool), MidAmerican Energy Aquatic Center (Des Moines).
- With the addition of a different or new school building an aquatic facility should be added in tandem to match population growth.
- Recruitment opportunities to encourage more to join swimming.
- Swimming in UNLIMITED to team members and is wholly inclusive to all ability levels.
- Host opportunities for multisport events.
- New Facility
- Look at Lawrence, KS, St. Charles/St. Peters, Ice Rink! Growth of hockey could help with \$\$, Old Ice Chalet, Mall, Parkade, etc.
- Having a CSC workday @ Hickman to help show our support! We want to be PROUD to share our facility!
- Lenexa built a top notch facility large enough to host large USA swimming as well as high school meets. The pool facility has capacity to have swim lessons, water aerobics, and competitive swim practices occurring simultaneously. They have a very large spectator area. They have hundreds of events already booked at the facility – I'd love to learn the revenue it's bringing to the community. They're offering many programs beyond swimming. They are already scheduled to host Missouri Valley Swim Championships which is expected to generate \$500,000+ for the area.
- Bond issue. Found the partners to get it built (staffing it with the proper directors). Not utilize and not maintain facilities are not productive. Topeka KS, Jenks, OK, Univ of Iowa, Univ of Minnesota, Ohio State – Diving (Great Facilities), Nitro Aquatics – Great Model, Greensboro, NC - Coliseum – Community, 2024 Olympic Aquatic Pools will be on sale, Rex Plex – How did they get started? Look at the good and bad. Building along with other facilities – hockey, BB courts, convention center, etc.
- Lenexa, Topeka – Approved and replaced air filtration system. Kept space on borders open for expansion. Maintained space as opposed to encroaching upon it. Made an all-encompassing recreation facility – Includes basketball courts, gym, etc. Des Moines YMCA
- Add more facilities – lack of pools in Columbia. Separating comp pools from rec activities.
- They build or improve the facility by “Hosting” new competitive meets. Professional series championships. See Lenexa, Des Moines, IA. These facilities can host very large meets that are new

to the facilities. Each meet can have \$500k+ impact (minimally). The key is to make sure that the facility can host big meets. Partnerships are key. Having a big club is key. CSC runs big meets and can run more. Trained officials are CSC parents. Potential for year-round rental and revenue.

- Build new facility. Collaborate between City, Public Schools, Parks/Rec, YMCA and other community. Build a pool w/ their high school or community center. Look at schools w/ Indianapolis Suburbs and how they support large multiple aquatic facilities. Incorporate swimming w/ the curriculum of public schools.
- Shawnee Mission School District Aquatic Center, St. Peter's Rec Plex, Kirkwood High School (10 mil donation + 1 mil donation), Lawrence KS (entire sports block). Look at what Heartland Soccer has done. Lee Summit R-7, Platte City YMCA – Like ARC w/ competitive pool (Don't build walls like Platte did)

The above record(s) is subject to Missouri's open records laws and may be provided to the public if requested and/or placed in public domain.

Thank you for your participation.

City of Columbia, MO

Parks and Recreation



What is needed?

-- A new competition-level facility with a warm-water instructional pool and diving well to facilitate competition for high school, college, and club-level swimming

Why is a new facility needed?

-- Expanded access to aquatics programming within the community – current facilities are at or near maximum capacity for competition, club-level practice use, adult lap swim, youth swim lessons, deep water aerobics, and therapy pool space

How would this benefit our community?

-- Benefits of youth sports extend beyond physical health to mental and social health, life skills, etc. (How has swimming benefited your swimmer?)

-- Swim lessons and community pool access can reduce youth drowning rates; minority youth suffer a disproportionately higher rate of fatal drowning accidents

-- CSC-hosted meets currently generate in excess of \$2 million per year in economic impact to the City of Columbia, and could generate more impact in a newer larger facility

Financial Impact from Columbia Swim Club

CSC typically hosts 5-6 large home meets, including: Tiger Invite (Feb), Central Zone Region 8 Sectionals (March), CSC Summer Invite (June), Missouri Valley Championships (July), and the Jim Devine Memorial Invitational (Oct). These events attract 700-1300 swimmers per event from across the Midwest.

For the past 4 years, we worked with the Columbia's Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) to calculate the economic impact for CSC hosted meets using the following formula: For food expenses we calculate: (# of swimmers + # of coaches + # of officials + # of spectators) x (# of days) x (cost per day of food). We work to identify hotel nights per meet as well.

Economic impact for 2019:

Tiger Invite: \$309,625

Sectionals: \$623,950

Summer Invite: \$372,000

Missouri Valley Champs: \$510,282

Jim Devine: \$408,776

Total 2019: \$2,224,633

Hotel nights for 2019:

Tiger Invite: 1,250

Sectionals: 2,645

Summer Invite: 1,880

Missouri Valley Champs: 2,109

Jim Devine: 2,020

Total hotel nights 2019: 9,904

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Online Comments from the Columbia Swimming Summit
Online Survey was available from January 31, 2020 to February 28, 2020

What amenities would be needed in a new indoor aquatic facility to support competitive and recreational swimming?

Multiple lap lanes continuously available to citizens of Columbia and the outlying areas (during all times it is open). 50 meter pool if possible. State of the art locker rooms. Touch-pad timing. A shallow area where lessons can be taught.

Competitive swimming facility needs easy access for out of town competitors, space for spectators (w/ appropriate ventilation), adequate space for participant crash zone that does not obstruct the pool deck or spectator view, QUALITY public address system (meets are noisy, pool surfaces are hard), easy access to local restaurants for spectators and teams, pool design should accommodate the needs for the next 60 years. Suggest maintaining separate recreational swimming facility.

Depth to swim instead of merely walk. Advanced swim lessons for older youth beyond learn to swim. Lots of operating hours.

Bleachers for parents/ 25m lanes for competition, lazy river/slide for rec

50 m lap pool, diving boards for competition.

50 meter pool with diving well, crash area with concessions area and plenty of spectator seating. Possible weight room and gym area...and plenty of parking.

The facility must have an Olympic size pool and proper diving well to host large scale competitive meets. The space must also allow for club-level practice use, adult lap swim, youth swim lessons, water aerobics and pool therapy activities. Additionally, there must be an area dedicated to swimming warm-up, locker rooms, plenty of seats for observation, an electronic scoreboard that can be linked to a timing system, high quality air ventilation system, concession area, parking space/garage, and a track that is accessible to all spectators (consider a usage fee).

several lanes -not just a few like at the arc...plenty of bleacher seating.

Adequate parking spaces. Safe entry and exits - not exit into a bank of parking spaces. Very difficult to see children coming out of Hickman now. Safe entry for public that DOES NOT go into the children's changing area. Places for spectators or family members to sit - right now there are a handful of folding chairs and some concrete benches that are always damp from humidity.

warm-water instructional pool diving well concessions

Where even to begin.... We don't have anything now to support competitive swimming at the ARC, and Hickman pool is falling apart. How about starting with at least 8 lanes of at least 25 meters, adjustable to 25 yards. A movable bulkhead that would let you get in 50 meters/50 yards would be great, too.

Multi lane lap pool. Seating for spectators. Updated and modern locker rooms for athletes. A more centralized location.

long & short course capability; indoor practice area; spectator area

Concession stand, ample parking, bleachers as well as an area for lawn chairs to be set up (inside). bleachers with back support. locker rooms with machines to spin out the suits. restrooms separate from the locker rooms. minimum of a 50 meter pool with high end blocks. workout facility adjacent to the pool area.

really a 50m, 8-10 lane pool with an additional warm down or dive well pool is needed that could support high school, college and club programming. A warm down side pool could be build to support therapy, swim lesion and other aquatics programs. Having multiple sets of bathrooms and a specific locker room for athletes. With the safe sport regulations ever changing, it is best to create a safe environment for the athletes. Sufficient parking, stands and also meeting space off the deck is always a prime need but i suspect the city will anticipate this need. Another aspect would be location of the facility where it could be geographically accessible for non-competition participants. Competitive swimmers (high school college and club will likely go anywhere, but community participants will want something easily accessible.

A multi-section pool with movable bulkheads that would allow for 1 large Olympic sized pool, or 2 smaller competition pools with a smaller instruction pool to the side. These flexible options would allow a diverse series of activities to happen simultaneously in the facility. A variety of classrooms around the pool that would be beneficial for first aid classes, instruction, consultations, officials/timers meeting spaces during swim meets. Also, these rooms could be used for area teams for training, education, fundraising, etc. Also, in a facility this big a variety of locker rooms that match the diversity of the pool uses. A family locker room for small children and parents after their swim lessons, youth-oriented locker rooms for after team practices and then adult locker rooms for high school aged and above for changing after their practice/workouts. Often after swim team practices at Mizzou, older kids and 10 and under kids have to use the same locker room b/c it close to closing and Mizzou has closed other locker rooms. Also, in a facility of this size, some gymnasiums attached to serve as a crash area during swim meets but also to diversify the facility use for day programming. Additionally, a walking track around the facility allows flexible viewing of the pool for parents who want to be active during lessons/practices but still want to watch, or spouses/groups who want to swim and walk at the same time.

Total: 17

What funding resources are available for the construction/renovation of indoor aquatic facilities?

One time tax levy. Donations from corporations or swim clubs around the town. Park tax funds earmarked for the purpose.

Sponsorships from community members? Long-term funding commitments from CPS and Tolton H.S.. CSC and other potential swim clubs? Cost savings for hosting events vs using Mizzou Rec? If building new facility on Business Loop 70 (Ellis Fischel), could the project receive backing from tax district?

These facilities are never easy to fund. Collaborative efforts between city, donor and other orgnaizations are the path to success. CC, Stephens and MU as well as CSC would be good partners. The biggest issue from other communities that have built similar facilities would be making it a community priority and seeking donations too.

The usual funding opportunities such as bonds, taxes or hoping a wealthy individual/company wants the naming rights. Obviously with recent misguiding of the Water and Light department one could argue that a share of that revenue could help. In recent years, veterans and veteran programming has become important in our society. Perhaps including veteran programming as part of the facility mission and encouraging hiring them as integral parts of the facility work force might open some funding opportunities. Also, looking into some alternative energy sources such as solar air/water heating or a small wind turbine being part of the construction process might open other funding opportunities while also making the building more self sustaining.

Taxes, fee for use

Taxes, community support for additional funding

Grants Gofundme page Facebook Fundraiser

Launch a campaign similar to Build this Town: Campaign for the Agriculture Park, host fundraisers, reach out to possible donors and/or sponsors, consider a special tax, grant money.

Could maybe partner with the universities... Veterans United

city school district private funds

Bonds. Park tax. Usage fees on new pool when built.

How did ARC get paid for? Or the skate park and rainbow softball fields? Use those ideas for money from parks and rec. How did the football teams get nice turf and seating or the basketball courts get made? Use same strategies to get money from schools. We pay fees for our kids to swim with CSC. Some of that money we pay should go to rent for the facility.

Should have been part of the budget for Battle HS.

Grants, fundraising efforts, Parks and Rec funds

Total: 14

How do we move forward growing competitive swimming and diving in Columbia while sustaining current recreational swimming opportunities?

A dual use pool is what we need, with opportunities for teaching lessons, continuous recreational swimming, CSC use for practices and allowances for a masters group to swim and compete.

Swimming is such a unique sport because the outcome is 100 percent in the hands of the participant. The individual is solely responsible for their outcomes. This makes it appealing to all walks of life who want to be in complete control of their success from stubborn toddlers to seniors refusing to act their age. Swimming is vital for a thriving active community and is a lifelong sport that should be readily available year around. A new facility would make this possible. There are almost unlimited soccer, football, basketball, baseball, wrestling and other leagues and organizations in the mid-Missouri area and very few options for swimming. A new facility will open the door to many more diverse opportunities for swimming organizations.

I suggest renovating Hickman pool facility for use with structured recreational activities. The adjacent (non-pool) space (locker rooms) could be repurposed for use by the school. This would allow adequate pool time for non-competitive activities as long as Hickman can provide parking.

Adding a new facility is really, sorely needed. Having seen this ebb and flow through the years the main issue has always been lane availability. When the lanes get full with less space, kids lose interest. This goes for swim lessons and other aquatic programs. Having community pools is so critical to drowning prevention programs for cities. CDC has put out some many materials on pool availability and aquatic programs for community health that go beyond competition.

Corporate sponsorship, ad sales

If you have a fifty meter pool, you can divide that into 2 25 yards pools each with eight lanes. One pool could be used by competitive teams in the evening and the other pool could be used for Rec swim. High school and Club both also practice in the mornings but I don't believe they would use all 16 lanes.

Building a new competition-level facility is essential to ensuring our entire community benefits from all aspects and levels of swimming and diving. Until then, it will be important to maintain the existing pools.

There are many hours in a day- I don't think it would be a conflict-rather a truly utilized facility- competitive swimmers swim in the early am and evenings. I don't think a water park is needed as the Arc has one

we really need a new facility in order to grow. Hickman's pool is truly awful. My child goes there and there are often roaches. She doesn't like to go barefoot at the pool!!!

Build an appropriate competition pool

This is hard. ARC isn't adequate for teaching large cohorts kids to swim or having more than a handful of lap swimmers. Douglass Pool Isn't opens very long in year or in the daytime, but maybe CSC and rec swimming can use that in early morning and after it closes at ; or 5 pm if the Hickman pool is under construction in summer. Maybe work out a deal with Wilson's or MAC to use /rent indoor pool while there is construction or reconstruction on Hickman facility that merits closure.

Keep Hickman for lessons only. There needs to be another outdoor pool - what about buying one of the clubs that are for sale?

Maintenance of current facilities and an effort/awareness of fairness when scheduling a new facility (recreation time versus competitive practice time)

having a pool with a minimum of 8 lanes and 50 meters long will open opportunities for growth that we currently don't have since MU is our only option. this will allow more space for water aerobics, swim lessons, diving competition, swim team expansion.

Total: 14

What could a new indoor aquatic facility bring to Columbia?

I think that all citizens of Columbia should be able to use this facility. We should also include opportunities for people in the outlying area.

A new facility would bring new opportunities, new citizens and new revenue to the area for sure. In sports, medicine, restaurants, schools etc. the best facilities bring the best people, swimming will be no different. With the right facility, Columbia could host professional swim meets where Olympians and former Olympians come to swim, conduct community outreach bring the spotlight to our town. How many other sports can you say that building a community building would bring in PROFESSIONAL athletes, their sponsors and their fan base? That same building can also go right back to teaching toddlers how to swim the next day, simple as that. We have a unique opportunity here to put Columbia on the map in the world of swimming.

Build the new facility on the grounds of the old Ellis Fischel Hospital. This will bring dollars to local restaurants from meets. Increased opportunity to host larger school meets.

New programming for the colleges, expand lane availability for the high school swimmers and support club offerings for the younger kids. more meets which brings in revenues to the city, expanding aquatic programs for drowning prevention.

Physical activity for kids when the weather prevents most sports and outdoor recess during school. With the ARC pool so shallow, most kids outgrow it at about the same time they get tall enough to use the slide.

Competitions/ travel from area schools

Revenue from the rest of the state. We're located perfectly for state competitions, vacations etc.

Regional, sectional and national meets for club and college level swimming and diving. State championships for high school level swimmer and diving which in turn helps hotels and restaurants in Columbia.

The economic impact to the City would be recognized immediately, particularly if the facility is designed to host large scale competitive meets for high school, club-level and college swimming and diving. A new facility that expands access to aquatics programs within our community is necessary to allow everyone to enjoy the benefits of the sport - including physical, mental and social health, improved confidence and critical life skills. A new, state-of-the-art facility would indicate Columbia is dedicated to its community members and realizes the positive impact from a broader regional - and national - perspective.

Out of town revenue. more options to grow competitive and recreational swim,

revenue from meets increased safety physical mental health for community a new pool with more programming could expand the program to more diverse groups

Revenue from teams traveling here. Stable, usable pool for teams already here.

More respect for the high school sport of swimming. The tiny facility that tree schools share make it seem like this sport doesn't matter to the school and like it's just a club team. The ARC has limited swim Classes and exercise classes. A new facility with adequate size and depth pool would be important.

More meets = more people in town at hotels/motels and eating.

\$\$\$ in terms of money spent here eating, shopping, staying in hotels, etc. It would also help prevent our little kids from swimming at Mizzou and even our big kids from swimming in cold water at Hickman.

opportunities for aquatic sports to expand, to bring competition to Columbia thus bringing outside revenue. will also allow swim clubs to put funds into city resources rather than university resources.

Total: 16

What have other communities done to expand or improve their capacity?

I have been to a few community pools throughout the region. Lee's Summit's pool is especially impressive and I believe was built through city park tax funds.

Build new pools; Lenexa, St Peters, Evansville, Fargo, etc. . . each have been able to expand their aquatics programs and bring more meets to their communities.

See rec plex in St Peter's

I know Lenexa had their public school district and parks and recreation work together.

The most recent, nearby example is the Shawnee Mission School District Aquatic Center, in partnership with Johnson County Park & Recreation District.

Ice sheets-it could be very similar to St Peters Rec Plex-perhaps smaller but similar...perhaps a facility out south since we have the Arc on that side of town

look at new pool in Lenexa, Kansas!

Build a competition pool.

Look at Nebraska.

Total: 9

Do you have any other comments related to current swimming facilities, recreational programs, competitive swimming or future swimming opportunities?

Thank you for putting forth the effort to investigate and work towards a solution. Columbia churns out enough swimmers that deserve an improved facility.

Hickman is in a sorry state. We need to NOT renovate it but tear the facility down and create a new one entirely. The locker rooms are a disgrace and the facility's air feels unhealthy. My daughters both swim for CSC and they complain of water that is far too hot for competitive swimming. Thanks so much for considering this potential new facility!

Regarding the facilities at Hickman, there are some very severe mold issues in the entry way to the locker rooms that need to be addressed. The acoustics during big swim meets at Hickman are terribly deafening and not conducive to children partaking in the festivities of either high school meets, or summer swim league championship meets. The outdoor facilities are great throughout Columbia. The ARC isn't even remotely adequate for adult swim training in terms of size or availability.

Contact the University about purchasing the old Ellis Fischel property for this development.

Do we need to sustain all current rec facilities? With open hours only noon-5 most days at most pools, and for only 2 months, having 4 lifeguarded facilities feels like a waste of resources. Having fewer

pools with longer hours would expand access to those who have day jobs, avoid excessive sun exposure, or otherwise can't get to the pool in the narrow time windows. Would the maintenance and staffing savings of closing one pool allow another pool to have a longer season and/or all the other facilities to have extended hours all season?

Our community would support this!

If you build it, they will come :)

The age, condition and size of Hickman pool signals the most appropriate path forward is to construct a new facility. It is key to continue the discussion, engage relevant parties, evaluate possibilities and move forward with building a new pool facility that will address our community needs and promote economic growth.

see above

The current entry way situation at Hickman is not safe. It is not safe for kids because the doors are open to allow access to anyone who passes by in a heavily trafficked area to come into a bathroom where small kids are changing. This is a really big deal that I think the city, school, and CSC has ignored. Children are in danger every day that the entry way is in their changing area- in danger of no privacy or inappropriate surveillance of kids while changing, of kidnapping with quick access to a get away car, and in danger of traffic not seeing them as they must exit from a door that is blocked by a row of parked cars. The humidity level in pool area has been so extreme and the cleaning of the facility remains to be very infrequent. I think there are dangers of mold and that the air quality is poor.

I have a club swimmer and a high school swimmer. The facilities at Hickman are dated and not very sanitary. I would like to see a large aquatic facility that would support our young athletes, host meets, and provide a space for other aquatic (fitness) activities.

We used to have a competitive swimmer before he graduated (and now swims for his college team). We traveled regularly over many years to competition pools in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Illinois. The Hickman pool is one of--if not THE--worst of the bunch. Columbia can do better.

My children love swimming and competitive swimming. it has been good for them physically and socially.

I have enjoyed water aerobics in the past and would participate more if I were not bumping elbows with others while trying to workout. Hickman is run down and the ARC isn't big enough to accommodate the interest. My son is a member of the Columbia Swim Club, he practices at MU since Hickman is not big enough to support the amount of members in the club. That costs the club more than it should. Those funds could be going to city resources rather than feeding the university. adding a workout facility adjacent to the pool would allow the club to do strength training.

Total: 14

The above record(s) is subject to Missouri's open records laws and may be provided to the public if requested and/or placed in public domain.

Thank you for your participation.
City of Columbia, MO
Parks and Recreation