



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: May 17, 2021

Re: Hickman Pool Heater: Columbia Public School District No. 93 Agreement and Appropriation of Funds

Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting approval of an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to sign an agreement with Columbia Public School District No. 93 (CPSD) and appropriating funds for the project. During late fall 2020 through the early winter of 2021, the pool water heater began to fail and despite repeated repairs, would not operate continuously. This resulted in the cancellation of swim lessons, swim team practices and meets. Parks and Recreation maintenance staff worked with two different specialized mechanical contractors, and unfortunately, it was determined that the unit needed to be replaced. The estimated cost of the replacement is \$30,000 to \$35,000. Columbia Swim Club has donated \$10,000 toward the replacement of the pool heater and the remaining cost for the purchase and installation of the new high-efficiency pool heater will be shared equally between CPSD and Parks and Recreation. Staff is requesting an emergency mid-year appropriation of funds totaling \$35,000 including \$10,000 in donated funds and \$25,000 from the Park Sales Tax Fund. CPSD will reimburse Parks and Recreation for their portion of the cost after completion of the project. Park staff will also submit an Administrative Public Improvement Project report for additional details related to the replacement of the pool heater.

Discussion

Hickman Pool opened in the late 1950s as an outdoor pool providing recreational swimming for the community. In the 1960s, Hickman started a competitive swim team and the pool was enclosed about the same time. In 1965, the City of Columbia and the Columbia Public School District entered into a cooperative agreement for management of the pool. The current operating agreement, which is not so different from the original, indicates that the City is responsible for the ongoing maintenance of items related to the water and CPSD is responsible for building maintenance. At the end of each year, the two operating costs are totaled and evenly split between the two agencies. Capital projects are evaluated on an annual basis which gives each agency time to develop an appropriate budget. Unfortunately, the pool heater showed signs of failure beginning in November 2020 and, after lengthy investigation and short-term repairs, needs to be replaced immediately to avoid any further facility closures.

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting approval of an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to sign an agreement with Columbia Public School District No. 93 (CPSD) and appropriating funds for the project.



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The estimated cost range for the purchase and installation of the new pool heater is approximately \$30,000 to \$35,000 depending on the amount of new service, electrical, duct work, plumbing, etc. that has to be replaced during installation

The Columbia Swim Club has agreed to donate \$10,000 toward the replacement of the pool heater. The remaining funding necessary for the project, \$25,000, will come from the 2015 Park Sales Tax Fund. Staff is requesting a total mid-year appropriation of \$35,000 to replace the pool heater, due to the age and condition of the existing pool heater and the length of time needed to purchase a new heater. This timing will also have less impact on the Columbia Swim Club and P&R swimming lessons as those activities can take place outdoors through the summer at Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center. As part of the agreement with CPSD, park staff will bill CPSD for half of the remaining costs after the donated funds are applied to the total cost of the project. Payment will be due at the completion of the project. Any funds remaining after the completion of the project and payment from CPSD will be returned to the Park Sales Tax Fund.

With the total project cost below \$50,000, Staff will provide City Council with an Administrative Public Improvement Project report that details the need and benefits for replacing the pool heater.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Staff is requesting a mid-year appropriation of \$35,000 including \$10,000 in donated funds and \$25,000 from the Park Sales Tax Fund. Columbia Public School District will reimburse the City for half of the remaining total cost of the project after the \$10,000 donation is deducted from the total project cost.

Long-Term Impact: Staff anticipates annual cost savings of \$6,000 to \$8,000 after the installation of the 98% high efficiency heater at Hickman Pool.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:
Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:
Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Inter-Governmental Cooperation, Tertiary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities

Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A



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Suggested Council Action

Approve the legislation authorizing the agreement between Columbia School District No. 93 and the City of Columbia and the appropriation of funds.