

FAQ SHEET

CITY OF DARLINGTON, WI SWIMMING POOL PROJECT



What is wrong with the current pool?

The current pool's overall condition has reached a critical stage. The current facility loses a fluctuating amount of water daily. The existing pool facility has numerous ADA and Code Compliance issues that need to be addressed. The City of Darlington had a Technical Evaluation done in 2018. The Opinion of Construction Cost \$2.916 Million to replace and update the existing facility (25-year design life), with a new Code and ADA compliant pool vessel and bathhouse.

- The pool is out of level and tilting downhill.
- The diving hopper does not meet code requirements.
- The bathhouse has ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) and IBC (International Building Code) requirement concerns.
- The main pool vessel leaks 6,000+ gallons of water *per day*.
- The pool deck is uneven.
- Possible cracks in the main pool vessel or the expansion joints.
- The mechanical system is in poor condition.

How old is the existing pool?

Sixty-two years old, the existing pool was built in 1958.

Will my property taxes be raised?

No! the funding plan is to raise funds needed through a Capital Campaign.

Did the City maintain the existing pool well?

They maintained the facility beautifully and have received 62 seasons of swimming! The facility has gone through two renovations in its life—the pool in 1986 and the bathhouse in 2000. Most municipal pools have a design life of 35-50 years, and the current facility has reached the end of its useful life.

How many different Conceptual Site Plans did the Pool Committee look at before deciding on this one?

Seven plans. The Pool Committee decided on Conceptual Site Plan #7 because it will serve all age groups and best serve our community.

How much does the new pool cost?

The Opinion of Construction Cost is \$3,658,000 for the base project (new ADA renovation to existing bathhouse, zero-depth entry pool vessel, 5-lane lap pool with diving and new mechanical building). The Opinion of Construction cost is \$4,450,000 for the fully funded project that will add amenities to the facility. Amenities include shade structures, waterslide, spray pad, floatable, zero-depth play amenities, and toddler slide.

Why does the new pool cost so much?

Constructing a new municipal pool is an expensive endeavor. Even with the most basic facility replacement (pool vessel, mechanical building, and bathhouse) will be at least \$1.8 million - \$2.3 million. The Pool Committee decided on a design that will be unique to the area, attract people to the community, and service the four uses of a swimming pool: recreation, education, competition, and health & wellness.

What is the background of Burbach Aquatics, Inc.?

Burbach Aquatics, Inc. was established in 1978 and has been providing Municipalities with professional design and consulting services for new aquatic facilities ever since. Burbach Aquatics, Inc. also designs the most heavy-duty municipal swimming pool to withstand the severe Midwestern environmental stresses that cause pools to leak and fail. Here are some communities in and around Darlington that Burbach Aquatics, Inc. has worked with: Lena, IL, Shullsburg, Mineral Point, Fennimore, Lancaster, and Warren, IL. More info at www.burbachaquatics.com

How is the project going to be funded?

The funding is going to be raised through a Capital Campaign. A Capital Campaign Cabinet has been formed to raise money for the project. If you would like to help, we are always accepting volunteers.

Was an indoor pool considered?

Yes, but the construction cost and yearly operational cost would be too great of a burden financially to the City's annual budget.

Why was the proposed location chosen?

During a study, the Pool Committee looked at different sites, and Burbach Aquatics, Inc. performed an engineer site rating for every site. The proposed location was chosen because of the rating received and to use the existing buildings.

How does the size of the new pool compare to the old pool?

The old pool surface area is 5,500 sq. ft. The new pool surface area is 4,949 sq. ft.

What is the timeline for this project?

Construction to start in August of 2022, and the new facility will be open for use in June of 2023. (Dependent on a successful Capital Campaign)