



Mayor's Task Force on Year-Round Aquatics
6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, MO 63130-3104

Mayor's Task Force on Year-Round Aquatics

February 14, 2011

A Mayor's Task Force on Year-Round Aquatics is being established in an effort to begin a community-wide discussion on how to provide for year-round swimming availability in University City on a long-term basis, for the health and recreation benefits of our residents.

Currently the City of University City offers its residents the opportunity for swimming in the outdoor pool in Heman Park in the summer months, and at the indoor Natatorium which is owned by the School District of University City for the rest of the year. The Natatorium, built in 1959, is not fully-accessible; is not regulation sized, which is 50 meters x 25 meters; and is in need of on-going repair and maintenance which is proving to be a financial burden for the School District.

This task force is being charged with the following tasks.

- Review the current availability for year-round swimming for all our residents and determine if the current facilities are adequate and are sustainable for the long-term.
- If a determination is made that the current aquatic facilities are not sufficient, conduct the research needed to decide what type of facility/facilities would fulfill the needs of this community.
- Conduct discussions with neighboring communities, agencies and organizations to determine if opportunities exist for collaborative partnerships in any new facility that might be recommended, both in the construction and use of a new facility.
- Develop a rough long-term cost estimate for the construction/operation of a new facility.
- Provide a plan for how the costs of constructing and operative a new facility would be covered for the long-term future.
- Ensure that any and all recommendations include provisions on how University City can increase the level of swimming expertise among its residents, from the youngest to the oldest, which may include recommendations for an expanded year-round swim instruction program.

The Mayor's Task Force on Year-Round Aquatics will establish guidelines for its work schedule and routines. However, the final report to the Council should be received by the Council no later than February 1, 2012 so that the recommendations contained therein can be considered by the Council as it prepares the budget for Fiscal Year 2013.

The Mayor has requested that each member of the City Council appoint one constituent to this Task Force, preferably from the ward which they represent in an effort to maintain the geographic diversity of the group. The Mayor has also requested that each member of the Board of Directors of the School District of University City invite one member. The City Manager of University City and the Superintendent of the School District have each been asked to make three appointments to this task force.

The Mayoral liaison to the Task Force on Year-Round Aquatics will preside at the meetings of the group until such time as the task force members determine how to organize their work in a productive manner, at which time the members will decide on its leadership structure and consider all Task Force members for the leadership positions established.