

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 1986

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ADVERTISING FOR
BIDS FOR NEW
BLAKELY POOL

PROJECT AUTHORIZED

CC-27 (b)
CC-55

Following review of the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission concerning the construction of the additional swimming pool at Blakely Park, Council, on motion of Council Member Hinchman, Snider second, authorized the advertisement for bids on the new pool incorporating the modifications recommended by staff.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

TO: THE CITY COUNCIL FROM: THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE	DATE September 17, 1986	NO.
SUBJECT: BLAKELY POOL PROJECT		

PREPARED BY: City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council review the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission concerning the construction of the additional swimming pool at Blakely Park and take action as deemed appropriate.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The 1986 Capital Improvement Program adopted by the City Council in January, 1986 included funding for the construction of a second swimming pool at Blakely Park utilizing Community Development Block Grant monies. The Parks and Recreation Department staff was directed by its new department head to critically review the proposed project and to recommend modifications, if any, for consideration. This review opportunity was extended to representatives of the "swim community". Input from those involved in the various aspects of the City's aquatics program was deemed to be important. This review resulted in several recommendations concerning the construction of this pool. Some of these recommendations were initially viewed in the light of enhancing the pool's use from a "competitive pool" standpoint, i.e. swim meets. As the review continued, some of these modifications began to be viewed more from their enhancement of the safety aspects of the pool more so than making this neighborhood pool a facility for competitive swimming.

The initial recommendation to the City Council from the Parks and Recreation Commission was that the benefits of the modifications proposed did not justify the additional expenditure, estimated at approximately \$65,000. The major portion of the additional cost was in the construction of pool gutters (\$32,000) and underwater lighting (\$20,000). When this matter was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission at its regular meeting of September 2, 1986; the Commission had serious concerns that the added expenditure would detrimentally affect other Parks and Recreation Department projects budgeted elsewhere. The Commission was not made aware of the fact that \$70,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds had been made available for reallocation as a result of the reconstruction of the rest rooms on the north side of Lodi Lake Park being funded via another State grant. This project was intended to be funded with Community Development Block Grant funds.

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At its regular meeting of September 3, 1986, the City Council directed the staff to approach the Parks and Recreation Commission a second time and advise the Commission of the availability of these funds, the question being, would the Commission have voted differently armed with this information. A special Commission meeting was held on September 10, 1986. In addition to the Parks and Recreation Director, staff in attendance included the City Manager, Community Development Director and Associate Planner, Rick Barnum, the City's in-house expert in the Community Development Block Grant program.

At the conclusion of the staff presentation, which included a review of a number of alternate projects for which the additional \$70,000 might be utilized, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to recommend to the City Council that the Council authorize the advertisement for bids on the new Blakely Park swimming pool incorporating the modifications recommended by staff. The Commission's revised recommendation to the City Council is a result of the Commission's evaluation and analysis of those modifications which appear appropriate from a safety and pool use flexibility standpoint. The pool lights, for example, provide the opportunity for evening swim functions. The gutters serve to increase swimmer safety by providing an easy "grab on" point. Gutters are also valuable in conducting swimming lessons.

The staff will be pleased to answer any questions Councilmembers may have in regard to this item, and provide whatever additional information may be requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas A. Peterson
City Manager

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