

Is there anything else you'd like to tell us that you feel is important as we work through this project.

Our family honestly doesn't need a lot of bells and whistles. We need a convenient, affordable, trusted location for swimming lessons and family open swim time. Living in West Olympia, losing the downtown Y was a big blow - and even then, the monthly membership fee was not really worth it to us when we really only wanted the pool access. The same is true of Tumwater Valley. Discover Aquatics is way too expensive and Evergreen no longer has public access. My kids are 5 and 9 and have not been able to access swimming lessons since the downtown Y closed. Being able to swim is an important life and safety skill.

You must have partners and a design that achieves a net-neutral annual operating budget.

The People's Pool in Tacoma is a great example of an aquatic center near my house that my family loves.

This is desperately needed!

I'm less interested in the expensive amenities beyond lap pool, but know they'll be popular with families, so suggest balancing what can be affordable (ie not the whole crazy list of amenities omg!) with what can get done quickly.

Those other things sound like an (expensive) maintainability nightmare, so I prefer something simpler that is safe and affordable over the bells and whistles of river/diving/zero depth/instructional pool (?!), etc.

Lap pool plus a kid feature sounds like a reasonable balance to me.

Please also make public transit accessible, offer lockers and showers, maybe laundry, and let folks without homes in to clean up as desired. Could benefit community as well as people who can afford to drive long distance to pools now.

Right now, only people who can afford it can offer their kids swim lessons. Since drowning is the leading cause of death for kids in this county, this is a serious safety issue. Having a public pool where kids can get access to quality, affordable swim lessons is super important.

Also, social mores have changed since a lot of pools were built, but the locker rooms haven't caught up. Having private changing areas and showers is crucial, which can add to the cost but is worth it.

With the closure of Evergreen state's pool, we desperately need more swimming space in Olympia.

I grew up in a small town in Wisconsin that had an amazing city owned/run community pool. We spent so much time swimming and playing there and my parents and grandparents still swim there weekly. It is widely used by the community. When I moved to Olympia 20 years ago I was surprised that there was not a public pool of any sort. All we have here are the YMCA, The Valley Athletic Club and Discover Aquatics, none of which serve the purpose of a city run pool and none of them are very nice in my opinion. Thanks! Excited about the possibility of finally having an aquatic center!

Hours for people to swim before work and after work is a must

Please build this! I would love to have another option for swimming during the winter months in our area and having water fitness options.

Thank you! This is MUCH NEEDED.

I'm Excited!

Ideally would have an indoor/outdoor component

Having it in a centrally located area either in West Olympia or perhaps as a replacement to the Tumwater brewery eye sore buildings

Please make it safe and welcoming for all people.

Kids swim activities are priority

There are currently no swimming options that are accessible by bus, and few that are easily accessible by bike. I would LOVE to have a place to go on hot days to cool down, or a sauna to warm up in on cold winter days. Swimming is one of my favorite activities and it's great exercise, but I don't get to do it nearly as much as I would like because of accessibility issues. Zero depth entry is also VERY important for wheelchair accessibility and for folks who lack the flexibility or strength to get in and out of a traditional pool.

SALINE POOL

There needs to be a balance with the type amenities at the aquatic center. Don't have it be all for kids with play structures and slides and don't have it all be for adults with lap swimming. Have a mixture so that everyone can use it. Also, it would be really nice to have it mostly indoor, but also have a seasonal outdoor pool area.

I really wish we'd had this when my daughter was little - swimming was such an important part of my childhood and I feel she missed out.

I feel that it is important for families and kids to have a place to learn to swim since we live so close to the ocean and other bodies of water. Children need more outdoor activities in our community as well as their parents.

I feel that an affordable place to learn to swim should be available to all the children of our community. Likewise water therapy activities should be accessible to all our elders. Also--when our children were younger they would have really enjoyed a leisure water park; I expect we would have used it often.

We need a better recreational pool options in Thurston county. I hate having to drive to other cities for a recreational pool for my kids to play in. I would suggest an indoor center so it could be used year round.

This should be #1 priority especially w loss of indoor ymca pool.

It would be amazing if this potential project could offer deep low-income discounts or low entry price options. Swimming in Olympia is expensive and it would be amazing for families to have this resource! Activity rooms/party rooms could be helpful for bringing in revenue.

Since moving to Oly in 2005 from Germany I felt that an aquatic center is sorely missing in this area. Germans are spoiled - almost every city, even small ones, have city owned indoor and outdoor pools. I spent a large portion of my youth at city pools in summer and winter. Here we have alternatives for water activity in summer with an abundance of lakes, but for the most part of the year there is no notable offering. Facilities at YMCA or the Valley are so limited - an area like Thurston County can do better for its community. I am so thrilled that this is finally looked at!!!! YAY!!!!!!!!!!!!

This would be wonderful

I am a parent of two elementary aged children. A public pool is the single biggest desire I have heard peers express since I became a parent. Families with children deeply desire this type of facility. I have been a member at the Valley Athletic Club for 7 years, primarily for access to the pool for my kids. This is not an affordable option for many families, however! I would like to see a pool facility that is accessible to a range of residents in our community. I don't use lap swim facilities but I feel that would be very important to a lot of people, and I can attest to kid-friendly facilities being very important to families with young children.

This area needs an aquatic center—I can't believe it doesn't have one!

I love the Chehalis pool as a model for one here, but indoors. They have something for everyone.

Please consider diversity and equity issues as you plan for access to this facility. Consider scholarships and alternative payment plans.

Please do this, it's desperately needed in our community!!

While I would love outdoor water park features, it does not make sense in our climate to focus there. Indoor recreational leisure and swim lessons are our household priorities.

Town pools are a central gathering place in many towns. I've wanted one in Olympia for nearly 40 years.

Extremely overdue. Numerous counties and communities with fewer resources / smaller tax base than ours have impressive public aquatic centers. Embarrassing that the State Capital lacks one.

Let's go! We need swimming in the south sound!!

This is SO needed in our area. I am totally in support of this project.

give thought to the potential revenue that a regional 50m competition center could bring. the King Aquatic Center would be a good example

Kid friendly features would be an excellent complement to the hands on children's museum, and no place nearby has fun affordable swimming options year round.

I think it is important to have an indoor facility like the one in Snohomish. This county needs more indoor recreation for kids to do in the winter months.

This is a very much needed facility in our community

Having another centrally located facility available for swim teams to practice and for hosting swim meets plays a significant role in whether or not kids are able to participate in their local school swim teams. Thank you for considering this.

Please consider funding evergreen state college's pool so it can reopen to the public. They need funds for lifeguards and money for fixing things up. It would help since a new facility would take a while to get done.

The pool needs to be accessible without an annual or monthly membership.

We need pools in Olympia that don't freeze kids and are easy access. Affordable to everyone!

Those outside of Olympia would have an opinion as well. Many of us frequent the area

Please take a look at the one in Snohomish - it is incredible.

We need a safe place for kids to play and get to know water safety...especially in the wet and cold winter months!

I feel like Olympia is seriously lacking aquatic facilities. I would encourage two Olympic size seasonal pools and two additional indoor pools - one for the Eastside & Westside. Sadly here on the Westside Evergreen State College pool is not open to the public!! Please continue to pursue funding for more aquatic resources! Thanks

We lived in Littleton Colorado and had one of these facilities. It was so so wonderful. Please bring it to Olympia. We have so few options for swimming here! Indoor and outdoor would be great. Expect a crowd though!

You might look at how a water park has positively impacted Moses WA, Athol ID (Silverwood) and Tumwater WA.

Thank you so much for taking on this project, it is wonderful to see the city invested in the health and wellness of our residents!

Please make this happen--I do not understand how there are so many options in Pierce Cty and Chehalis but not in Olympia

So happy to see this survey. It would be nice to have another aquatic facility IN a central location in Olympia. When the downtown YMCA closed, it highly impacted the Briggs Y. Please check out the New aquatics In Yakima, Wa. It's a busy place and well attended...even during Covid.

A salt option vs chlorine for sanitation.

I often hear comments about how expensive indoor water facilities are to maintain. Nobody every complains when we build new roads how expensive they are to maintain. Recreation should be just as central to our city planning as transportation.

The disappearance of public pools from areas was moved closely tied to racism as while communities desired to block people of color from using these facilities. This history is disgusting and I hope Olympia leads the way in ensuring access to public pools. Access to a public pool plays a significant role in how likely a child is to learn how to swim. Access to such facilities also impacts what sports are accessible to a child and increases the likelihood a child will grow into an active adult as they has adequate opportunities for physical activity that they enjoy.

Lastly, these facilities are very important for individuals with mobility issues and the low impact of water activity can provide a recreation and physical activity opportunity for those who may not be able to participate in other sports. This facility is desperately needed in Olympia. We drive all the way to Seattle and Vancouver to access something similar. It's horrible that Olympia does not have something like this.

A pool is a wholesome place for kids and adults to recreate. A family destination for recreation. Good for young and old a like.

Love City of Olympia Parks!!!!

Affordable, close and large would be amazing!

An aquatics facility would be a gift to our community.

I think an aquatics center that's accessible to all and offers swimming and recreation programs would be awesome!

Please, please make this affordable for those of us who are fixed/low income. Also, please consider those of us without children who would appreciate adult only sessions and/or areas.

Please - so important to have accessible fun's new affordable activities
For the community

There are very few affordable pool options in this county. It would be nice to have it and make it available for families and households of all income levels

Please build this as soon as possible!

We are thrilled you are considering this. We have been driving to Pierce and King county to play or swimming in understaffed lakes and rivers. Thank you City of Olympia!

No

This is something our community really needs!

Thurston county has no community pools currently. This is something severely lacking in our community. They Y and the Valley require memberships. The NTSD high school pools have very limited availability. The Evergreen pool has closed indefinitely. Discovery Aquatics has limited access as well. As a lifelong swimmer, I have never lived in a community with such horrid swimming resources. I know we are in the midst of a pandemic and things like a community pool may not seem like a priority, but this pandemic will eventually end and having a quality community aquatic center would bring decades of benefit to our community. Having a quality aquatic center would also greatly contribute to the health, safety and well-being of the citizens of Thurston county. Increased availability to swim lessons could save lives by preventing drownings; increased access to lap swimming and water exercise classes could contribute to the general health of our county's citizens. Also, a quality swimming/aquatics venue could bring visitors from around the state for events like regional swim meets or just to play at the cool new water park. Finally, as a life long competitive swimmer, I am pained by how fragmented our competitive swimming community is here in Olympia. One quality pool (preferably 50m x 25yd) could support and unify both age group and US Master's swimmers to form quality swimming programs for the years to come.

This is so exciting! My kids would live in the water if they could. What a great family recreation opportunity.

Making this facility as equitable and affordable as possible for the entire community.

I think this would be great for our community.

No

Please remember inclusive bathrooms and changing areas for single parents with opposite gendered children and trans people so that they feel safe.

Thank you for working on this! This are *really* needs an aquatic facility. Just look at the spray parks on hot days. Why isn't Lacey mentioned as a prospective partner?!? Thanks!

If this facility is built, it should have adult only events or swim times for adults like me who love to swim but don't want to swim with or near splashing children. Also, therapeutic activities should allow for adult only rehab and relax time.

Prioritizing accessibility features for people with disabilities!!! Especially creating features for universal accessibility, rather than just add-on features. REALLY want a publicly accessible outdoor pool!!!

Swimming is an activity that supports a lifetime of healthy activity and safety around water. Let's encourage people of all ages to get involved in swimming! Olympia badly needs more pool capacity, especially for lap swimming early in the morning and after work in the evenings. Thanks!

Not sure if this money couldn't be used in a better way, such as helping with the homeless crisis.

I've often felt frustrated by the lack of aquatic recreational facilities in our area because there are none.

This is so needed in Olympia. We have water all around us and everyone should be water safe. We desperately need an aquatic facility as we do not have a public one.

Please make this affordable for EVERYONE if you do it.

It would be amazing that have access to community pools.

It's long overdue. Especially a state with so much water, it's difficult to find a facility that offers swimming lessons.

In my experience managing an aquatic facility, scheduling and prioritizing how the pool is used is the most significant challenge. I would hope learn to swim, youth and senior programs to have priority (even if they are not the most vocal constituencies or highest paying customers). These populations are most in need and building healthy communities and active swimmers begins with these demographics. I would also love to see a scholarship program and targeted campaigning to communities traditionally marginalized and most highly impacted by risk of drowning (due to lack of opportunities and access, historically). This data is important to unpack (see USA Swimming Foundation, University of Memphis, and YMCA studies). I don't have very deep pockets, but I'd definitely check a box to add an additional membership fee in order to fund these scholarships and the outreach. Staffing marketing/outreach with people of color, Spanish and Vietnamese speaking if possible, LGBTQ, and partner with local colleges (internships, Americorps, independent learning contracts @ Evergreen, for example) would be my recommendation. And I'd work to help make this happen.

We need public pools! Also, please consider support for competitive diving.

Even before the pandemic but especially now, having this outdoor only is a huge importance. It can work in our climate! Every summer we drive to Chehalis to the Gail and Carolyn Shaw Aquatic

Center weekly. It's very popular and all outdoors. We need an outdoor public pool option here in Oly very much.

This is such a great idea. We lived in Gunnison Colorado for 2 years and they had a swimming pool with zero depth entry, resistance, water sprayers, a small kid slide, big kid water slides, lap pool and jets in the pool. This was the place for parents with small kids and all ages. I can't say enough about the value this would have in our community. Also I think it is important to add the indoor component. We really don't need an outdoor pool here, it just isn't a good use of resources for the amount of time. Many families would really benefit from this and I so wish we already had it. When we moved back here with a 1 and 3 year old, the pool was the thing I missed the most from Gunnison.

Safety a top concern and sustainability is very important.

Disabled access to pool with assisted entry. Remember that need.

As someone with Rheumatoid Arthritis, our community is in dire need of water fitness facilities that are accessible and not cost-prohibitive. Having this in our area would greatly increase my quality of life. Thank you for considering this project.

It seems like we are an awfully large urban area to be without a public, indoor pool.

I wish there could be a combo indoor/outdoor facility

As a person who groups up in competitive swimming, it really breaks my heart to NOT see not even one public swimming pool in Thurston County. Knowing how to swim can save your life or someone else's. It is especially important to know how to swim in a place where there are multiple lakes and next to the sound. I am shocked Thurston county still does not have a public swimming pool.

Affordable access to a facility like this is if important consideration for our community.

This is great! It will significantly benefit our community.

Olympia is in desperate need of another aquatic facility especially one that does not require a membership to use.

Should be developed expeditiously

I think that the city of Olympia has more important issues to spend their money on. Only a small percentage of the population would use a pool. While a pool would be nice for some, it's not for everyone.

We desperately need a public pool that is cheaper than The Valley!

Something like this is so needed in our community! My family and I have to drive out of town to access such a resource.

It is criminal that OSD has NO pools and that TESC has refused to be available to the community for the past couple years and that only recently has Parks and Rec developed the new spray park. Olympia NEEDS aquatic opportunities.

I wish it were already done! Thanks!

This has been our most wished for city amenity. A public pool is a necessity for this community.

Although there is no youth in my immediate household, I have a little (through BBBS) that loves swimming. It would have been nice to go swimming this year. Personally I want to swimming, but I don't like having to pay a gym membership when the only thing I want to use is the pool.

Our kids are older now but this would have been greatly appreciated when they were younger. I grew up in Eugene, which had an public outdoor pool facility and now has an indoor fun water park set up as well. It's definitely something our city should have and would add value. Other key component is to keep entry fee low!!!

Having visited Iceland twice and been so impressed with their aquatic facilities, I'm extremely supportive of having a swimming facility that meets the needs of all ages. Given that we spend at least 4-5 months primarily indoors, having an aquatic facility seems like a no-brainer to me. I'm very excited that City of Oly is looking at this option in a proactive way. Would be such a great addition to our community!

We've been waiting for a local public pool for years! Thank you for considering!!

I wish there were more activities available in the area for young children including preschool kids. We have a granddaughter and enjoy having adventures with her. I am always on the lookout for events where we can have fun together and/or learn some new things. A community pool would be a wonderful outing for families and grandparents to enjoy.

Thank you!

Please include access/inclusion of physical facilities and in programs for disabled children and adults. The water allows more physical freedom for many but there are no facilities offering lessons for disabled children in the area. It is a safety issue that all children should know how to swim.

If you really want people's input you should choose a better platform that doesn't make people register.

It was such a loss when the downtown YMCA pool facility closed

Please pursue this option. It will serve the community well. My preference is a downtown Olympia location with parking.

Please prioritize saltwater pool system for the health and safety of everyone (allergies and asthma reduced). We need this pool! Thank you so much!!!

Olympia is the first town I've ever lived in that did not have a municipal aquatic facility. That has always disappointed me and my family. The community would really benefit from having one! Thanks.

A place to swim year round has so many benefits for our youth. Please bring this to Olympia!

We need a space that accommodates a host of activities. I know people always want to engage youth, but please consider adults-only swims/classes/etc.

It's very exciting! There are 3 total pools in Thurston county - 2 at Briggs YMCA and one at Discovery, so need some public aquatic center with a broader range of activities (competitive swimming, water park/slide, etc.)

I have waited a very long time for this opportunity 30+ years and an aquatics center is so needed in our community. I am very strongly supportive of this effort. Since the closure of the Evergreen State College pool there are few options for lap swimming. Teaching swimming should also be a priority as it is life skill and saves lives. Great communities have great aquatic centers.

Grants for letting w income swim lessons, robust lesson program, junior lifeguard program

This is so important to Olympia families. We have a membership to the Valley only for the pool. We travel to Chehalis for their pool several times a season. Their pool is awesome! Not everyone has the capacity to do this. It's so important to have a public facility where our kids can learn to swim!

Great idea. Huge need for indoor recreation!

In the summer we often go to lakes and swimming holes so something that we can do in the winter would be really great. Also, you are an amazing team for being able to work on this project when it feels like we will never be able to do indoor recreation stuff again.

An aquatic play area in Olympia is a great idea!

CLEAN locker rooms. Have "family room" for families and transgender. Keep male/female rooms SEPARATE.

Perfect idea and can't wait

Youth drownings have historically been the leading cause of unintentional child death in Thurston County for children 1 to 14. Families need a place for their children to learn to swim, and schools need a place for swim lessons and high school swim teams. Our community is woefully behind other communities in this aspect.

I think any aquatic facility should be accessible to everyone. I know projects like this take a lot of money but ensuring that the facility is Ed eloped you accommodate everyone and that the cost of entrance to such a facility is accessible to many families at different income brackets is very important to grow our community.

Our community desperately needs an indoor place for kids to swim and play.

Consider alternatives to chlorinated water.

Build in a place with lots of parking. Consider a combo recreational center with a field.

In addition to being great exercise, swimming lessons save lives. Unfortunately, there are very few places in Thurston county to receive swim lessons. This facility could be a great addition to the community, especially during the winter. I would suggest not trying to re-create Great Wolf Lodge. But instead focus on exercise and instruction opportunities.

Our schools need a local pool to train and compete!!!

I think adding an aquatic facility in Olympia is a wonderful idea and I wish it would've been around when my kids were younger. We currently access the Valley Athletic Club pool, which is great for lap swimming and free swim. What the Valley pool is missing is a pool where kids can be on a lazy river with other water features built into the area.

Global warming and algae blooms in lake makes an outdoor pool needed. Indoor pool is needed too for year long exercise.

Must limit attendance to community members from

Oly and Tumwater, if those are the only cities paying for the project.

Rumor has it that when Oly HS got the stadium Capital HS was supposed to get a pool. That never happened. Maybe the school district can help with this project.

Make it happen. It is long overdue. However don't make it expensive, it has to be affordable for ALL families.

There is a great lack of recreation opportunities in Olympia, especially when the weather is bad. An aquatic facility would be a good investment.

While I am a resident of pierce county, I would visit Olympia more if this facility was available

Outdoor pool

Apart from the Valley, there is nothing in this area that offers a comparable recreational swim experience. Setting membership rates/entry fees at competitive prices with those at the Valley would bring in a lot of swimmers.

PLEASE build this facility, would love to have a community building available for my family to swim, we have really been missing it! Thank you so much for considering this, it would mean a lot to our family as we all love swimming.

Prioritize low chemical options like salt water up or ozone sterilization

I feel very strongly that an outdoor pool is crucial.

Indoor and outdoor facilities are important - don't do one without the other

Do more for single working adults. Provide recreational lap swimming 430-7 everyday and lunchtime

Good ventilation so it isn't too humid

Olympia is in need of a indoor pool. I think the concept of having a seasonal outdoor in addition to an indoor pool is needed. Olympia lacks safe fun water activities for kids in the summer unless you are willing to pay well over \$100 a month (closer to \$150).

I think an aquatics center is a prime need for community engagement. I fully support the idea.

We need this pool NOW

Kids in our community NEED something like this. The cold rainy days of WA make venturing out for a fun "ACTIVE" outing or even birthday party often make options so very limited. This indoor water park/playground would give so many parents a great option for their kids to do something fun that promotes physical activity & no screen time!

To have indoor and outdoor swimming please

This would be amazing for the community. There is nothing like it around. I grew up in a community with an amazing community center with a large aquatic facility. It was one of the best parts of growing up in that community. Olympia is very much in need of something like this.

I think this would be a huge draw for families seeking swimming lessons and indoor/outdoor recreational swimming!

I see that Tumwater is in partnership with Olympia on this. Lacey should be paying for part of it too if it is a facility that is accessible to the region. The population of Lacey is similar to Olympia's and with their real estate development, they will have a bigger population than Oly by the time this aquatic facility is built so they have a bigger tax base. They should contribute proportionally.

I am very glad to think about Olympia families not being forced to pay for the expensive memberships at The Valley and YMCA due to absolute lack of options here. We have so much water around us - kids need to learn to swim.

We need more pools. The high schools from the Olympia school district use the Evergreen State College pool. It is not only expensive, but shared between multiple teams. I will not be able to use the pool myself, but for future swimmers, it is important.

Right now I go to Lacey to do aqua class

I want it to be clear that if Lacy and Tumwater residents use it, they pay, too

A pool that can work for many different sports and rec is very important to our area.

We need more competition pools in Olympia. Local swim teams are overwhelmed and have long waitlists because of the lack of pools. There is only one competition pool that is approved by USA Swimming for competition and that is the Evergreen state college pool. One competition pool in all of Olympia. We need more pools!

No

This would be amazing to have an option other than the Y which is usually busy with swim teams or the local gym that has limited hours/facilities. I would much rather support my local community than a national corporation.

This region has needed more indoor recreation opportunities for years. Once the rain starts, there are so few things available to do and they are all crowded. An indoor, heated, PUBLIC pool has been sorely lacking.

Actually my responses are moot because we are moving in a couple of years. We've given up on this City, that is more concerned with enabling those who don't contribute, rather than supporting constructive social activities for young families to grow children into socially responsible adults and break the chain of disfunction. We have felt that a public aquatics facility would have greatly contributed towards this end, and have been asking for one for years! Note that 99% of other towns our size have public pools.

It would be awesome if this facility really focused on swim practice and training, It's an amazing full body workout and all people benefit from being trained swimmers, for their safety.

Even though I wouldn't be a frequent user, I took my kids to swimming lessons faithfully when younger and see it as an important safety/life skill for youth!

We really need a public pool option! Aberdeens is great and could be a model.

Thank you!

As a former director of parks and recreation, I managed a variety of aquatic centers and pools. By far, the ones with zero depth entry, along with slides and water play features, were super successful and well attended. I think having it available year round (indoor) would make it a success in Olympia. Summers are not really hot enough for an outdoor facility.

Adult Exercise classes are what I would appreciate the most.

There is an outstanding aquatic facility in Victoria, BC. If our aquatic facility was like that one, I would go there every day.

Yay! Pools!

Please consider multiple locations it's a big county

We need a nice aquatic center in the city of Olympia.

A community pool is something that has been missing in this community, now that the YMCA downtown has closed, options are very limited. This would be a great long term investment for Olympia area

Please complete this project ASAP. This is highly needed in our area and would be used tremendously!

I don't understand how Pierce County can have soooo many of these type of facilities, and the county below us (Lewis?) has one very cool outdoor aquatics center that has a line out there door for an hour or more just to get in, and west of us (Aberdeen) and north of us Mason has an aquatics facility and on and on but here in Thurston we have nothing that compares. We are in a very family focused demographic that would heavily support and patron this kind of facility. I have been asking this questions since we moved here (18 years ago) - where are all of the public aquatic facilities. So yes, I'm thrilled the conversation is finally starting and that a near future project is being considered. YAY Parks and Rec!!!

Please design for wheelchair and have some non gender bathrooms, Not just one.

This should be a priority project. There are so few swim lesson options here and we are surrounded by water!

I'll be coming from Montana

Please, please, please build a pool that is minimum 25 yards for lap swim. I'm so tired of short pools.

Please! We would love this!

Glad you are considering this. Having public swimming options year round is very important.

Do or do not. There is no "try".

Our community is in dire need of a pool! Can you research a salt water pool as well? Thanks so much for this!

An aquatics center is so needed in Thurston county!!

Make this happen! Thanks for your efforts thus far.

Hot showers!

We are so disappointed that TESC swimming pool is no longer open to the public. There are really very few opportunities for kids and adults to swim in Olympia. Please, our family has been wanting more swimming pool options in Olympia for more than a decade. Thank you and best wishes!

I have dreamed of this for years!

Most pools in the area are too warm for exercise and way way too crowded.

I think this is something that is really missing from Olympia. It will be very exciting

The Olympia area SORELY needs a public aquatic facility for swim teams, lap swimmers, swim lessons, elderly fitness, etc. All the pools in the area are prohibitively expensive and it would be so so appreciated to have another option!

A public swimming facility would be a great addition to the Olympia area.

The location, or locations of such a facility would be a big factor in determining our use frequency. Closer to Olympia/Tumwater core would be most preferable. Our community is in great need of an aquatics facility for swim programs, water safety, recreation, and lifelong fitness.

Top priority, I'm old!

Accessibility to aquatic activities for all income levels is very important to our family.

We desperately need a pool!!!!

We would love a play structure and warm pools. We go to the Great Wolf Lodge 4 times a year just to use their pools.

I would like for there to be an affordable place for my grandchildren to learn to swim.

Olympia really needs an indoor swimming pool, especially since Evergreen's CRC pool closed to the public.

Please construct a community pool with lap lanes. If you build it, we will use it.

It's about time!

The two Olympia HS need their own pools for competition and can no longer rely on Evergreen for their aquatic use. Each HS swim program has strong participation so there is already a base of support for a city-involved facility. It is also clear with the downtown fountain and westside spray ground use (pre-covid) that water play space is important to our community. Build this and people will come!

Competitive training and competition space is greatly needed for our Olympia area communities and schools. . This space will quickly fill out with demands from USS and High School swimming programs so the pool should be 50 meters long with bulkheads to divide into two separate 25 yard pools or a 12 lane, 25 yard pool. There should also be a separate, shallower, and warmer learn to swim pool.

This project is way over due! Having lived in this area for over 30 years I can attest that the pool access situation is sad. Smaller communities around our state have done much better job at having a pool that meets the demands recreational and competitive swimming. Pool access at TESC is determined by their student needs and programming is centered on that single focus. TESC does not want regional emphasis. Pools within the NTSD (managed by Lacey Parks) are great but are too pragmatic with limited flexibility in access and programming that emphasizes competitive swimming. The Valley and YMCA pools have specific clients and one of those two will lobby against additional community pool resources. The partnership between Olympia, Tumwater and Lacey plus the associated school districts should be an easy win-win that greatly enhances our community cultural experience in the lower puget sound area.

My current desires and uses for a pool have definitely changed as my family has aged. I've lived in Olympia for 20 years and been raising a family that whole time and have always been frustrated at

the lack of pool recreation opportunities. The Valley was always the best option for the type of pool use I wanted, but was too expensive for us at that time.

My autistic grandson greatly loves the pool, currently we drive to tacoma to visit the pool. Would be nice to support a facility in our community

We can't wait for the Kaiser woods bike park!!!

Learning to swim is a safety issue! With so much water around here we need kids to be safe.

Let's do this! Tax me and make this happen.

There is room for a Regional Aquatics Facility at the port's New Market Industrial Campus off Kimmie St. In Tumwater.

This area needs a facility like this. It would serve a great need in the community. We are a water based community and swimming should be a part of that identity.

Very excited and hopeful for an aquatic center!!!

There is no water polo programs in this area (I grew up in CA where this was a big part of my recreation.) cities north of Olympia have water polo programs and we need one too. We have diverse families who are looking for these programs/opportunities in this area.

The aquatic center in chehalis is where my family goes every summer. The price is right and the facility is just perfect for entertaining all kids ages- it's been perfect for us! We only wish there was one in Thurston County.

It's about time we had a public swimming facility available to residents of Olympia. Our children are now grown but it was always a challenge to find a place for them to learn to swim, and now that I am a senior with arthritis, I would very much appreciate easy access to a pool for therapeutic exercise as well as lap swimming.

The Lap or competitive pool should be adaptable with an open roof during the summer. The center should be located in Downtown Olympia, perhaps the site of the old Community Center Block at

Henry and 4th avenue. This would greatly benefit family services to the Eastside, as well as being located in the City.

Our community needs a big aquatic swim structure and has always needed it. I have gone out of my way to find pools (TESC when I first moved here, The Valley currently) and would love to see a municipal pool available. It needs to be BIG or we need more than one!

We need a accessible public pool with year round swimming and play for our children and youth

Please build a much needed community pool! Olympia and Tumwater school districts as well as the public would benefit greatly from this!

a basic facility sooner, rather than an elaborate plan that is debated for years and years and never happens

No thanks-exciting

Separate kids, adult and lessons to meet needs of adults as a priority too. Usually priority is always to kids

our community needs a pool facility for ADULTS. Ymca is primarily friendly towards children. Adults need water exercise opportunities during winter especially

There are many ways to make aquatics viable in our community. We have a long dark winter, the ability to have options to swim/compete will allow us to become a premier swimming city and an example of a healthy balanced town.

This county needs a place for kids to develop into swimmers!

Make this affordable for all and available for all age groups!

Swimming in Olympia is impossible unless you belong to an expensive facility like the Valley or YMCA. We lost the downtown pool and have no public outdoor pool. Thank you for considering this!

Get Lacey and the county involved

Don't forget about the opportunities that water polo can bring our community, both boys and girls, ages elementary through high school. We have to drive to University Place Multiple times a week (pre-Covid) in order to play. North of here there are teams, south of here there are teams, but there's a big empty gap in Olympia.

An accessible and affordable community pool with lap swimming, recreational swimming, and lessons was part of our last community and helped us and our community stay healthy.

- 1) Consider minimizing the use and reliance on bleach and other chemicals in constructing the pool. There are many who can't use most pools in the area due to chemical sensitivities.
- 2) If you do offer a chlorine area, please consider also offering a non-chlorinated, natural pond type area.
- 3) Consider ozone/UV and other alternatives to chlorine. Look at Icelandic requirements and how they are able to minimize the use of chemicals.
- 4) Consider using materials recycled and local
- 5) Consider consulting with the tribes and especially the one who historically owned the land you plan to use for the facility. the facility should include the wishes of the tribe.

Make it happen!

My dream list: For the pool, choose a prominent location that draws attention of all who pass through the city. Combine it with a multi-purpose sports/event center similar to Comcast Arena in Everett, Toyota Center in Kennewick. Add outdoor playfields, skate park, rock climbing, etc. Tear down the Brewery eyesore, develop a new freeway interchange for Tumwater and build a regional sports/events center there.

A public, indoor pool has been needed for too long. All my life I have heard about this lack that Olympia has.

Many children do not have the option of outdoor swimming in the summer. Outdoor swimming is part of summer and should be available - low cost- in all cities

We have needed this project since the 1970s when I was growing up here. It's about time this is done. The other local options are not accessible for everyone. Strangely there are multiple options in Tacoma. If this is finally completed, maybe my grandchildren will be able to enjoy this recreational option.

Plans for clean and safe recreation.

This is long overdue. The facility should foster all sports (water polo, swimming, diving), recreation (scuba, lap swimming) and fun (slides, sprays for kid parties, activities). I have seen these in many other communities. We can do it too. I know there is a resistance for increasing taxes. Maybe better PR - showing other communities successes. There are very low interest rates now.

We travel to other cities to use their pool facilities, we would love to spend our time and money in Olympia.

If you could install an underwater sound system this would be INCREDIBLE! Listening to sound underwater is so much fun and relaxing. This type of amenity would set your pool apart from all other pools in the area. It would be a good marketing point.

Also, having an outdoor swimming area for summer swimming is one of my top reasons for belonging to the valley athletic club. If you offered this option I would be open to switching memberships. The main reason why I'm a member of the valley and not other athletic clubs is because of the pool.

Lastly, having high-quality lifeguards is essential. As a longtime lifeguard myself (20 years) I know the difference between average and excellent. Preventative lifeguarding is key.

I think Olympia has needed a pool for years.

Yes. Teenagers need a place to go around here. The local pool used to be an option in many communities. Many Families can not afford to join the Y or Tumwater Valley for fun and leisure. Why can't it go in the port district or another location which is more accessible for young people or people without needing to use a car.

Our community needs a pool facility.

The only pools in the area that offer public swim options are very expensive. The average resident of Olympia cannot afford to join the Briggs YMCA or the space in Lacey. A public option is vital for Olympia.

I want to be able to safely bike to the facility.

I'm biased toward competition and exercise, but I do recognize that a family-friendly area with fun activities for young kids is also a good idea because it would help introduce young kids to swimming and how to be safe around water. EVERYONE should have the opportunity to learn how to swim. Not everyone can afford to join a club or the Y. Thanks.

Model after Vancouver, BC community centers with indoor pools

I think a public pool/aquatic park is a wonderful idea. Please make this happen!

It would be great if it didn't have a chlorine content so high that just walking in the room burns your nose

Indoor outdoor is ideal. Outdoor focused on "Play" elements, indoor focused on year round exercise and instruction. With some obvious overlap. Briggs YMCA meets GWLodge, accessible and affordable.

Having a 50 Meter competition swim pool (that can be converted to a 25 Yard pool) in this area would be a great draw since the only other pool like that in Washington is KCAC. Plus, Olympia School District could use it rather than having to rely on The Evergreen State College.

Four years is a long time and our needs will be different then than the responses i provided, but key still is that there should be a facility with access for kids to learn to swim safely. The privately operated valley is discriminatory and not friendly to all families

Thurston County is one of the fastest growing counties in our nation. An aquatic facility is essential as a health option.

Thurston county offers a ton of outdoor activities for its community, but not a ton of indoor entertainment

This is long overdue!

Thurston County needs some sort of Aquatics center. Using the school facilities is not sustainable long term. This would be a great addition to the community!

Please keep this community focused, rather than focused on school swim meets or competitive swimming. Thank you for considering a pool!!! ...and for this survey.

This is a project that our community has been talking about for many years. Please bring this to Olympia!

This feasibility study is very important. Thank you for making it happen

Indoor facilities seem more needed as we have many local lakes when weather is good. An alternate to heavily chlorine treatment or a hybrid to decrease the amount of chlorine used.

Please build us a pool!

Both of our children have been involved in aquatics since they were toddlers. It has been a challenge finding a pool in Thurston county where they can participate in leisure and competitive swimming activities. There are only three gyms in this area that even have pools. These pools are hard to access and some do not allow children under 17 even with parental supervision. I feel construction of outdoor facilities in Western Washington limits the amount of time the facility can be used to just three months a year. I feel money would be better spent on an indoor facility that could be used year round, hopefully generating income.

Thank you for moving forward with this project. This city needs this resource for winter activities!

The YMCA no longer has the pool space to support the area. Evergreen State College pool is shut down, and appears that it may stay that way.

WE NEED POOL SPACE NOW.

Thurston County has some of the most drowning deaths in the country compared to population.

Thurston County has 290k citizens, but not a single publicly and operated owned pool. HELP.

Lived here twelve years...still cannot understand why there isn't such a facility already?!

It is shameful that our high school swimmers don't have a home pool and that our district has to rent from Evergreen

We need some kind of community center for children in the middle age group.

Really needed

I miss swimming and want to be able to swim year-round in an indoor pool setting.

When I moved to Olympia I was shocked by the lack of swimming pools. Being surrounded by water I believe it is a public health issue to teach kids how to swim. Every year when I read about drownings I wonder if their lives could have been saved by proper swimming instructions which include a knowledge of hypothermia and unsafe conditions.
Additionally, providing a safe place to swim would also save lives.
If you build it, I will come, I will teach, coach, and swim.

Swimming opportunities are essential for at the least to learn water safety for communities that are otherwise underserved by private swimming options in the county

While I would not use swim meets and answered based on that I loved them as a teen and would love kids having that opportunity

If I had realized that there was no municipal swimming pool system in Thurston County, I doubt I'd have wanted to move here from Seattle - which has a fantastic municipal pool network.

Affordable swim lessons and variable open swim times for families to swim together.

It is very sad that in a community of this size we do not have a community swimming facility. Living on Puget Sound, every child should learn to swim!

Highly encourage Tumwater! Easier access for all!

I have lived in Olympia for 30 years after moving from Yakima where there were numerous public pools. I have always thought it was peculiar that a place with so many bodies of water had no public pool where people, especially children, could learn to swim and practice those skills in a controlled environment. I believe knowing how to swim is an essential skill and having a place we can go to learn and practice that skill is an essential public service. For years our only options have been joining the YMCA, a private athletic club or pool, or having your own pool. We went to the Valley for a time, but it is very expensive. We tried the YMCA for a year or two, but it was very lacking due to constant instructor changes and the number of kids in the classes. I wanted to try teaching my daughter to swim myself, but then we would both have to join making it even more expensive. My daughter is now 12 and she is not a very proficient swimmer. The only time she is able to practice is when we go on vacation and stay at a hotel with a pool. The only issue I can see with a public pool is that it will likely be very busy.

Eagerly seeking sensory activities in the area for teens on the autism spectrum. This would be amazing!

Hope location will be on a bus line
Hope there will be shade sails if the pools are outside
We are VERY excited about this project!

The Olympia community need more pool. We recently lost a pool in Downtown YMCA, and potential lost another pool at the Evergreen State College.

Yeah. I took this all to say I really don't care about a swim facility. If there's a huge grant to pay specifically for this kind of thing, great, my dad loves to swim. If not, we should be paying to build housing for the homeless, retrofit all Olympia buildings for energy efficiency, and so many other survival things before we build a luxury pool for the upper middle class. I bet a million dollars you wouldn't let a homeless family in there to use the showers and pool, so let's prioritize, shall we?

Olympia and Tumwater high schools NEED another, closer accessible pool for their swim teams. Using Evergreen College and River Ridge HS is ridiculous.

The whole community needs a bigger competition pool (at least 10 lanes so there's a warm-up/-down lane) that can bring in more revenue via bigger swim meets.

Having an indoor swimming playground would be INCREDIBLE for our community and draw people in (similar to Great Wolf Lodge) for family fun.

Is a salt water pool being considered, like Colman Pool in Seattle? This would be highly desired.

I cannot emphasize enough how passionate I am about the pool situation in the region. I am a enthusiastic preacher of the exercise, life-skills, and healing powers swimming brings into people's lives. I am very sad Evergreen has closed their pool to the public, the Valley Athletic club is cost-prohibitive for many community members, the \$25 drop in fee to the YMCA isn't a sustainable way for non-members to use the pool, the Discover Swim Center isn't a functional place for community lap swimming/exercise, and commuting to Centralia or Tacoma to find a public pool isn't reasonable. I am a strong advocate for developing public pools and would consider volunteering my energy to engage with this project.

A municipal Aquatic center is a necessity in a State Capitol city. There is only 1 pool in Olympia, which is the Briggs Y pool and it is overcrowded and not easy to get to without a car and also not able to be safely ventilated to keep it Covid-safer. With the closure of the Evergreen Pool, the Briggs Y is also unaffordable. A public pool makes sense from a water safety standpoint. All kids should know how to swim in Puget Sound.

Our area is in desperate need of a pool to access for competitive events and swim lessons. With all the bodies of water close by, we need our children to know how to swim and protect themselves.

a pool is very needed in Olympia!

its very disappointing that the City of Lacey won't participate. This is a regional need for all area residents.

Growing up in Moses Lake, the city built an aquatic center that became a state wide attraction and provided a venue for top quality competition. The community can not loose with this type of endeavor.

I think there will be a need for more than one facility unless the facility is massive. I used to live in Grays Harbor County. They have a YMCA Aquatic center and it is always packed and the population there is so much smaller than Olympia.

This should be a joint project with all three Cities and all three School Districts and Thurston County. Assuming the US is about to begin an Infrastructure Program similar to the 1930's, our new Congressional Representative should be asked to help get Federal funding for this Aquatics Center.

Two suggestions

1. Visit the combined facilities in Elgin and Springfield, Illinois. Elgin is combined with City, Hospital

and fire department. The Springfield facility is a joint YMCA and hospital.
2. Also possibly check out door facility in Sun City AZ

Olympia has a disproportionately large trans and nonbinary population and it's important that that population's needs are considered in this process. would changing rooms/shower facilities/restrooms at this facility be gendered? If so, how do you justify that? If so, how many additional single-occupancy gender-neutral changing rooms, shower facilities, and restrooms would be available? Gyms and aquatic facilities can be some of the most inaccessible types of institutions for trans and nonbinary people, and building an entirely new facility provides a huge opportunity for the City of Olympia to address that in the community at a fairly high level. Please don't waste it.

I also have concerns about physical accessibility—I assume the facility would be ADA compliant, being a public project, but that's the bare minimum and usually doesn't go far enough to make using a facility comfortable for disabled folks. Zero depth entry is hugely important for that reason alone—just personally, I genuinely don't know if I can still get in and out of a pool off the side, or even using a ladder. Like, the answer is probably, but I have enough doubt that it's a real concern. With zero depth entry I wouldn't have to worry about it. Alternatively, stair entries are much more accessible for people with limited mobility than ladders are!

What's the plan for permitting Olympia's houseless population to use the shower facilities? To be absolutely clear here, I 100% think anyone should have access to the aquatic facilities's showers, as again, the facility is available to the public, (and frankly I think the facility should also have a free laundry room available, because it's just something that makes sense, and because I would like to see the city NOT fail our houseless neighbors literally just one single time) but it just needs to be something that there's a system in place for, especially because there will be people with unwarranted and uninformed biases against houseless people and will therefore be uncomfortable with sharing the facility with them.

I do know this is just a feasibility survey and y'all probably aren't really at the stage of looking at these parts of the process yet, but frankly I don't really understand that? So I can't find it in me to care? I can't see a forest for the trees or a tree for the forest, like, I know in theory that other people and other systems work that way but it's never made sense to me. Besides, I'm literally desperate for an aquatic facility where I feel safe going swimming in a binder. I've never had that. Part of it may be my mental health, but a much bigger and more tangible part of it is that I have never had a public space to go swimming that was designed to include me. Single-occupancy stalls were always "family" changing rooms or wheelchair-accessible bathrooms and the facilities never bothered updating them (or actively chose not to!) The organizations and the staff of those facilities have never made gender neutrality a priority—rather, it's generally been brushed off as an annoyance or only picked up during pride month as a marketing tool. So it's important to me that the team working on this facility is able to keep stuff like that—like everything I've brought up here—in mind through this entire process. You aren't serving your community unless you are serving everyone in it, and serving them adequately. I'd like to say that I'm hopeful for this project, but I've watched the City of Olympia only look out for upper-middle class white people over and over so many times that I'm only just barely able to be excited at the prospect. I hope I don't get let down again.

PLEASE build a pool within the Olympia area - I don't mean Yelm Highway, Lacey or Tumwater. NTSD has a pool in every high school - Lacey also has community pool: they are set! The only pool in Oly is Evergreen's pool and they are shut down (and it looks like it will remain that way). Briggs and The Valley don't let high school teams swim there and we desperately need the facility.

We have needed a public aquatic facility for a very long time. We don't have anywhere other than the TESC pool for legitimate swim team practice, all of the clubs and teams trying to cram into time slots. We are surrounded by water and there isn't enough space to get all of the kids into swim lessons even for the most basic safety. Also with an aging population and injured soldiers in our community there is not many places to do low impact water therapy and aerobics. We need an aquatic facility in Thurston county.

I feel this is incredibly important - we have no options at the present for public access to a swimming facility, other than the YMCA, which is limited in its nature, and TESC, which is difficult to access. It should be a high priority for several reasons: to support general health in the community; to provide access to swimming lessons for kids; and to fill much needed recreational needs throughout the year. I used to live in Iowa City, IA, a city of roughly the same size as the City of Olympia, and smaller than our combined metropolitan area. There were 3 community pools in Iowa City - one was an indoor aquatic facility shared by the city and the local school district; another, an indoor pool in the downtown recreational building; and the third, an outdoor pool open during the summer months. Most kids learned how to swim in these pools and they were heavily used for both recreation and fitness. I've often wondered why the Olympia area does not offer the same opportunities to our area's residents, especially since we live in an area defined in a large part by bodies of water.

In a different economic environment I'd love for our community to have this. But given the economic crisis, loss of jobs, healthcare, housing and food insecurity, it would be immoral for so much money to go into a project like this. Please reconsider putting this money to serving our economically disadvantaged kids versus our already over privileged population.

So excited! Make it so!

Let's do this

I can't stress enough the amount of deck space needed for a competition pool to have to meet the needs of swimmers and spectators. Most pools fail to meet these needs.

I'd wait until the pandemic is over before pursuing this option.

Tumwater/Olympia are in desperate need of a community pool. It has been discussed for years with no traction. Please prioritize this project for the community.

We as a family would strongly strongly encourage the city to execute this project. It would be a game changer for the City!!

Thank you for considering this!

We currently drive to YMCA locations in other counties for play structures and similar kid-friendly amenities.

A project that fits all age groups -

This would definitely enhance our community, but I it is problematic without helping the homeless first

This is long overdue!!!!

Having a community pool would be wonderful for Olympia, especially since we cannot swim at Capitol Lake.

Thank you so much for sending out this survey! Having a community pool will benefit our community so deeply, because as someone who is passionate about water safety for all ages, not having a community pool facility besides paying for memberships is sometimes stressful and difficult. Thank you!

Why does Tuolumne County (pop 25,000) have 5 public pools and Olympia has none?

Sliding scale/affordable entrance fees as well as free swim lessons for all youth would be high priorities that I would support a tax to help fund. Current pools in the community are very costly and exclude many because of this.

There needs to be more for kids to do indoors to help keep them out of trouble.

A community pool should be available to all people of the community. A membership should not be required. (ex: YMCA, The Valley, etc.)

Do it!

Water slides good good exercise

Na

A Regional Aquatics Facility similar to the King County Aquatics Center in Federal Way would get used heavily in this area and provide a much needed space for local high school swim teams to practice and compete.

Once kids have the opportunity to learn to swim - having the swim team option would be great! I really love this idea - but I'd also like to see it be affordable so we, the community, can actually use it :) Thanks!

An Olympic size 50 meter pool is highly needed to sustain Long Course Season in our community as the closest is King County North of us or in Portland. A long course 50m pool is extremely universal with design set ups. And would boost year round revenue.

Water slides and other recreation needs can be done at lakes

Swimming is not just fun/ recreational but it is the best non impact form of exercise.

Local High Schools need a great competitive pool, where quality meets could be held with spectators . I swam for the Oly school districts and we have never had a good pool. You have had boys and girls swim programs that have been excellent and no pool for the High schools Tum too, but Oly has had teams since the 50's

This is a public safety issue. People need access to public pools in order to learn to swim. We live on the Puget Sound and all kids and adults should have access to swimming instruction. Thanks for the survey.

I'm am very excited that the city is looking into an aquatic facility. It is sorely needed here in Thurston County. I lived in a small town with a public pool for a short time before moving back to Olympia and it was heavily used and a cherished part of that small town. Olympia NEEDS an aquatic facility.

I think something like this would be well used and would be a huge draw for people to work and live here

We need more pools for competitive swimming.

Special Olympics is desperately in need of a home pool for practice and competition!

Water Aerobics classes are extremely helpful for fitness without stressing joints.

Please build it! We desperately need this community space!

Re-emphasizing the point: Lap swimming lanes are needed. There are very few that the public can use. We are limited to 6 people for the 3 month swim sessions. Registration for this is literally full within two minutes of opening. Please consider building this facility. It will serve the public in several ways.

Thurston county as a whole absolutely needs more indoor facilities for swim lessons. Please make this a priority within 3-4 years!

VERY EXCITED about the possibility of a local aquatic center! The pools in the area are small and don't meet recreational needs.

Warm water is a must! The only reason we dont go swimming more is due to the lack of availability of warm indoor leisure pool. Otherwise we'd take our kids all the time!

This is important. The Evergreen State College pool carried the burden of a regional swim center but really didn't have the resources to sustain that unofficial role. At \$5 a swim, it was great -- also great for Scout and other groups. Scout groups in the Oly-Lacey-Tumwater area now must travel to tribal pools or hope that summer facilities are available at Summit Lake, Black Lake or Long Lake, but those are often closed by algae blooms. Private facilities like The Valley long ago banned public use of their pool. The Briggs YMCA is too expensive for those who just want to swim; single use is costly at Briggs; and their downtown pool closed. Lacey really stepped up but their ability to provide lap swimming at River Ridge HS is limited. A regional aquatics center has been talked about before but the RAC got the money; private and YMCA argued they could fulfill the demand but realistically that's not available or too expensive.

The homeless population tends to take over public spaces, particularly recreation areas. How would the city ensure that this facility will remain a safe and sanitary place for families? It would be a shame to build a billion dollar facility that taxpayers can't or won't end up using.

Yes. Please check your punctuation when developing questions for the survey and please make it affordable for low-income families.

The facility design should be as inclusive as possible of community groups traditionally/historically excluded from swimming opportunities. Facility design (changing rooms, locker rooms, etc) should be sensitive to gender inclusion--though I am not sure if this would be "gender neutral" ("unisex") spaces or some other design so that everyone feels comfy in their Speedos!

We would love an aquatic center.

Indoor is a must!

Indoor facility would be nice

We need more places to swim to make mire equitable. Especially during rainy season.

Swimming is a lifesaving skill and having more options for affordable swim lessons for the public should be a priority. Having an aquatic play area for families in our community would positively impact us both emotionally and economically.

Please choose a location that would allow for free parking. A diving board feels essential for instructional swimming. A swim club for youth (or multiple for varying age groups) would be ideal, the warmer the water the more often my family will certainly be present. Having a water park that's more accessible to the expense of Great Wolf Lodge would certainly bring in revenue. The water features and party/ multi purpose rooms would set it above other local options (as well as not needing a membership or need to pay a monthly cost). Lastly, please please consider making family changing areas in addition to locker rooms, for families with single parents or other circumstances regularly requiring a child of 8 or under to be alone in a locker room otherwise because of the 5 and above gender role. This is scary for parents of places such as the Valley -- having children in locker rooms unsupervised around strangers who are naked and not being able to communicate with the small children. Family bathrooms/ changing areas are essential.

Minority groups (especially black Americans) have historically had less access to swimming facilities due to cost &/or discrimination. I think it would be important to have sliding scale rates or free scholarships so that children in low income families can have equal access here.

Is the household income really necessary for this survey?

There is no public affordable places to swim. Tumwater valley or fitness gyms needing memberships is all that is available.

The only swim option is the Y and their drop in charges are extremity high and they keep young their membership while reducing services. With so many new spray parks getting built, I don't think additional sprayers facilities are a the best investment at the new facility even though they are super fun.

This sounds so fun!! I hope it gets done.

Affordable and safe swim lessons are imperative for life safety. Salt water pools would be nice instead of Chlorine

Family dressing rooms

It will be a great addition to our growing community. The federal way community center has a fun facility we enjoy once in a while with a water slide and pool. It would be great to have it here as well.

Nope. thanks for reading this and have a wonderful day.

Black lives matter

Security measure to thwart off homeless encampments, drugs, and other crimes

Olympia needs something like Gail And Carolyn Shaw Aquatic Center in Chehalis, but bigger. Chehalis facility is awesome, but to get in on a hot day you need to be in line an hour before, there are not enough seating spots and the small capacity.

We need a facility as quickly as possible that is accessible to everyone. I believe 4 to 6 years will be too long. Please gather data from the local pools currently to speed up this development.

I strongly recommend the play structure water park type. The kids In This area need something like this. Great wolf lodge is expensive and wild waves is far and so is the other water park In Chehalis/Centralia. Thank you for your time

Kids need activities

It is critical to the south sound area to have an indoor water recreational area. The closest is Federal way. It's crazy to think we have to travel that far!

Just is so needed but keeping it affordable for the AVERAGE household is a must, We looked into the YMCA off Yelm highway and could not afford the monthly dues,

It is very exciting to hear about a feasibility study for an aquatics center in this region. Pierce County YMCA facilities/aquatic programs are an excellent example of how much these facilities are needed and how communities support them.

Residents of Thurston county have access to an abundance of lakes, rivers and saltwater but very limited options for swimming instruction, which is critical for water safety. Currently, access to swimming pools for recreation, competition and instruction is extremely limited for low income individuals and families in Thurston County. Your work on this is appreciated. Thank you for exploring the possibilities.

I think it's critical for families to have access to a public pool so kids can learn to swim. We live in an area with a lot of bodies of water, so this is a public safety issue. It's especially important for families that cannot afford high gym membership fees for the facilities that have pools. A regional aquatic facility is long overdue.

This is really exciting and feels like a missing piece currently.

A fitness center should also be included in this facility. It could be pay per visit or monthly pass. I really like the set up at "Coquitlam City Center Aquatic center" in Coquitlam BC.

It's possible to have a pool that is suitable for competition but has lanes that can be removed for larger classes like water aerobics or beginner swim lessons. I believe that is a good use of space. My highest priority is recreational swimming (either in lanes or free swim). I like to use swimming as my main form of exercise and it should be easy and cheap for people to come on a regular basis just to swim. Thank you!

I lived in St Paul, Mn where there is a strong community education aquatics program. My kids learned water safety as well as swimming technique. Being connected to this community always motivated us to get a family pass to the recreational/seasonal pools with water slides and lazy rivers. I'm not sure we would have done one if we hadn't done the other. My daughter was entering the junior lifeguard program before we moved and was looking forward to the leadership opportunities it would have provided her throughout middle school and high school. I haven't found anything comparable in the Olympia area.

Thurston County has been without a public pool for far too long. Invest in recreation!

I think this is a great idea but do not focus on the competitive aspect as it would bring too much weekend traffic! Traffic is already bad enough in this area!

Thank you!

There is a huge need in our community for public showers, especially for the underprivileged and homeless.
It would be awesome the facility included separately accessible coin operated showers (like at a beach) so those who have nowhere to shower have the option to, at least during some hours/days of the week

Even if we aren't actively using the pool, we believe it would be a wonderful thing for families in our community! We always wished for such a facility while we were raising our kids!

This is an amazing idea for our community! Our family often drives in excess of an hour or more one way to access facilities like this throughout the state. That means we frequent establishments around these facilities for food, drinks, shopping, etc.

There is a severe lack of activities in our county for youth and a huge need for some kind of indoor activities, fun and exercise

I think this would be a huge benefit to our community. I would also like Olympia to develop more indoor parks similar to the TreeTops Playground at Tacoma's SERA center. Our weather here is so crummy for so much of the year. We need indoor options.

Would want changing and locker room facilities easy to navigate with small children

This town needs some family fun desperately.

I think seasonal AND inside pools are important to have.

Swimming is a critical sport for mental and physical well being. In addition to the answers I've provided I would also strongly encourage a COLD watertub.

I know a lot of families would use this if it was in door year round

We need a place for swim teams especially the high schools to practice and have meets. That's the most important

This area needs more indoor options for kids and adults to be active in the rainy months

I feel very strongly that Olympia needs an aquatics facility! Ideally, one that is open to the public and can provide lap, recreational, and aquaexercise opportunities. Large enough, it could even accommodate local high school or competition team's practice or meets. I think it would be popular and utilized, even without insurance heavy things like slides. If there are other opportunities for public input, please feel free to contact me.

Many elderly & disabled people really need more places for pool therapy & classes. Indoors is essential since we could only use an outdoor pool about 3 mos per year in summer.

You cannot afford this. Our city has higher financial priorities. As much as I would like to have a fun water park, this is an irresponsible project. Let's focus on safety of our sidewalks to start. Our outdoor spaces need improvement and funding before a fancy water park.

Douglas county has a wonderful public pool with indoor/outdoor design and a financial model that gives free entry to those whose taxes paid for the pool. (At least this was true when I lived nearby years ago.)

Also, FREE swim lessons need to be available so that all children can learn to swim!

I think this is a nice community project

Our community needs clean streets, law enforcement for our downtown area, a solution for our homeless, and better use of our tax dollars... before this extravagant use of our budget!

A public pool facility in Olympia would be AMAZING!! Thank you for surveying the community and exploring best aquatic options!

This is exciting!

Our city has needed this for so long. So many cities offer great public water parks and our community would benefit greatly.

Please please provide easy access for disabled: designated disabled shower rooms with short walk to pools. See the facility in my recent hometown of Snohomish, that model worked well for me. I walk with crutches, best exercise for me is in the pool but the Y, where I have tried to go since moving to Oly, has far too far for me to walk on slippery floors, the pool is too cold and my muscles tense up, and the rec pool is too shallow for my exercises given to me by PT.

Homeschool memberships or other limited memberships to make participation more accessible.

Yes. My young boys have muscular dystrophy and low impact therapy in water is one of the only ways they can safely work their muscles. There are 4 people in Olympia in my family with this genetic disorder, and they would all benefit immensely from this service for years to come. Thanks for the survey.

The demand for lap swimming is high. the Lacey Parks and recreation program sells out within minutes every registration period. Swimmers are willing to pay for a good pool accessible when they want to swim.

I think it's important to have year round water fitness options in a safe environment. I would also love for payment to resemble a gym membership. Monthly dues, etc. I'd love to see a program like HOCCM does to allow low income folks to use the facilities at low cost or free.

I would love a community indoor aquatic facility with salt water pools!

An indoor waterpark would be invaluable in our winter climate!!!

This needs to be downtown with designated parking available

It would be nice to have indoor pool and outdoor pool/water play area w slides...that way the water complex could be used year around. During the warmer months, you could open a wall so it could be indoor/outdoor. I think adjoining rooms for rent would be nice for bday parties and generate money. This would be great for Thurston county

Indoor and outdoor options would be ideal.

I taught swimming at Discover Aquatics in Olympia for 9 years, grew up with a neighborhood outdoor pool, and participated in the Seattle Summer Swim League as a kid. Swimming is so important to me. This is very exciting! I've always thought it was strange that Olympia didn't have a community pool. I hope this happens soon! Thank you!

It should be important to have something for every age group.

Indoor recreation is important in this area. Parents have almost nowhere to take their kids once the weather turns bad.

There are not enough places for kids to learn to swim and swim safely. The current options are either too expensive or too cold for young kids to learn to swim. Having warm water and access for people with disabilities is also important. Lazy rivers are dumb.

There are two needs here - both indoor instructional and outdoor recreational:
- outdoor recreational (seasonal) (Stewart heights pool in Tacoma is a great example that would be full every day in the season here in Oly).
- indoor public pool and universal swim lessons - when I was growing up in Vancouver the school district had a partnership with the city and every 2nd grader learned to swim at Memory Pool. Although it wouldn't benefit my kids, that's the kind of community investment that I'd like to see here, and it's a way to make an indoor pool (notorious money suck) a community treasure that taxpayers are willing to subsidize.

You should consider building the outdoor aquatic center at the old John Rogers School property in NE Olympia

An out door swim area would be lovely

It should be a combo indoor outdoor pool. German and Austrian pools often have a heated outdoor pool that can be accessed by passing through a heavy curtain and often swimming under the curtain. It is a glorious thing to swim in the winter under stars in a warm pool. Sidenote- summer splash pad would be fun for exterior grounds of indoor facility. The pool in chehalis is amazing as an outdoor example.

Olympia is growing and families are an essential part of our community. We moved here because of the strong impact the school district has on the youth of this area but over the last few years we've lived here, we see a major deficit in the area of family activities. Not all families can afford the time or money to look outside of our general area for family activities (putt putt gold, aquatic centers, arcades, art clinics, etc.) and it's so important that Olympia/Tumwater leadership see that in order to retain families, our area need to invest in them and create alliances with other cities to cut costs for these offerings. I'm a parent, student, government worker, social advocate, and ALL of my community networks have voiced that this need for safe, healthy family activity centers continues to grow as our area continues to grow. An aquatics center would add incredible value to the small YMCA pool that serves a multitude of ages. It cannot easily support the community in all facets though. Especially since there is no outdoor pool and access is limited to families and those that regularly PAY for a membership.

Please include swimming lessons for children

Summer water features in Olympia are few and far between. We have one public splash pad, West side; a play fountain, downtown. These become easily overcrowded on summer days. I would support a small tax to fund this, and a entry fee to the park. Please build, I will even do the geotechnical engineering for this for free (PE geotechnical engineer).

Please design a facility accessible to all-- including folks with disabilities or who may be made unwelcome in gender-segregated spaces

Building a facility that few people will have access to, is not important, because money is always an issue. Who has it- and who can afford to go -will be the deciding factor on this facility. Right now the most important issue is housing in a price range THAT ALL CAN AFFORD. A swim facility is a luxury. Adequately priced homes and rentals are way more important than a swim facility.

Who are the ones utilizing this facility. Where will said facility be located? Is it centrally located or miles away from urban centers? Will it be on a bus line or ? How much will this cost? Whose paying? Taxes or privately funded? If it's going to be anything like the Y then only rich white folks will be utilizing this facility. What we really need is affordable housing!

What will the cost be to the community? Is there a daily rate to go into and use the facility? Or do you need to be a member and join with a monthly fee? If so how much is this going to be? I personally can't afford the YMCA, to me it's incredibly expensive and a luxury. Most low income folks do not have extra money for "luxuries or extras." We need affordable housing!!! When will you be building affordable housing????

I feel that providing a public and accessible space to aquatic facilities is extremely important, along with programming to increase water safety and competence for all ages.

Consider private enterprise for water fun park sections.

This is exciting! I wish you a smooth course ahead.

Key way to reduce adverse outcomes around water is they swim lessons and practice. Public access, not dependent on membership and with scholarship opportunities, is the best way to achieve this. Adds to maritime work force, rowing, sailing and provides youth job training for a multitude of careers (fire, safety, rec programming, risk management, etc).

I want a place where my kids *want* to go and spend time, to help them become eager and strong swimmers. I'd like a place for my whole family to exercise and play together.

We have plenty of fitness centers. What we lack are recreation options for families through the dark and cold months. This would be a great option.

I'm so excited we're even talking about this! Olympia sorely needs even just a public pool.

This would be a wonderful and very much needed addition to the community!

Must be large enough facility to serve existing and future needs without overcrowding.

I've wished Olympia had a public pool for years so this is a really exciting possibility!! Thanks for considering it!
I didn't prioritize any sporting or competitive aspects because my family doesn't swim for anything more than leisure and learning but I think those are great ideas too!

Tanglewild is one of the only pools in our area. It's great, but does cost money, gets very crowded in the summer, and is outdoors so it is hard to use year round. The YMCA in downtown is also great, but small. Considering the city's proximity to the ocean & Puget Sound, all kids regardless of socioeconomic status should get the chance to have adequate aquatic centers so that they become confident and comfortable in the water.

A weight room would be awesome. I used to live in Kettering, OH and they had an amazing rec center. Indoor and outdoor swimming, weight room, fitness center, basketball courts, ice skating and a senior activities center. This is all on one campus which adjoins the grounds of a large middle school and community arts center. Also wrapped around all of these facilities is a frisbee golf course. I've been all over and it's for sure one of the better uses of public space I've ever seen. I encourage you to look it up.

Locker rooms need to be spotless with above average bathroom facilities not open to the public

Facility and program availability for families with two full-time working parents - meaning A LOT of evening and weekend availability.

Start your planning with the basics -- like Briggs aquatic facilities. Add frills only if the public is clearly willing to pay for them.

Plan for operating costs

Share costs with other jurisdictions.

Location is critically important.

Contract operation of the facility to an organization which knows how to do this, like the Y.

Be clear in public information that Olympia helped with the construction costs of the Briggs Y aquatic facilities.

The reason I said I would use this facility seldom is that I live close to the Briggs Y. I look forward to public meetings.

I hope to see a facility like this in Thurston county, focused on indoor amenities that can be used year-round. I've lived in other communities that had similar facilities, and they are of great benefit to the community!

I would be very excited to have a new lap swimming pool in Olympia!

Kids need to learn how to swim--this would be an important community place to build and have available for families.

Hurry please.

Please consider making the pool open and free for everyone. City of Spokane has multiple outdoor public pools that are open for summers. Last year, City of Spokane decided to make the public pools free for everyone to use. It was a total blessing! (We just moved to Olympia from Spokane)

Although we are very excited at the prospect of having an aquatic center in our community, we feel that it is very important that the center focuses on providing services to disadvantaged groups in our community, even if that comes at the cost of our preferred services. Also, it would be great if the center could reflect our community (local artists, tribes, etc.). Thank you!

Water slides are important to me and my life

Please make sure the pools will be able to open during pandemic

I am ashamed that you are considering this project when so many people are living in tents and other makeshift living arrangements. We have about 300 Olympia Students who are homeless presently. Focus ONLY on affordable housing and quit GIVING AWAY tax exemptions to market rate and luxury developers.

A regional aquatics center would be an excellent community investment. I am excited about this idea!,

Would love an aquatic center in Olympia!

Olympia needs more family activity places that are SAFE

Please please do this, I think there's a strong community desire for swimming options in our area.

That everyone in Olympia is notified about this project and invited to attend meetings, surveys, etc. I didn't know anything about it except for a post on Next Door.

Something like this is critical for a community to thrive

The facility needs to be made affordable for all. It is an important part of a thriving and growing community. It should have a lot of space and only minimal restrictions. I am from Europe and swimming pools/spas are a part of any community. It is a service provided to families and communities. It is an important place for gathering and socializing and well being for all.

Would love for there to be programs for low income individuals to be able to use the facility and take classes at the facility. Swimming lessons for people of all ages is great for community building and public health. We would be happy to contribute to these funds if needed.

How will this be paid for?

It can be a great resource for families with kids and especially for families with a large number of children in them.

I feel it's important to have activities for parents and kids to do that are reasonable priced. It's also important for kids to learn how to swim.

See prior comments. You're missing the need for an ice rink. Hockey and figure skating is much needed for our youth, and would be hugely supported with pro hockey coming to Seattle. We have no opportunity for ice rinks less than 30 miles away at best. A multi sport venue is essential. Local small businesses and restaurants would see increases in business with sports offered for every season.

I think providing healthy and fun recreational opportunities for youth/families is very important. We are very limited in water recreation vs other counties in the region.

Really appreciate the possibility being looked at!

Excited about this

Even though we may not use such a facility frequently, I believe it is important for our communities' youth to have access to an affordable public facility that offers instructional and recreational swimming activities.

Thank you so much for considering this! It would be such an enhancement for our community!

We have always wondered why Olympia didn't have a good water park/swimming facility. We have had to drive to Tacoma, Chehalis, just for summer activity.

Would love an indoor rec pool that our kids can use year round!

This is incredibly worthwhile - indoor family activities are super hard to find in the south sound, even in normal circumstances.

Easy location for county residents. Must be large enough for swim meets to increase tourism dollars and hold high school and college meets and still have space for families to recreate. Don't overbuild with fancy amenities. If families want a water Park they can go to great wolf lodge. Give us the municipal basics and keep operating costs down.

-Annual/ locals pass options

- child transportation from local schools in the area (sign children up for direct transfer after school)

This is really important! It is so hard to access pool time in Olympia. I grew up out of state swimming competitively and all through college. My kids don't have the same opportunities for that here.

Available to go to without joining. The only pools close to me require a gym membership

There are much more important things to be spending money on. Mental health or drug counseling for the homeless population, housing for homeless population, cleaning parks of garbage and drug

paraphernalia, making the roads safer and better to drive on, more sidewalks and crosswalks, invest in your downtown businesses, clean up streets and get people wanting to visit the city.

Thank you for asking for input.

Please look at the Monon Center in Carmel, IN. It's an amazing facility and great resource for the community. Love taking my kids there when visiting my family.

I would love to see something like this in our area! It is a very noticeable gap in our amenities, especially for children.

I don't think it needs to be very fancy, just an outdoor pool for kids to play in the summer that has some lap swim times.

Glad to see this! I belonged to two municipal rec centers in Snohomish County and moved here four years ago to find nothing.

The olympia brewery property would make a great site!

The Olympia area doesn't have many indoor activities for kids (it rains here a lot... cabin fever is killer), nor does it have an outdoor pool (to enjoy the beautiful summer when we have it!). Both would benefit the community, but an indoor activity pool is most important.

The Old Olympia Brewery would be a good place for this

This is long past due. I think this type of community center is the most important type of public facility, just like in Japan (bath houses) and Scandinavia (Sauna)

Nope. It is time.

Please build this pool, it is needed.

As someone who has a chronic pain issue, having an indoor swim area that would be affordable could be a godsend.

Coming from Germany : indoor and outdoor pools are a must have !!!! Thank you for trying

Please do not move forward with this. Spend our tax dollars wisely

I truly hope this happens. I was fortunate to grow up in a town with lots of swim options both through the school & community pool, but better yet with an amusement park with a small water park in it. I love the water and want that for my kids.

More than 1 family bathroom for families like mine with grown disabled children that need help dressing but cannot come in women's locker room with me

Indoors, a place for kids.

Spaciousness

Affordability to use an aquatic Center will be key!

I have a degree in Recreation & spent many years working in the field of Community Facilities & Pools. I have always missed the lack of pools in this area.

I think all the fun kid stuff is important too, but I am in an age bracket that likes the things I listed

We've wanted an indoor pool in the Olympia area for almost 20 years. It's been frustrating to watch the idea be vollied around for so many years. Swimming is a well rounded, fun skill to have and enjoy. It makes me sad we never had a pool in the area. It sure would be nice to see it come to fruition.

As an avid swimmer, a lap pool and diving pool is needed in Olympia, especially in the west side after evergreen stopped public Access to their pool. Discover aquatics is the closest thing to me but there is not lap swimming or a diving area there. If I want to swim laps or dive I have to drive to the Tumwater YMCA or Lacey to dive.

This must be an indoor facility for the cold rainy season.

Growing up in Germany we used outdoor and indoor swimming pools frequently and they are a big part of our culture. Having my kids grow up here without that option was always very disappointing for me. I feel families here would enjoy having a outdoor facility with multiple pools where kids and adults can safely swim and have fun. It would be optimal if this facility would include a grassy area for resting and playing and a patio area for sitting and eating with a bistro where you can buy food and drink.

It's about darn time, WOW lol!! I cannot even fully express how BIG of missing piece this is in our community, I only wish there had been one when I was a kid I promise if there had been the only trouble I'd have gotten into would have been not getting out of the pool on time lol!! We need to give the kids more to do if we don't want 'em to be up to no good!!! 🤖

Olympia needs a facility that every demographic can afford. Currently there is a handful of options in the area for swim lessons, and pricing can be very unaffordable for your average household. Additionally, there is not a decent sized or affordable water play entertainment space in the Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater area. The focus should not be just on an outdoor pool due to the limited usage as a result of weather, and school schedules (June thru September). An indoor / outdoor approach will get the best usage over time. If you need a great example of an indoor/outdoor concept check out this German swimming pool that I used to go to: <https://www.bulmare.de/startseite/>

Please look at the pool set up at Snohomish. They did a great job combining the fun play based pool and the need for a competitive pool. We travel for meets and will seek out cool pools in Western Washington and really like how Snohomish accommodates different needs and different ages of children. My teens love the “blob” floating climber that resides in the deep end of the lap pool. Western Wa has some great pools. Take time to field trip with kids to check them out before deciding on the style of pool chosen.

The area has needed this for a LONG time.

The Thurston County area sorely needs a pool facility. The lakes often have algae and the saltwater is too cold and polluted. There is no place to go in the summer to cool off. We could really use a pool facility with indoor and outdoor areas. In the summer, it would be so nice to have a large outdoor recreational pool to swim and sunbathe. In the dark and cold winter days, a warm indoor play pool with slides, lazy river, and play structures would be awesome. We would definitely take the grandchildren there often. It would be best if the facility was attractive and functional for all age groups - toddlers, school kids, teens, adults, and seniors.

Need to be on bus line for accessibility

We are behind other cities and counties of our size that have already built kid friendly aquatic centers in Washington!

Good Architectural space with high ceilings and lots of natural light and glass.
Think massive concrete minimalism on the exterior!

Having local access for kids to have swim lessons, adults to lap swim and for open swim play time for children would be amazing

This is a MUST HAVE in our area!

Since Evergreen's pool closed to the public, options for lap swimming and lessons have shrunk to pretty much Briggs Y and Tumwater Valley - both require memberships. There may be options to publicly support Evergreen and the high schools which have pools to make them more available to the public. Perhaps also explore partnerships with the Y or other private facilities to expand capacity. In addition I expect you are exploring the option of new facilities. I would hope any new facilities are strategically located with consideration of existing facilities so options are spread out from one another, and close to more people.

Olympia needs a swimming facility Open to the public !

When Evergreen college closed their pool to the public that eliminated the only pool available for lap swimming. It is sad that the only community option doesn't even belong to the community.

We need a regional aquatic center!

There are no affordable water safety and learn to swim classes in the Olympia area though we are located on the sound and have numerous bodies of water all around. I feel a public pool with these opportunities would be monumental in improving the safety of our community.

make the cost less for people who are residents of city of Olympia/those who are paying for it in taxes

Please invest in housing the homeless instead.

I grew up in Lynnwood Washington and the city pool was a huge focus of the community. It had a convertible roof that was removed in the summer, which was greatly anticipated. I started with swim lessons, family swims, swim team, lifeguard training and finally employee as swim instructor and lifeguard. One last thing...if planning a competitive pool please consider water polo dimensions. It is a growing sport in the south sound with HS teams in Tacoma, Puyallup and University Place.

This is not necessary! There are already accessible parks in the region! How about spending money on outdoor parks and add a dog park for goodness sakes! It is ridiculous that we have to travel to the dump to take our dogs off leash!

Do it!

With the closure of lap pools at the Downtown YMCA and Evergreen college there are simply not enough lanes to accommodate the number of people who want to swim. As a novice swimmer I have tried on and off for years to get better only to be discouraged by not being able to consistently find a lane that wasn't already in use by several people. I would especially like to have some sort of lane reservation system at least some of the time so I could guarantee that I would have a lane with no more than one other person in it.

An aquatics facility has been needed since I moved here in the 70's . Feasibility studies have been conducted before and nothing has come of it- bite the bullet and do something positive for our community. Yes, this type of facility has maintenance costs but everything does. Olympia has zero to offer kids and families besides a park or two. Build something that will give locals something positive and healthy to do and maybe just maybe, they will invite friends and family to join them resulting in increased revenue streams from outside the area which is sorely needed at our local businesses and restaurants.

Do not support more government taxpayer funded projects. Current taxes are 2 high and do not need additional taxes forcing locals to move out of area.

We live surrounded by water. Water safety is essential. Olympia (and Tumwater and Lacey) need a place where people can learn to swim without having to join a gym. Olympia and Capital high school do not have a dedicated pool for practice and competition. They are at the mercy of Evergreen State College and recently that relationship has become strained (pre-COVID). North Thurston has dedicated pools for high school swim practice and meets.

Please don't forget the older kids and adults who want to actually exercise. A play area is great but not much actual swimming gets done. We NEED something like this in our area. Evergreen isn't open anymore and places like the Valley and the YMCA are expensive. It is a pain to drive to Centralia/Chehalis or King County just to take your kids swimming.

The community needs free and low cost swimming facilities.

In 2018 we had a competitive swimmers here to visit during the holidays, she was on the German national swimming team and studies in California now, her coach wanted her to keep swimming daily during her stay with us. It was the hardest to find her a pool facility that would let her swim, without having to buy a membership, was open, or outrageous pricey or out of the way. We can do better! Also during the summers, an outdoor pool facility would be nice, like I mentioned Germany has. Keeping children busy and safe during the summer months. The Kissalis in Bad Kissingen, Germany is more directed to a rejuvenation aspect, with many Sauna and relaxation areas. We don't need another facility that's focused on membership, only open during school days/times or pricey, because families need to purchase hotel nights. I really hope this will focus on the general public.

Please make it inclusive and accessible to people with disabilities of all kinds. Consult with orgs run by actually disabled people (not nondisabled parents and professionals) to get the best advice on how to do this.

Separate areas for adults/laps/fitness and anything designed for families or children. Mixed use pools and pool areas often mean fitness swimmers are marginalized in favor of family crowds. Existing fitness swimming opportunities in Thurston County have consistently done this. Large crowds of all ages increase transmission risks; a separate fitness area would benefit the health and safety of fitness swimmers and health vulnerable swimmers.

We are crossing our fingers for something like this! Olympia could really use it and I think it would elevate and add to the things that are already great about living here. More things to do is never a bad thing.

We have been hoping for a fun pool facility for years! Hope it happens!

Indoor year round

The facility must be staffed reasonable hours and available to everyone. You can't just build a facility and figure out how to pay for staffing and maintenance later.

Reasonably priced membership and/or low income options.

Many locals use natural areas such as lakes for recreational swimming. Those areas are becoming overcrowded, which is harmful to the natural environment and the communities that surround them. A local aquatic facility would reduce the pressure on those natural areas

I feel that this is extremely important. As an athlete of the Tumwater High school swim team, I would be thrilled with the idea of having a pool to practice in, rather than driving out to River Ridge high school every day.

It would be great to have a place to take the kids to have fun that doesn't cost an arm and a leg. Right now our options are wild waves in the summer only or rent a hotel room to play in their tiny pool year round

Neither tumwater nor black hills have a pool for their swim teams to practice in, we have to share with other schools in other districts further away, this makes practice harder as we have to fit 2 or more teams in a pool at a time

It would be nice to have a pool in downtown Olympia (after the loss of the downtown YMCA pool) to accommodate the increasing urban residential population and for it to be located within walking distance of residents and business employees.

Pool closer to Lacey or Yelm would be great for lessons.

I think a pool is very important because lots of school districts who want a swim team struggle to achieve it and have a decent plan. A diving board included is very important because its part of the swim team requirements and its dying out and shouldn't be because of lack of boards in the area.

There needs to be a salt water based pool option instead of harsh chemicals like chlorine.

The high schools in Lacey and evergreen state college meet the local lap/competitive swim needs.

And indoor pool would be such a community asset during the long dark winters

It would be very important for the swim teams from around the Tumwater School District to have access to a pool for practices and meets that is not all the way out in Lacey

Competitive watersliding

My 8 year old daughter is an advanced swimmer. We cannot afford Valley Athletic which is the closest pool that offers open swim times. We sign her up for parks and rec lessons whenever we can but that is only once a week. Olympia HS does not have a pool- that is absurd!! This area needs aquatic facilities available!! We have driven to Centralia, Bainbridge, and Snohomish aquatic facilities to use. The YMCA pool in Olympia is old and dirty. Olympia needs to start putting children's needs first!

Please talk to high schools about what is needed. Tumwater and black hills desperately need a pool, and a new one in Olympia would become the closest option, if built.

This pool needs to happen. There are far too many drownings each year and it could offer a safe facility to learn. The city could teach lessons, provide jobs, and earn money for other projects as well. The highschool teams need a place to practice so they dont have to drive 30 minutes everyday, at times multiple times a day, just to practice and compete.

Some thing that can be used year-round! Outdoor only pools do not make sense on this side of Washington.

I am a physical therapist and I have struggled to find suitable pools to send my patients to for continued self-monitored therapy programs. There is excellent research on the use of aquatic exercise for improved aerobic capacity, reduced joint pain/impact, and reduced fall risk/morbidity/mortality. This would be a HUGE addition to our community!!

I also have a child and would love for him to have access to a pool during all seasons for recreation, water safety skills, and exercise.

Olympia desperately needs a facility such as this as the only other options is parks and rec at the high school pool. Olympia is a growing city and it is time to adapt to the growth and make olympia more desirable place to live.

Swimming is a great indoor activity for everyone. Given the climate in Olympia, a facility that could be used year round makes the most economic sense.

I think pools are great neighborhood gathering spots. I'm highly in favor of multiple, small, neighborhood pools vs. a city-wide megapool.

We need more swimming space in Thurston County for water exercise, learn to swim, high school swim teams, and recreational swimming. It's time!

Please make it affordable for families to use, with reasonable priced family passes.

I don't need the city doing anything that is going to cause my property taxes to increase. No thank you!! This is not the time.

Any aquatic facility built would be used maximally by our community as there is such a need!

I would love to have an indoor facility to help us get through the long rainy/dark months of the year. The Valley athletic club is more costly than we prefer, and YMCA doesn't have the amenities we want.

There is no accessible year round recreational swimming in area and facilities are dated and minimal. Open swim times are limited. The lack of year round swimming opportunities makes living here less desirable!

This region needs a public swimming pool. We have local pools but they are at private clubs or at schools, so they have limited openings to the public (if any). While I prefer to have a public lap pool, for my needs, there might be a need for an indoor play structure pool, but you need to research the need. I taught swimming off and in for 40 years and there is a big need for pools with more accessibility for swim lessons.

Some model facilities worth looking at: Bainbridge Island and the Durango, CO. A great site would be at the Brewery property.

I have seen a few very good Aquatics Facilities one in Saint George, Utah and in Cordelan, Idaho they were beautiful Swimming facilities. Family friendly!

With Evergreen SC changing fire laws it is near impossible for local swim meets which bring large sources of revenue for local teams. I also would have done a lot with a polo ready pool anywhere south of Tacoma

A place like this gives kids more options of active things to do year round, indoor is a must and swim lessons. It is so hard to find affordable swim lesson yet it is an essential skill

We moved here from Portland 4 years ago and were shocked by the lack of pool choices (and scarcity of libraries). We love to swim on rainy days, and often drive to Hoquiam or Federal Way for better options!

I think that this is important when you look at swim teams because a lot of schools have their own pools, but Tumwater does not.

Try to make the site accessible without too much driving

Please provide an outdoor pool too! Thanks

This would be a great community asset!

Please prioritize. Our community NEEDS this.

Make it affordable and family friendly. Clean changing rooms

Good deck space to accommodate meets & training. A cold plunge is essential to wellness routines.

This area needs a pool that is affordable to visit without needing to be a member. It is crazy that some pools/YMCA make you pay up to \$20 for a day pass when you just want to go for a quick swim.

Fix the downtown area first. Let us support small business by making downtown a safer and friendlier environment. Parking is horrible, we need parking garages and closed off zones in the center for foot traffic only. Think about European downtown cities. You park in a parking garage and are safe to walk throughout the city's businesses, retail or restaurants. This will also enhance features for wheelchair users.

This would be a great addition to fitness and activity options

Magic wand? Would love indoor facility and outdoor. Would love a space that has play for kids, lower water level for toddlers, space for lessons, and lap lanes. There is also a strong swimming culture here so competition would support those Olympic length.

Affordable swim lessons, clean changing rooms, big water slides

We desperately need a water recreation facility. At the least we need a facility with swimming lessons for all ages, lap swims, adult hot tub, steam bath, sauna, wading pool, and plenty of opportunities for family and kid swims as well as adult and lane swimming. It is a shame that one has to join a club to go swimming in Olympia.

Please, please, please build an INDOOR aquatics center as soon as possible!!!

This facility needs to be made accessible to lower income families. Places that exist already do not offer affordable swim lessons, or recreational swim options for upper lower income people...so people not on dshs but also not considered middle class enough to afford things like this.

I was a competitive swimmer at the King County Aquatic Center in Federal Way, through out elementary to college. Swimming helped provide many opportunities for me and many others. It is a great sport for kids and all ages no contact and low impact. I currently live in Yelm and have been searching for something similar to the Aquatic Center. Also, the Aquatic Center helped bring money into the local economy with swim meets, with many visitors spending money staying in hotels, eating in restaurants and shopping in the area. It had a huge positive impact on the community. Offering space for competition, instruction/exercise and overall community connections would be such an amazing addition to the area.

We need a king county aquatic center type pool in Olympia.

Olympia has needed an aquatic center for a long long time. We currently travel to Tacoma to use their pools and spray parks. Also, we have very few options for kid swim lessons. We are in favor of this!

We have been wanting a pool for years!!! Such good exercise for families

Get it started!

Thank you for working on this. Our family loves to swim. Our only option is driving all the way to Tanglewilde or swimming in area lakes. An outdoor pool would be great. We have long hot summers here. I hope we get this badly needed pool!

Would love it to happen asap.

Needs to be year-round, warm & indoors for WA weather, otherwise pool would only be seasonal & not practical

I believe this type of facility will help restore some balance of healthy family activity in Olympia. With our weather in this area, it is important to have indoor activities to keep families active during the cooler rainy months. Many families can't afford the membership rates of the private facilities in the area, so it will be important to keep the rates as low as possible for them.

Please please please make this happen! It's crazy to not have a community pool, been wanting one for 40 years in Oly! My family would use this.

We things places and activities for our youth there not much to do in these areas

The Valley is too expensive for a family. The YMCA has too much chlorine. And the saline pool on the westside is not accessible. There needs to be a place where the kids can go during the summer that allows them to develop their swimming abilities, strength and skills without having to join a class. Learn the old fashioned way - by playing in the pool that is deep enough to swim in. There is inherent risks in a pool but that is one reason why we want them in the water; to learn how to deal with it in case they do fall in somewhere. Please do not "over-safety" it to the point of it being pointless. So many activities in this region are so risk adverse that there is no growth in them.

Suggest salt water pool ... lower upkeep and less chlorine

Please see this through. A must in Olympia.

Thanks for working on this topic!!! I hope the community supports it.

I moved to Olympia from a city with many outdoor pools. I was SHOCKED that Olympia did not have a single outdoor pool available for the public. This MUST be a priority - and a pool that can accommodate a large number of swimmers and include both a play area AND a lap swim area. Having a place to swim and take lessons during the summer provides a wonderful space for children of all ages.

This area really needs an outdoor seasonal pool!

please consider our climate and what we already have available in the community for the same price. Places where we can get our kids in the water and truly swim are at short supply--warmth is important for littles and elders and those with injuries--outdoor air is best with COVID--how can we envision this? I lived in CO for much of my life and was lucky to experience many types of pools--even pools with large opening doors (like garage doors) existed in that climate. They were heated and had special accommodations for the weather. It can be done and it really is lovely to swim in the rain when the pool is warm enough and there is a dry place nearby to leave your belongings. We are a region tied to water--more of us should know how to swim and be comfortable in it. Experience breeds compassion.

Thanks for all you do in our community to make it livable. A path from downtown to West Bay/Rotary Park is still needed.

A public swimming facility for Olympia is long overdue. As the population of the urban area of Thurston County increases the opportunity for swimming needs to be in place. It's been 30 years since Olympia was last asked about funding a pool. Do we wait another 30 years to get the job done? Let's make it happen.

Facility should be regional based and near bus route

Please go to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and check out the amazing Kroc Center to see the way they serve the community

Olympia area is lacking in indoor rec facilities for families. This is a huge deficit and an aquatic center would definitely be used!

Easy parking

There needs to be lap only for senior citizens and a division of child/adult time usage, especially lap time. Lap time should not be mixed with aquatic exercise time. Perhaps a lap only pool might be appropriate. Also, swim lessons should be a priority when considering use priorities. The photos presented as far as what it might look like resemble a commercial destination water park for kids. Let's make it a fun place but really? I'm assuming it may follow a YMCA model as far swimming exercise and lessons go. If not, It should. And please, don't overdo it with the chlorine!

This needs to be a facility for families. The spray features around town are very busy in summer and actual pools are sparse and expensive.

I love to swim!!!!

I feel this is very important for our community, for Lacey Olympia & Tumwater. Currently we must travel to either To Chehalis for the small Caroline & Gail aquatic center, or to Tacoma to the water park up there. We really need somewhere here, it would also be great to have a place to go year round, and not just during the summer months. Thurston county is really lacking on indoor activities. An Aquatic center is really need here.

I think indoor is key... outdoor facilities won't get the volume of use to make them worthwhile

All communities should have access to a public aquatic complex where the young can learn to swim, adults can exercise, the elderly can benefit from water therapy, and all can gain from community interaction and engagement. These activities and the associated social and mental benefits should not be limited to those with private access.

We typically drive all the way to Tacoma and Chehalis in the summer to enjoy outdoor water slides and swimming options. Olympia has the indoor YMCA pool, so I feel it's important to look at some indoor/outdoor pool options. Of course exercise is important year round so something that is outdoor and heated (maybe covered in winter months or closed?) would be cool.

Living as we do, in an area filled with lakes and rivers, swimming instruction is very important for our children. The ONLY options available to parents at this time are with private clubs and facilities, often accompanied by prohibitively high fees, or with the threat of getting bumped from the program if a member wants to participate and the group is full.

Also of note is the temperature of the pools currently available. My son had swim lessons at Tumwater Valley, Timberline High School through Parks and Rec, the YMCA, and Tanglewilde Pool. Only the YMCA and Tanglewilde had temperatures reasonable for small children. During his initial lessons at Timberline and Tumwater Valley he would be so cold that his lips were blue and he would be shivering, as were several other children in his class group. We ended up getting him a wetsuit, and that helped a little.

I have noticed that the parks have been updating and renovating many locations, which is wonderful. The addition of another splash park would be considerably appreciated. There is a small one located in Woodruff Park, but it can't accommodate the number of children that would like to take advantage of it. The only other feature we have in Olympia is the Heritage Park Fountain downtown, and that is not actually a splash park, although we and hundreds of other local residents use it as such in the warm months. The next closest splash parks that I am aware of are in Yelm and Chehalis. Our summers have gotten progressively longer and warmer, and the need for water activities is significant.

Olympia has very few family recreational activities, especially for fall/winter/spring time. Our family would love a pool to use year round, especially if it had a slide and other fun activities. I would really like to see a greater emphasis on making Olympia a great place to raise a family.

Build a covered skatepark downtown instead

I honestly cannot believe that you would be considering a project like an aquatic facility during a recession, during a pandemic, and approaching winter when we have so many unhoused neighbors. I don't think that we as a community should spend money on this until all of our neighbors are housed, we have RV parking set up with bathrooms and showers available, and we have a day center in each town with support staff for newly unhoused people to go to. And even then, I think we have other priorities, like improving the Timberland library system and investing in the food banks. A pool or aquatic facility rightfully belongs at the bottom of the priority list. Not to mention concerns about increasing taxes, which is a concern for many. If it is built, please consider supporting it 100% by user fees, and not by taxes.

Need long hours to accommodate crowds

This needs to be a regional facility involving all jurisdictions. Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, Tenino, Yelm, and the county.

For most people, children especially, swimming is a happy activity. Having at least one aquatic facility that can be enjoyed especially during the winter is a HEALTHY and FUN winter activity for families and people of all ages. Its presence is a moral boost to the community. To know, how cool, our city has an aquatics recreational facility. They must really care about us. Also, it's a good place for all children, no matter if their parents can afford the Y or the Valley, to learn how to swim, an important skill in our water rich region. Also, people of all economic levels can enjoy swimming, not just the wealthy. And lastly, we are not talking about icing on the cake with "another" aquatics facility. This would be the ONLY one for Olympia. Come on, please, it's about time. Thank you for considering this.

I think it's important for the city to have its own water/pool facility so they can offer classes and their facilities to families that are low income. I've looked around myself to place my daughter in classes for swim or other activities and many are very expensive.

When we moved here swimming was still an option at Capitol Lake. I was stunned to learn that neither the City nor OSD had swim facilities. Thank goodness for the "Y."

I would hope to see this development happen sooner than 4 years. Perhaps start building next year.

As a lifelong swimmer (high school, college, masters) and a former swim and water polo coach, I would be thrilled to be a part of getting this going. We need more pool space in this area and more opportunities for kids to swim competitively without doing club/year round swimming. Water polo is huge up north and could become great down here!!

Please make it affordable for seniors who are on a fixed income

Please make sure this facility has some features that our other pools do not. Thank you!

An aquatics facility in Olympia is long over due.

Discounts for low-income residents (I'm happy to pay more so that those families have access.)

It need to have hooyer lifts for people that can't walk.

I moved back to the Olympia area after living in Snohomish for a number of years. The Snohomish Aquatics Center is fabulous and I used it regularly. I would love something like that here in Thurston County

Indoor water features are best for year round fun in this wet climate.

We need this as a community amenity to keep this the best place to live in the country

Thurston County lacks a regional aquatics center despite previous attempts to establish one. The county needs additional options for families to enjoy without having to travel long distances or pay extraordinary costs.

The closest aquatic center with an olympic sized pool for competition and adequate seating for major events is in King County. It would be absolutely amazing to have one in Thurston County for so many different groups.

Bear in mind the geography of the area and how clear cutting won't fly with Oly's hippie community. What about the old hangar looking area by the public park on west Bay? Is it private or public? Right on the sound. Get glass panels and you have the beauty of the sound while you swim in uncontaminated water.

Look at a way to have a regional indoor facilities that can include an ice rink with an aquatic area. Be like an indoor version of the Lacey RAC.

Bring competitive swimming and diving to our community

Get this done WTH! For crying out loud even Aberdeen has had one for ages. Why can't Olympia have nice things?

Please please build an indoor all-season family water play facility!!

For the love of God please build this facility! We need another option besides the HCM!

A centralized location with public transportation available is a must. Families unlimited income must have access to this facility

We need another pool desperately available for people who can't afford a club, for swim meets and training (including synchronized swimming!), for lessons, and general exercise all year long.

I don't feel like we need a new "Great Wolf Lodge" But a fun place for kids to go in the summer that doesn't cost an arm and a leg. Just a small entry fee per person or a summer pass. Brings me back to my childhood days going to the pool all summer.

Like the idea, feel it's needed and missing in this area, Cities need to focus first on the issues that are causing the most problems.

The facility should be family friendly but also allow for training and lessons.

This would be amazing!

Learning to swim is an important life skill, especially in a community located on the water. We need a community pool facility.

Although my household would most likely not use the facility often, I think is very important to support the youth and families who greatly benefit from an aquatic facility.

We badly need to make water available for everyone to learn to swim, even if they can't afford private club access, and for those who are motivated, to compete to the best of their ability. I know this from my family's direct experience: swimming is not only wonderful exercise, it is also a very effective and enjoyable way for young people to learn safety, responsibility, discipline, and time management. We also badly need to make water available for those who cannot engage in high-impact exercise. Since the old pool on 4th was filled in and Capitol Lake closed to swimming - long ago - we have ignored those who cannot afford access to the very few pools in the county - now all private and pricey. We should look at this as an opportunity to invest in our and our children's physical and mental health. I very much hope this effort will succeed. Thank you!

Especially with us in this area having limited options for activities in winter months we need more indoor water activities locations. Swimming is one of the best ways to stay healthy at any age. Also please consider using non chlorinated options if this project is approved.

A facility like this is BADLY NEEDED in our area!

Try to find a central location in the tri-city area.

Demand for community aquatic facility has been a topic in Olympia even before we moved here in 1995. Population is going up fast. Aquatic center in Boise is great example of a model we should consider. Let's get it done! Thanks

Having a quality, multi-purpose pool situated locally in Olympia is so crucial!

I live in Tumwater. I answered the residence question "Visit Olympia" But in normal times I go to the Olympia Sr Center every day. Seems like I should be represented differently.

A variety of open/lap times. The pool in Tanglewilde is very limited in its hours. During the summer, night swim should be an option.

Please consider location if planning such a facility. Adequate parking and public transit are must do's.

This is something that has been missing from this community. It would really be nice if part of the facility is outside. (In past years I have swum outside at the Valley from May-Oct! Thank you for doing this!!

Please build this pool near by regional athletic center located at Marvin road to save money for construction.

Please include areas for disabled adults and Special Olympic swim teams; plus our senior citizens, placed away from noisy and fast moving crowds. Thank you for your work!

Our high schools need a pool where they can train and hold swim meets. Middle schools could also use the facility, as well as local swim clubs.

This is a big deal! Please make this happen. And please, please, PLEASE build a pool that is eight lanes wide and deep enough for water polo games (minimum five feet).

I would love to see this project come to life for the children in our community. My best memory growing up was going to an indoor water park in Anchorage, Ak.

We live surrounded by water, learning to swim is vital.

I want this for my children and grandchildren!!

Very excited this is being considered. Hope it happens.

So glad the city is looking into a public pool.

Excited about the potential opportunity for Olympia!

Please hurry up and put in a beautiful, functional, water/pool indoor/outdoor facility in Olympia! Take a look at what Tacoma parks has done in that area. Olympia has ZERO places to cool off in the summer. The lakes are full of algae and duck droppings, and the salt water is freezing and polluted. It is a shame that the families in Olympia need to use the fountain in front of the Oyster House as their summer "pool". We make a yearly pilgrimage to Moses Lake with the grandkids to use and enjoy their outstanding public water park. Take a look at that one.

The olympia area strongly needs this aquatic facility. There are so few pools in Thurston County, in particular Olympia and Tumwater. Ideally, a competition pool minimum of 8 lanes, preferably 50 Meters. The facility would/could be reserved for swim meets as many weekends as you wanted to make available. This could be a huge money maker for the County and meet the needs of so many.

Make this affordable to the middle class.

Families would benefit from this

Olympia needs this to bring the community back together have something to look forward too

This is an amazing project and something I would use often in the future with my kids

I think in our climate it is important that this be indoors.

I am in need of a lap pool for elders like slow lane hours early in the morning or after work. a combination indoor and outdoor pool would be awesome for summer time. thank you for considering my ideas.

Please! We need more pools in Olympia

There is very little access to swimming in our cities. The Y is expensive and overrun with children and seniors (because there's nowhere else to go), Tumwater Valley is even more expensive. None of the high schools' pools are open for lap swimming. Evergreen isn't open and is very far away.

This would be a fantastic addition to our community!

Hope for a facility that serves elders as well as youth and adults