

The background is a light blue gradient. It is decorated with several realistic water droplets and bubbles of various sizes, some with highlights and shadows, giving them a 3D appearance. They are scattered across the top, bottom, and right sides of the frame.

CITY AQUATIC CENTER

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

SEPT. 8, 2022

BACKGROUND

- For FY 22-23, City Council allocated up to \$7.5 million to fund 50% equal cost sharing with AUSD to renovate the Emma Hood Swim Center at Alameda HS.
- Jan/Feb 2020: City held community workshops and developed a conceptual design for a City Aquatic Center. Due to pandemic, potential bond funding was not sought.
- August 2020: Rec & Parks Commission recommended the conceptual design including an indoor pool
- Feb 2022: City Council discussed pools and provided general direction to staff to pursue ways to fund both a City Aquatic Center and funding 50% to renovate Emma Hood Swim Center.

AQUATIC NEEDS IN ALAMEDA

- Despite renovation of Emma Hood Swim Center, there remains a deficiency of pool space in Alameda.
- In 2020, ARPD expanded to year-round including daytime weekdays at Emma Hood and soon at Encinal Swim Center as well.
 - Pre-2020: registered 700 people annually
 - Now: register over 9,000 people annually
- Programs include lap swim, swim lessons, aqua fitness plus community use. Often have wait lists.
- Overall community aquatic team interest has increased. Not enough pool space for them to serve all youth who want to swim or play water polo.

POTENTIAL LOCATIONS

- Option 1 - Alameda Point, west of the O'Club off Main Street
- Opportunities:
 - Near future Regional Sports Complex and complementary
 - Economic development for Alameda Landing (1 mi) and Webster (2 mi) and Alameda Point businesses (0.5 mi)
 - Activates area and with an equity perspective, is in walking distance of Alameda Point Collaborative residents
 - Over six acres available to site Aquatic Center and parking
- Challenges:
 - Area will be inundated by sea level rise. Plans include levees and flood walls, pending funding and construction. Could build above ground facility.
 - Not easily accessible by bicycle or public transit.

POTENTIAL LOCATIONS

- Option 2 – Sweeney Park western phase near Constitution & Atlantic
- Opportunities:
 - Opportunity to complete the entire park through efficiency of scale. Include community garden and infrastructure for remainder of park in this project.
 - Economic development – walking distance to Webster St. and Marina Village
 - Easily accessible by bicycle/public transit
 - Centrally located and with equity perspective, serves residents of three Housing Authority sites in walking distance
- Challenges:
 - Change to design developed through extensive public planning.
 - Site could require further soil and groundwater remediation which adds cost. Could be above ground facility and/or pump with carbon filtration for groundwater.

PARKING

- Both locations have sufficient space for bicycle and vehicle parking.
- For Sweeney Park location, adjacent Marina Village Business Park staff stated strong support of the project and willing to allow business parking area to be used as overflow on weekends.

FUNDING

- Cost to design and construct City Aquatic Center is \$20M - \$25M
 - On higher end if constructing at Sweeney Park and completing community garden and all park infrastructure.
- Proposal
 - Fund 50% of project from unassigned residual General Fund balance
 - Finance 50% with 30-year mechanism with approximate annual General Fund payment of \$600,000 for \$10M financed over 30 years. A large portion could be funded by ARPD revenues based on past budgets.

NEXT STEPS

- Public comment, feedback from Commission and recommendation to City Council.
- Final approval by City Council