An Outdoor Aquatic Center for Urbana
in Crystal Lake Park

There will be a question on the April ballot about an outdoor pool for Urbana

After completing several phases of public input, the Urbana Park District Board of Commissioners accepted a concept plan for an outdoor aquatic facility in Crystal Lake Park to replace Crystal Lake Pool. They will place a question on the April 5, 2011 ballot asking voters if they support a property tax rate increase to construct and operate a new outdoor aquatic facility.

What needs will the outdoor aquatic facility meet for Urbana residents?

The proposed design meets the outdoor swimming needs for pool goers of all ages and for a wide variety of aquatic interests: water play, high-energy activities like slides and diving, as well as lap swimming and competition space. The facility can be used simultaneously for recreation and instruction. In a September 2010 survey conducted for the Urbana Park District, 86% of respondents supported the construction of a new outdoor aquatic facility. Seventy percent of respondents indicated they would use a new facility at least a few times a season. The outdoor pool completes the indoor-outdoor aquatic picture for the district.

What will the outdoor aquatic facility offer?

No two swimmers are alike. The concept plan will enable the park district to offer a broad aquatics program that includes features for all ages and a variety of needs. Recreational and competitive swimmers can enjoy

- **Shady/ green spaces**
- **Zero-depth entry**
- **8-lane competitive/ lap pool**
- **Picnic areas/ concessions**
- **3-season sprayground**
- **Flume slide/ Bowl slide**
- **Sand play area**
- **Tot area**
- **Family changing area**
- **In-water playground**
- **Diving board**
- **Open water for play**

What does this mean for me?

A ballot question will ask about a tax rate increase to construct and operate a new outdoor aquatic facility at a cost not to exceed $X,000,000. If approved, it would add XX additional cents to the park district property tax rate. This equals $___ in taxes annually for a home assessed at $100,000. The first year new tax money could be collected is 2012.
(Determine the assessed value for your property at _____)

The tax rate increase would allow the park district to sell and pay back bonds to finance construction plus pay for ongoing operations and reinvestment in the pool and its features over time.

The concept planning process created a picture of the new outdoor pool for Urbana. The final cost of the project can be determined once architectural drawings are complete and construction bids are received.

When will a new pool open?

If voters agree to a tax rate increase, a new outdoor pool would open in 2013.

What happens if voters do not approve a tax rate increase for a new pool?

The old Crystal Lake Pool will be demolished and filled in at an estimated cost of $300,000. The expense will come from existing tax dollars and will require the Urbana Park District to rearrange financial priorities. This step would be necessary because the empty pool would be unsightly and a danger to citizens and a liability to the park district if left as is.

Additional Questions?

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You may also contact any park commissioner. Contact information is at http://www.urbanaparks.org/people/board.html

DRAFT

CRYSTAL LAKE AQUATIC CENTER CONCEPTUAL PLAN

This multi-generational, multi-skill conceptual plan offers recreational swimming opportunities for all ages. Notice features for competitive and fitness swimmers, for toddlers and those who enjoy playing in shallower water, and for teens who are drawn to high-energy activities such as diving and water slides. Ample shade rounds out the space for adults. A sprayground can be open in spring and into early fall. A sand play area adds another creative activity for children. Family changing spaces and concessions and picnic areas add to the experience.

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