



CITY OF ST. ALBERT ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUNDER

TITLE: Fountain Park Pool

On October 3, 2016 Councillor Hughes provided notice in accordance with Section 23 of Procedure Bylaw 35/2009 that he/she intended to bring forward the proposed motion below.

In order for Council to debate the motion, the motion must be formally moved.

That an architectural/engineering review and construction estimate is performed to determine the costs, feasibility and timelines required to remove the peninsula in the Fountain Park Pool, and up to \$15,000 be allocated for this, to be funded through the Stabilization Reserve.

BACKGROUND:

Installation of the Peninsula

Prior to 2000, the Leisure Pool existed as the primary pool, an 8 lane 25-meter tank, complimented by the small tot's pool. The peninsula, bollards and accessibility ramp was added to the Fountain Park Leisure Pool as part of the facility construction that occurred in 2000 as indicated in the diagram below. The 8 lane competition pool and hot tub were also added as part of the overall facility enhancements.

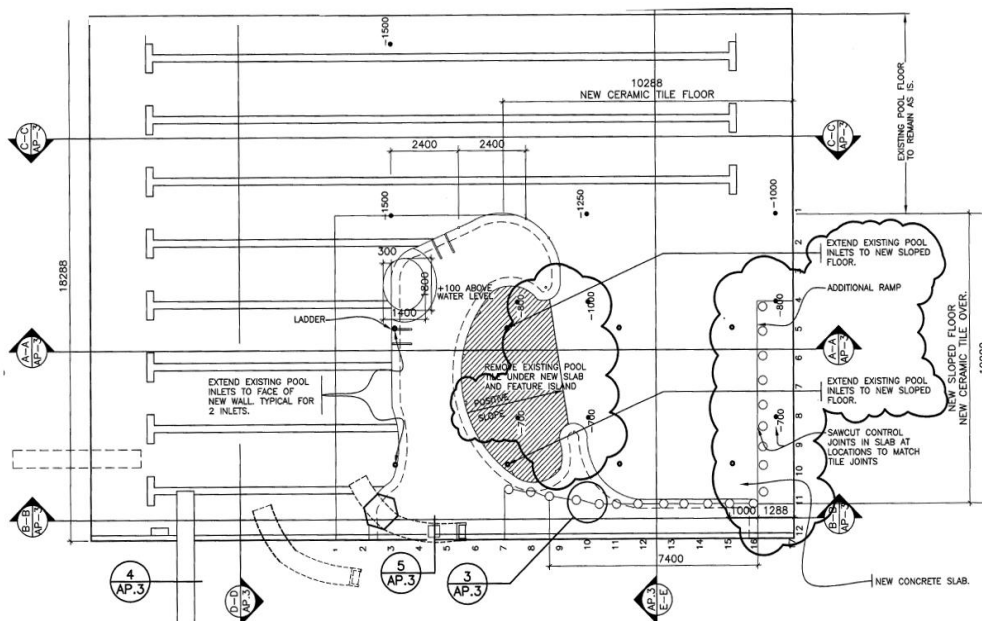


Image: Fountain Park Recreation Centre – Leisure Pool

The impetus of modifying the Leisure Pool in 2000 was to enhance the facility to be inclusive of the different needs of the community. The renovation transitioned a traditional rectangle tank to a multi faceted leisure pool.

The peninsula, bollards and accessibility ramp allow for:

- Full accessibility to the Leisure Pool through the sloped ramp, divided by the bollards.
- Physical separation of space to allow for multiple uses at one time such as lessons, public swim, fitness classes.
- Allows for additional amenities to be provided including a second slide
- Safety boundary that allows the diving board to be used during public and family swims.
- Key component of the lifeguarding system allowing for improved access to middle of pool.

The removal of the peninsula, bollards and accessibility ramp would propose a significant number of operating implications to the current operating model and would require thorough analysis before proceeding.

These implications include but are not limited to accessibility to the Leisure Pool for those with mobility issues, restructure of lifeguarding systems, potential decrease in lifeguard response time, decrease in program offering, limiting use of pool amenities (blue slide, diving board) during public swims, etc.

Further public engagement would be required to ensure that the removal of the peninsula, bollards and accessibility ramp would meet community need.

Potential Removal of Peninsula

The removal of the peninsula, bollards and accessibility ramp while technically feasible, would involve potentially extensive modifications to the pool tank. In order to establish accurate costing of these modifications a thorough engineering analysis and cost estimate would be required.

An architectural/engineering firm would need to be contracted to perform the following:

- Revise/develop designs.
- Summary of area changes.
- Recommended structural enhancements/changes.
- Detailed construction cost estimates in 2017 dollars.
- Construction schedule/pool closure time frame.

The estimate cost for these services - \$12,000- \$15,000. A period of 10-12 weeks would be required to complete the report.

Report Date: October 24, 2016
Author(s): Diane Enger
Committee/Department: Recreation & Parks
Acting General Manager: Aaron Giesbrecht
Interim City Manager: Chris Jardine