



**Municipality of Anchorage**  
**Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** May 2, 2023

**To:** Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation Board of Supervisors

**Cc:** Michael Braniff, Director, MOA Parks and Recreation  
Tanya Lieberman, Deputy Director, Eagle River/Chugiak Parks and

**Thru:** Recreation

**From:** Dan Hagarman, Recreation Manager, Eagle River/Chugiak Parks  
and Recreation

**Project:** 2023 Chugiak Pool Improvements

**INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY**

Unfortunately, Alaska holds the distinction of having the second highest drowning rate in the United States. For this reason, pools across Alaska, remain one of the most important efforts towards mitigating drowning accidents through public safety education services and programs. Since its construction Chugiak Pool has provided community aquatic outreach programs in the form of recreational and instructional programs as well as athletic competitions such as ASD swim meets and the Eagle River Triathlon. Chugiak Pool remains the only competition scale, full venue, aquatic facility of its kind for the entire Eagle River/Chugiak Service Area.

ASD constructed Chugiak Pool in 1975 as part of the water safety education goals and guidelines for the State of Alaska. In 2001, Chugiak Pool operations, management, and maintenance defaulted to Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation because the ASD was unable to continue operation of Chugiak Pool. However, per Memorandum of Understanding, the ASD remains responsible for the building structure that Chugiak Pool resides in and performing maintenance as required.

Since this change over, Eagle River/Chugiak Parks and Recreation Aquatics Department has diligently maintained equipment facility operations and its mission statement commitment to “water safe the community” through well structured, high quality professional programming that is efficient, safe, and fiscally responsible delivery of services to the tax payers of the Eagle River/Chugiak Service Area.

- Since the Chugiak Pool was constructed in 1975, it was replaced in 1989 where project details focused on the pool in its entirety, from concrete slab foundation to all accessory areas such as locker rooms.
- Building services relocations were performed in 2002, in which the project focused on mechanical and electrical locations of all core utilities to their current locations.
- Deck and Drain replacement was performed by World Wide Roofing in 2009. This project ended in failure.

- In 2012, a second attempt was made by Orion Construction to replace the pool deck and drains with insurance surety funds from the previous project failure. Unfortunately, this project suffered immediate failure due to installation inefficiencies on the part of the contractor.

Due to age of Chugiak Pool and prior failed CIP projects, major critical operational components are failing and causing safety issues that will ultimately push Chugiak Pool towards a closure resulting in a significant prolonged interruption to the previously stated services and commitments to the community service area.

#### FUNDING

- PROJECT COST: Build estimate of \$3,000,000 per Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation Department and Maintenance & Operations.
- Cost project funding from undesignated. \*Please see attached Priority ITB Component Listing for Replacement/Repair of Chugiak Pool.

#### TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Invitation to Bid is estimated for Spring/Summer 2023 to meet a Winter 2024 construction schedule that will achieve a better pricing and competitive bidding.

- Estimated project timeline is September 2024 – April 2025.

#### PLANNING

The Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation Department identifies and evaluates all assets and facilities for the Eagle River/Chugiak Service Area on a consistent basis. As such the need for Chugiak Pool was identified starting in 2012 and discussed in previous BOS meetings that funding would be identified from fund balance savings.

In October 2022 an Assessment Report was conducted by the Municipality of Anchorage where engineers evaluated Chugiak Pool. Based on this assessment and that of the Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation Department the Component Listing encompasses a priority itemized plan to address safety issues and outdated facility components at Chugiak Pool. Primary components are anticipated to have a cost of 3,000,000. If funds remain after primary components are addressed remaining additive alternates on the list can be addressed as funding allows.

#### SUMMARY

Currently, due to the age of Chugiak Pool and prior failed CIP projects, major critical operational components are failing and causing safety issues that will ultimately push Chugiak Pool towards a closure resulting in a significant prolonged interruption to the previously stated services and the Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation Aquatics mission statement. With the successful funding and support of the board for the repair and upgrades to Chugiak Pool, the aquatic services to the Eagle River/Chugiak service area and our community can continue forward without interruption and provide a sustainable operational into the future for the Eagle River/Chugiak service area.