

September 8, 2023

Re: Public Comment regarding a new recreation center

Dear City Council and McMinnville Water & Light,

Thank you for taking the time to read our comments regarding our hope for you to move forward the discussion with McMinnville Water & Light regarding a future site for a recreation center and pool.

I was born and raised in McMinnville. As a child, I utilized just about every park and recreation service the City of McMinnville could provide. Now 47, I'm watching my children recreate on the same exact fields, in the same gyms and in the same pool with twice as many users and very little upgrades. The time is now to nail down a site for a new recreation center and pool in McMinnville. The potential site on Marsh Lane is very appealing. It's accessible, centrally located and adjacent to Joe Dancer Park. What an opportunity for the city.

I started and run the McMinnville Community Tennis Association, a non-profit that provides youth tennis programming during the summer months. We just completed our 3rd summer of programming. I also live in the Cows Street Tennis Courts neighborhood where our programming takes place. The neighborhood has seen its challenges over the last 4 years. Yet, when those courts are filled with McMinnville's youth, the neighborhood feels and looks vibrant, safe and healthy. I can envision the same scenario on Marsh Lane.

The economic, social, health and environmental value of quality parks and recreation services is well researched. Quality parks and recreation are noted as one of the top three reasons that businesses cite in relocation decisions. In countless surveys, parks and recreation services are a major determinant of a community's livability. Communities that participate in sport and recreation develop strong social bonds, are safer places and the people who live in them are generally healthier and happier than places where physical activity isn't a priority.

The time is now to move forward with plans to build a one stop shopping pool and recreation center. Acquiring the Water & Light probably on Marsh Lane is the first step.

Again, thank you for your time and service,

Lisa Macy-Baker



From: [Jisun Lee](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Cc: [Jay Nelson](#)
Subject: Written statement for 9/12 Council Meeting
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 11:30:12 AM

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hi Ms. Cisneros,


I'd like to submit a written statement for the city council meeting that will be held on 9/12.

We are a long term swim team family; our oldest child just started her freshman year at McMinnville High School and has been on the swim team ever since we moved to McMinnville in 2016. Her younger sister joined a few years later.

The value that the swim team and, more indirectly, the aquatic center has brought to our lives is hard to measure. They have found a safe, positive, inclusive environment in the swim team that has helped them connect with their peers, experience team sports, and feel like they are part of our larger community.

We have been keenly aware that the aquatic center is aging. The locker rooms and lanes are crowded during their practices. Storage seems difficult, and swim team meets are crowded. We have been required to be flexible around practice times in ways that have been a hardship for our family because there hasn't always been enough time to accommodate all of the different community needs that the aquatic center fulfills. We wish there was more space so that our younger children could have more consistent swim lessons.

We understand that the question of how to maintain the aquatic center and balance its needs with the rest of the city's needs must be a complex one. We would like to add our voice to advocate for prioritizing the aquatic center as much as possible. It gives the families in this city and its surrounding areas experiences and access to sports and community that should be recognized as indispensable. My children spend upwards of 20-30 combined hours in and out of the aquatic center. Please ensure that it is a safe, functional, welcoming space for us and McMinnville's future families.

Jisun Lee & Jay Nelson


From: [Sandra Stokes](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: McMinnville Needs a new Aquatic Center
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:16:32 AM

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hello:

Our town has been delaying the inevitable for too long and now is the time for McMinnville to build its new aquatic center.

As a senior citizen and a devoted Grandmother, I enjoy keeping my body active and strong by using the pool and keeping my spirit strong by watching my granddaughter swim with her team!

Our community is large enough to support a new aquatic center. I have been in smaller communities within Oregon that were inspired to make big decisions a reality.

We know it is a waste of money to continue to repair our present aquatic center, so let's make the decision move forward McMinnville, let's bust a move now!

Sandi Stokes

From: [Andrew Jones](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: McMinnville City Council Meeting 9/12 Public Comment
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:49:25 AM
Attachments: [We sent you safe versions of your files.msg](#)
[Public Comment of Andrew Jones - McMinnville City Council Meeting 9.12.23.pdf](#)

Mimecast Attachment Protection has deemed this file to be safe, but always exercise caution when opening files.

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hi Claudia,

I would like to be added to the public commenters for tomorrow's meeting. Please see attached my accompanying written comment.

Thank you!

Andrew

Andrew Jones

President, McMinnville Swim Club



Public Comment of Andrew Jones, President of McMinnville Swim Club

McMinnville City Council Meeting, September 12, 2023

Thank you Mayor Drabkin and Councilors for the opportunity to provide comment.

- I am the president of the McMinnville Swim Club. We currently have over 140 swimmers, with a waiting list that often exceeds 20 kids! MSC has been around for nearly 70 years and is a part of a rich tradition of swimming in McMinnville. Just about everyone I meet of a certain ago who grew up in McMinnville speaks fondly about swimming in the outdoor pool in Upper City Park.
- The community's love of swimming brought about by those sunny days splashing in the outdoor pool led to the building of the Aquatic Center, which was (and remains, even with its wrinkles) one of the best facilities in the state.
- The long tradition of aquatics in McMinnville now is our responsibility. We cannot let it die out while waiting for the right time to act.
- McMinnville is changing in many ways, but one thing that we need to keep is a public facility that serves as a place for kids to play, where they can spend a few dollars and go splash in the sun like their parents and grandparents did!
- Since the beginning of the MacPac process some four years ago, there has been lot of excitement and engagement with our membership. That excitement is still there, but every year we spend watching the leaks in the Aquatic Center roof, with only more discussions, we risk losing credibility. So I would like to encourage you to move forward with urgency in your efforts to finalize a site for the new recreation facility, and begin building.
- I also encourage you to reach out to me or our head coach Murilo Martins ([REDACTED]) when you are considering "right-sizing" the facility. We are happy to share the wants and needs of a swim club in the future of aquatics in McMinnville. The Swim Club will be an enthusiastic and vocal supporter of a facility that continues the tradition of swimming in McMinnville!

Andrew Jones – [REDACTED]

From: [Dianne Haugeberg](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: Work session letter in support
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 10:06:22 AM
Attachments: [We sent you safe versions of your files.msg](#)
[City Council letter Shea 2023.pdf](#)

Mimecast Attachment Protection has deemed this file to be safe, but always exercise caution when opening files.

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hi Claudia,

I prepared a letter in support of a new recreational center for the City Council. I haven't ever submitted a letter before – is the process for me to email it to you? If there is a different process, please let me know!

Thank you,
Dianne

Dianne L. Haugeberg

LL.M. in Federal Taxation

HAUGEBERG, RUETER, GOWELL, FREDRICKS & HIGGINS, P.C.
620 North East Fifth Street | P.O. Box 480 | McMinnville, Oregon 97128
Telephone (503) 472-5141 | Fax (503) 472-4713
dlhaugeberg@hrglawyers.com | www.hrglawyers.com

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This transmission (and/or documents accompanying it) may contain confidential information belonging to the sender which is protected by the attorney-client privilege. The information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify me immediately.

SHEA
Brian Shea and Dianne Haugeberg Shea
[REDACTED]
McMinnville, OR 97128

McMinnville City Council
230 NE Second Street
McMinnville, OR 97128

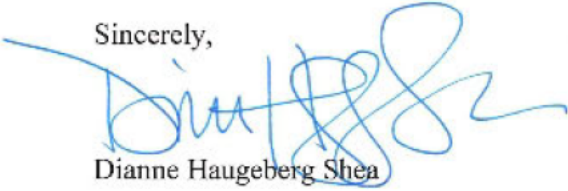
Re: Recreational Center

Dear Mayor and City Councilors:

I want to express my appreciation for your continued vision and work toward a new recreational center for McMinnville. Our family spends a considerable amount of time at the aquatic center so this letter is in support of the new aquatic center.

Our community has a long-standing history of a robust aquatic program for both youth and adults and for both competition and recreation. My hope is that you will continue to focus on a new aquatic center that supports multi-generational use both for our current residents but also for generations to come. Our community continues to grow and a new aquatic center should be designed with forethought for the future growth of McMinnville. A design that maintains the current usage and services would not take advantage of this opportunity to create a legacy recreational center. I support the City Council in its efforts to design and build a recreational center and aquatic center that will serve our community for decades to come.

Sincerely,


Dianne Haugeberg Shea

From: [Leah McGlade](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: Letter in Support for New Community Pool
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 11:42:18 AM
Attachments: [We sent you safe versions of your files.msg](#)
[Letter in Support for New Community Pool.docx](#)


Mimecast Attachment Protection has deemed this file to be safe, but always exercise caution when opening files.

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hello Claudia-

Happy Monday! Please include the attached letter of my support for a new community pool. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Cheers,
Leah McGlade
Cépage Direct to Consumer Strategies
Managing Partner


Dear Councillors-

I am writing to support building a community recreational facility that will house a new pool for the residents of McMinnville and surrounding towns. A community pool is vital to residents of ALL ages – from babies just learning to love the water, toddlers and young children taking lessons, 4th graders attending survival swim class, to Grandmothers and Grandfathers keeping themselves healthy with senior water exercise. As a parent of an elementary school child who races with the MSC Mako team and will hopefully continue for seven more years, I strongly feel that the town should invest in a new pool. The MSC Mako Team hosts two 3-day swim meets annually, bringing in teams from all over Oregon; the families staying in McMinnville to attend the meets for the weekend are spending money in our town supporting local restaurants, lodging, and retail shops.

On a personal note, I see what the senior water exercise did for my 74-year-old mother. When we were new to McMinnville, she wanted to get in better shape, and through her visits to the pool, she lost weight and made many wonderful friends. After a recent bout with cancer, she returned to the pool after her chemo treatments to help restore her strength. As for my daughter Olivia, the pool is everything for her, not only as a member of the Mako team. After being diagnosed with Transient Synovitis at age 8, she needed a way to bring strength back to her hip. Once her Pediatric Rheumatologist cleared her, she swam at least three times per week to rehabilitate her hip. She needs the pool to keep her hip feeling great, and because this is so important to her health and well-being, I would consider moving out of McMinnville if we didn't have a pool in our community.

I always stand strongly for what I believe in, and would be happy to volunteer my time towards whatever is needed to support the effort to build a new pool – whatever it takes, a community pool means that much to my family and me. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Leah McGlade



From: [Amy Miles](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Contact the City of McMinnville
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:43:51 AM

Hi Claudia,

Someone submitted written testimony for the upcoming council meeting via form submission.
Thanks!

Amy

From: McMinnville Oregon <mcminnville-or@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:38 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the City of McMinnville

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Submitted on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 - 8:38am

Submitted by anonymous user: [50.53.252.128](#)

Submitted values are:

Attention Department Planning Commission

First Name Sinell

Last Name Harney

Phone number [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Question/Comment

My name is Sinell Harney and I am a current resident of McMinnville and have 3 kids that all participate in the Makos swim club. I am also a pediatric physical therapist working in McMinnville and have a son with a disability.

I would like to submit written testimony for the 9/12/23 City Council Meeting regarding the acquisition of part of the Water and Light property for the possible new combined recreational facility that will house McMinnville's new pool.

I encourage the City Council to move swiftly, as our current pool is failing beyond repair. I am concerned that our current pool is eventually not going to be safe to use, and our community will be left with no options but to wait 1-2 years while a new pool is being constructed and/or re-modelled. Having access to a pool is vital to the health and wellbeing of our entire community. A pool is often the most accessible way that older adults, people with orthopedic impairments, and children with

disabilities can exercise.

Please consider moving forward with the next steps in the land acquisition.

Thank you for your time.

Sinell Harney, PT, DPT, MHA

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.mcminnvilleoregon.gov/node/7/submission/53149>