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MEMO 26-5

JAN 29 2026

TO: City Council

FROM: Owen Gafa, Director of Parks and Recreation *OG*
Susan Como, City Manager *SC*

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS
CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

DATE: January 29, 2026

SUBJECT: Grosse Pointe Farms Pool Usage Request – Summer 2026

The City of Grosse Pointe Farms has approached both our City and the City of Grosse Pointe Park with a request to allow their residents limited use of our municipal pool during the 2026 summer season. This request is due to the planned reconstruction of their aquatic facility, which will be unavailable for the duration of the summer.

Specifically, the City of Grosse Pointe Farms is requesting consideration of the following provisions:

1. For recreational swim, usage would be evenly split between both city pools by Grosse Pointe Farms Voting Precincts 1 and 2.
2. Access would be managed through the issuance of Grosse Pointe Farms park passes in two distinct colors, each designating access to one community's pool. This system would allow gate staff to easily identify permitted access.
3. No guest privileges would be allowed for Grosse Pointe Farms residents.
4. Payment of \$20,000 would be made in one lump sum to each participating community.

The City of Grosse Pointe Farms has also provided anticipated pool usage data for the upcoming summer season. Based on peak usage monitored in July of last summer, average attendance at their large pool was 36 individuals (including swim team participants from 4:00–6:00 p.m.), with a maximum of 78 users recorded on July 4.

They anticipate these numbers will decrease significantly in 2026 due to several factors, including the relocation of the swim team to Grosse Pointe South, synchronized swim being held at Grosse Pointe Shores, the elimination of guest privileges, and the pools being located outside of their community. Conservatively, they estimate an average of approximately, with a maximum of around 60. This would translate to an average of approximately 15 additional users at both our pool and the Grosse Pointe Park pool at any given time, with peak usage reaching up to approximately 30 additional users.

This request presents an opportunity to continue the long-standing reciprocity relationship that the Grosse Pointe communities have extended to one another for more than 20 years. In return for working with us, Grosse Pointe Farms will share contact information to their current lifeguard roster in hopes that they will reach out and seek employment for the 2026 season, with a roster of over 40.

It is both my and the City Manager Susan Como's recommendation to allow the of City of Grosse Pointe Farms residents the use of our municipal pool for the 2026 summer season, beginning May 23 through September 7, 2026, in adherence with the provisions outlined above.