

Metropolitan Park District

From Dan Ford <Dan.Ford@cityoftoppenish.us>

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Cc Adam Vaughn <Adam.Vaughn@cityoftoppenish.us>; Heidi Riojas <Heidi.Riojas@CityofToppenish.us>; Daniel B. Heid <Daniel.Heid@cityoftoppenish.us>; Sean Davido <Sean.Davido@cityoftoppenish.us>

 1 attachment (49 KB)

Possible Toppenish Pool Liquidation;

Good afternoon Council.

I know that you all want the best for the City of Toppenish and its residents and City staff has always made that a priority. The Metropolitan Parks District continues to evolve with new information added on a daily basis, some of which even changed last night's presentation by Finance Director Vaughn, to which I added prior to his speaking, about the pool.

We met this morning with Jeanette Ozuna and Walt Wegener representing Farm Workers and the Friends of Toppenish Pool (CSN). They are interested in taking ownership of the pool as well as working with the City in reconsidering the Metropolitan Parks District to both include the pool and expand the voting boundary to that of the school district. A larger area involving more participants would allow the group to lower the taxable amount from .75 to .50 but also include the pool. This would allow the Friends of Toppenish Pool (CSN) to promote this effort providing a higher, we believe, opportunity for success. In order to accomplish this there are a few things that must happen for this to go to the voters in the spring of 2026, those are:

- The City of Toppenish would need to rescind the resolution it passed last night prior to the August 5th, 2025, deadline.
- The City of Toppenish would need to pass a new resolution before the spring election deadline similar to the one passed last year that includes the larger area, the City parks and recreation, as well as the pool.
- Yakima County would need to pass a resolution supporting the Metropolitan Parks District with the same parameters as the City of Toppenish prior to the spring deadline.

We believe this can work well for everyone involved and we have also had a brief discussion with Yakima County Commission Linde this morning and he is in support of taking this to the voters. Farm Workers and the Friends of Toppenish Pool (CSN) representatives will take this to Yakima County to gain their support.

I will be out of the office for our study session on August 4th and Director Vaughn will be filling in for me. We try very hard to not have actionable items at our study sessions, but it is important that the resolution passed last night be rescinded prior to the August 5th deadline. With that this will be on the agenda for our study session for August 4th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Director Vaughn as you know he has worked very diligently with this both last year and recently.

Sincerely,

Dan Ford, PE
City Manager



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