

Initial Results of South and Lowell Pools Assessments Released

July 7, 2021

The City of Boise contracted with local architectural firm Cushing Terrell in November of 2020 to conduct on-site evaluations of South and Lowell Pools. The two swimming pools are the oldest pool facilities owned and operated by the city. For this analysis, Aquatic Design Group of Carlsbad, California, served as a subcontract consultant to provide swimming pool-specific assessments of both sites.

Using industry standards and code requirements, the consultants developed the report and recommendations and presented their findings to the city in 2021. [The report is available online.](#) It includes an analysis of architectural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, site and pool systems. An ADA analysis was also performed separately by Tindale Oliver, a national expert on addressing accessibility, at the city's request. [Click here to read the analysis.](#)

The report details a large number of deficiencies with both pools and recommends significant steps necessary to bring the pools up to safety standards. The evaluations did not include in-depth structural testing to determine the impact of age and use on the integrity of the structures. The City of Boise Public Works Department estimates the cost to correct the issues independent of any structural issues is approximately \$2.4 million per pool.

“The consultant’s assessments of both South and Lowell pools is the first step in a long process,” said Boise Parks and Recreation Director Doug Holloway. “We plan to involve the community and engage residents in future planning for both pool sites, starting as early as this fall, before any decisions are made with regard to the results of the report and next steps.”

South and Lowell pools were not part of the re-opening plan for City of Boise swimming pools this season. The Natatorium & Hydrotube, Ivywild, Borah and Fairmont Pools are open and operating throughout the summer. More information on the public engagement process to discuss the future of South and Lowell Pools will be announced later this year.

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