

“Option 2”

BUILDING THE BUBBLE: FOR NOW AND THE FUTURE

Ever since its construction in the early 1970’s, Vashon residents have consistently ranked a covered, public pool as a priority. The recent VPD survey showed that a year-round Vashon pool ranks in the top three “wish list” items. The SEALs Swim Team recently ran a successful petition drive, gathering over 1,250 Vashon resident signatures as well as local business owners’ support over a short two-week period in support of covering the pool *now*. Additionally many community members have attended Park District meetings, and written letters to the Beachcomber and Vashon Park District commissioners, expressing their support for covering the pool *now*.

Rather than risk public money with high capital and operational costs associated with a permanent building, the SEALs have followed the example of other local communities to extend the seasonal use of the pool with a temporary bubble structure. In order to make this innovative proposal a reality, we have come up with a “phased” implementation that will allow the SEALs to build the bubble by this fall and prove the concept with limited public funds. Once VPD has determined how additional public pool use fits within its budget, the constructed bubble will be available for additional public hours of use.

After reviewing this proposal, we request immediate VPD Board approval to allow the SEALs sufficient time to order the bubble, obtain the necessary permit, and work with other stakeholders to have the bubble in place by Fall 2017. Time is of the essence in order to allow continued pool use with the end of the summer outdoor season. Unless the SEALs obtain VPD Board approval by the end of the month, construction of the bubble will be substantially delayed. Once the bubble is constructed, VPD can then add additional public use consistent with its developing budget picture.

PHASE I: CONSTRUCTION OF THE BUBBLE WITH THE SEALs AS ANCHOR TENANT.

- **Proposal:**
 - Through private fundraising, the SEALs will construct the bubble and pay for necessary upgrades to the pool facility that are associated with the bubble.
 - The SEALs will “prove the concept” by operating the pool, with the bubble, for swim team and associated uses.

- During Phase I, at a minimum, the SEALs will provide use of the pool for swim team activities, adult masters/lap swimming, learn to swim activities and lifeguard training.
- The SEALs will manage the programming and lifeguard staffing and pay a 9-month lease. The VPD is asked to cover the cost of the facility maintenance staff.
- The SEALs will take down the bubble and restore the pool for outdoor use.
- **Public Benefit:**
 - Construction of the bubble and associated infrastructure without any expenditure from VPD.
 - Opportunity for immediate programs offered by SEALs, and future public program offerings by VPD.
 - Allows time for public program priorities to be implemented and to sustain long term goals of a subsequent permanent structure.
- **Public Risk:** Very little. VPD is responsible only for the cost of facility maintenance. The rest of the operating costs are covered by SEALs rental fee. If the SEALs are unable to uphold any portion of this proposal (which will be memorialized in a legal contract with VPD), then VPD can choose not to renew the agreement at the end of the season.
- **Timing:** VPD Board approval is necessary by the end of April to allow for the SEALs to gain approval from VISD, fundraise, order and purchase the bubble, acquire the permit and complete site construction for a Fall 2017 opening.

PHASE II: FULL PUBLIC USE OF THE BUBBLE

- **Proposal:** Once the SEALs prove the bubble concept, VPD can add additional public use consistent with its budget. These public uses would expand the swim team associated uses outlined in Phase I.
- **Public Benefit:** VPD took over the pool from King County because public swimming activities – and a pool where the public can learn to swim and practice swimming – are particularly crucial to an island community. The bubble would allow VPD to extend its successful summer programming into additional seasons during the year and serve a diverse populace.

- **Public Risk:** Low. The cost to VPD could be determined with a high degree of certainty based on data learned through Phase I use of the pool. The VPD Board, through its regular budget process, would be able to gradually (or immediately) introduce additional public pool use consistent with VPD's budget priorities and allocation process.
- **Timing:** The timing for adding additional public use would be within VPD's discretion. With the bubble already constructed, it would be up to VPD to determine when additional public uses are warranted and the nature of those uses.

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Vashon Pool Bubble - School Year Operating Revenue and Costs

Phase I Operations

Masters/Lap Swim, SEALs Swim, Learn to Swim
Other programs as they develop

Revenue to Parks District

SEALs	9-Month Lease	\$34,200	
	Total Revenue		\$34,200

Expense to Vashon Park District (provided by VPD)

Utilities	\$2,500/mo x 9 months	\$22,500	
Chemicals	\$1,300/mo x 9 months	\$11,700	
Facility Maintenance Mgmt	Incremental Salary	\$28,040	
	Incremental Benefits	\$ 6,000	
	Back-up Staff	\$ 5,000	
	Back-up Staff Benefits	\$ 1,350	
	Total Expenses		\$74,590
Incremental Operating Costs to VPD			\$(42,290)