



October 13, 2010

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OPEN HOUSES SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS PROPOSED SWIM AND MERKEL/FRANKLIN FEES

Meetings Set to Gather Public Input

Spokane Parks and Recreation staff will conduct two open houses on Tuesday, October 19, 2010, to seek information from the public regarding proposed fees for next year at aquatic centers and at the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex and the Franklin Park Sports Complex.

Information is needed now so that the 2011 Parks Department budget can be finalized.

The six new aquatic centers and the Merkel Complex were constructed with funding from the 2007 Parks Improvement Bond. The bond funded construction of the facilities but not maintenance and operation costs, so it's crucial that user fees or other funding cover M & O. Likewise, user fees at the Franklin complex must cover M & O at that facility.

Please see proposed 2011 fees on the attached two schedules.

Anyone who wishes to provide information should plan to attend the open houses which will be held concurrently at the Finch Arboretum. As a convenience for the public, the open houses will be held the same evening in the same location but in separate rooms at the Arboretum:

Proposed Swim Fees for 2011

October 19, 2010

6:00 pm

Woodland Center at Finch Arboretum

3404 W. Woodland Blvd., Spokane, WA 99224

Proposed Merkel and Franklin Sports Complex User Fees for 2011

October 19, 2010

6:00 pm

Woodland Center at Finch Arboretum

3404 W. Woodland Blvd., Spokane, WA 99224

Comments from the open houses will be provided to Park Board members for review. Citizens will have an additional opportunity to testify at the November 11 Park Board meeting when it is anticipated the fees will be approved.

About Spokane Parks and Recreation

City of Spokane Parks and Recreation is responsible for the professional management and prudent caretaking of more than 4,100 acres of developed parks and conservation land. The Golf Division maintains and operates four championship municipal golf courses, including Indian Canyon, Downriver, Esmeralda and the Creek at Qualchan. Park Operations has responsibility for the maintenance of all park land and park facilities in the City of Spokane including Riverfront Park, Manito Park, Gaiser Conservatory, the many city-wide gardens, and Finch Arboretum. Urban Forestry staff manages 50,000 street trees and another 28,000 trees on developed park land within the City of Spokane. The Recreation/Entertainment Division offers classes, special events, athletic leagues and activities for youth, teens, adults, seniors and persons with physical and mental disabilities. It also operates Riverfront Park attractions, activities and events, and provides support for community centers, senior centers, the Northeast Youth Center, Corbin Art Center and outdoor swimming pools. For more information please visit www.spokaneparks.org

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