



City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 7, 2023
TO: Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Doug Thornley, City Manager Approved Electronically
FROM: Nathan Ullyot, Parks and Recreation Director
SUBJECT: Stakeholder desire to modify Moana Springs Aquatic Center locker room layout

Throughout the Moana Springs Aquatic Center design and construction process, the Public Works and Parks and Recreation Departments have met with numerous stakeholders to obtain their feedback. Many requests for design modification have been realistic, practical, and have been implemented or will be implemented. However, the Sierra Nevada Community Aquatics (SNCA) leadership asked for a locker room modification which staff does not support. SNCA has acknowledged that the facility will be amazing but feels this change is important for their member groups specific use.

The primary concerns being brought forward by SNCA about this design concept are as follows:

- There are not enough lockers available to daily user groups to change in the private area
- Concern with size of locker room for meets with 500-800 people. We anticipate this will occur rarely (15 days a year). When we have a large event we will create more privacy if needed and be using patio space to spread people out. If people enter the changing areas, change in a reasonable time, and get to the pool, there will not be an issue. There is not a scenario where we can build a locker room to accommodate an event with 200 swimmers at each time. The facility has been built with the general public in mind.
- There are not enough bench spaces and clothing hooks to allow for changing in the facility
- More urinals in the men's changing would be preferred to standard toilet stalls

SNCA represents several user groups but primarily represents water sports clubs/teams. While staff understands their concerns about the locker space, staff cannot support them because to do so would be to the detriment of the primary users, families with children. These specialized groups will primarily use the competition pool and will max out at 60-80 people due to lane lines and the nature of those activities. For primary users, open swim and swim lesson times will regularly reach capacity levels with 300-500 in the three different pool areas. For that reason, the facility is designed to serve the 300-500 people largely families with school age children. Most parents bring their children to the pool in their swimwear and leave the facility at staggered times. Additionally, the SNCA request would add significant cost and delays to the project because most of the utility infrastructure and internal framing is complete.

The design team included Aquatic Design Group as a specialist for aquatics facility design and the consensus between design and staff was to incorporate much of the locker storage in view of facility staff and surveillance.

This has become a preferred design standard over the last 15-20 years in the aquatics industry for the following reasons:

- Reduced opportunity for theft and vandalism
- Limits separation for parents with school age children
- Reduced horseplay for groups of children
- Improved child protection by mitigating the opportunity for inappropriate physical contact