



C I T Y O F  
**RENO**  
Memorandum

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**DATE:** October 9, 2024

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager

**FROM:** Nathan Ullyot, Director  
Matt Brezina, Parks Manager

**DEPT:** Parks and Recreation

**SUBJECT:** Idlewild Pond Liner and Wall Project Update

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jackie Bryant".

**Summary:** The southernmost pond at Idlewild Park is in need of upgrades and repairs in order to preserve its integrity and function. Rock walls bordering portions of the west, north, and east shores of the pond have been deteriorating and are now leaking water into the surrounding ground. Concrete stem-walls will be poured in front of the existing historic rock walls to prevent seepage into the surrounding area and preserve the historic qualities of the wall. Additionally, in an effort to adequately retain water in the pond, a 60mm impervious high-density polyethylene (HDPE) liner will be installed on the bottom of the pond.

**Background:** The ponds in Idlewild Park were built on native soil without a PVC or clay liner to hold water. The ponds' water supply is solely fed from the Truckee River and in periods of drought or low river flow, the ponds do not receive enough water to support the percolation into the native soil. The pond walls are comprised of a cobble and mortar construction, and due to age, the condition is deteriorating, allowing water to flow through the walls and into the adjacent subgrade. Some sections of the walls have completely deteriorated, requiring complete reconstruction, and other sections will need to be reinforced to contain the pond water.

**Action:** Council approved \$1.6 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support the reconstruction of the pond walls and installation of a synthetic pond liner to support the integrity of the pond. The project has been publicly bid and was awarded to Resource Development Company at the October 9, 2024 Reno City Council meeting. Construction is expected to start the last week of October 2024, and Park Maintenance staff have closed the

water supply to the pond in preparation of the project. The community should expect low pond water levels ahead of the construction project.

**Duration:** The project will start the last week of October 2024 and will continue through the middle of May 2025. Portions of Idlewild Park parking lots and ponds will be closed for the duration of the project. The multi-use path through Idlewild Park will remain open for use.