


## INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

### Tukwila Metropolitan Park District

TO: Tukwila Pool MPD Board President

FROM: Rick Still, Parks and Recreation Director   
 BY: Malcolm Neely, Aquatics Coordinator

DATE: August 14, 2012

SUBJECT: Tukwila Pool Scholarship Fund

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#### ISSUE

Tukwila Pool Scholarship Fund Update

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT

Information Only

#### BACKGROUND

Prior to the Grand Re-Opening of the Pool in 2013, the Tukwila Pool provided scholarships to those who qualified for the Tukwila Parks and Recreation Scholarship Program. No records were kept and the scholarships were distributed as a revenue loss.

The scholarship program was allocated \$5,000 in the 2013 budget. In addition, \$1,042 was donated from Sustain Tukwila Pool (STP) bringing the total to \$6,042 for 2013. The Scholarship Program Policy states that funds will be allocated seasonally, as follows:

Season	% of funds to be awarded
Winter: January – April	25% \$1250
Summer: May – August	50% \$2500 / now \$3522 w/ STP Donation
Fall: September - December	25% \$1250

The demand for the program has been strong. By July 17<sup>th</sup>, less than half way through the summer season, \$2,669.95 in scholarships had been awarded, leaving less than \$400 available for scholarships through August 31<sup>st</sup>. At that time, 72 scholarships had been awarded. Forty of those scholarships were 100% scholarships, 26 were 75% scholarships, and 6 were 50% scholarships. The total cost per course registration ranged from \$26 for Saturday classes to \$55 for morning summer lessons. These scholarships contributed to or covered fees associated with 585 classes.

#### DISCUSSION

Demand for swimming lessons and aquatic fitness opportunities are strong, and the demand for scholarships has also been robust. As the summer swim session comes to a close, scholarship needs still exist. The summer allocation of scholarship funds is dwindling and some students may have to wait until fall to begin or continue lessons when additional funding becomes

available. The struggle is that proficient swimming and water safety skills cannot be fully developed in one session of swimming lessons. It takes multiple sessions of swimming lesson participation to develop the skills to safely be able to be around and/or swim in open water that is so easily accessible in the Puget Sound region with all the rivers, lakes and the ocean. Under the current Scholarship Program Policy 80% of the 2,800 children attending the Tukwila School District qualify for a scholarship of at least 50%, with the majority of those children qualifying for a scholarship of 100%. Statistics show that drowning is the second leading cause of injury related death for children 19 and under. That fact, along with high incidence of obesity, diabetes and other health challenges in our area, and the effects of low income, are all factors making the Scholarship Program at the Pool an opportunity to improve and possibly save kids' lives.

Option 1 – Follow the outlined scholarship award percentage breakdown according to the seasons with the current funding. This option could likely run short on funds for both the remainder of the summer season and in the fall.

Option 2 – Authorize the use of the remaining funds to be used as needed regardless of the seasonal percentages.

Option 3 – Authorize additional funding of \$4,500 to the scholarship program for the remainder of 2013.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Option 3 - Authorize additional funding of \$4,500 to the scholarship program for the remainder of 2013 and direct TPAC to conduct fundraising efforts to offset the expense of this service.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Policy #300.01 Tukwila Metropolitan Park District Pool Scholarship Program

<b>Subject</b>	Scholarship Program	<b>Policy #</b>	300.01
<b>Effective Date</b>	Immediately		
<b>Last Revised</b>	March 18, 2013		
<b>Approved By</b>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<b>Date</b>	3-20-13

**PURPOSE OF POLICY**

To establish policy and guidelines for the scholarship program at the Tukwila Pool.

**POLICY STATEMENT:** The Tukwila Pool will maintain a scholarship program to ensure that everyone has access to aquatic recreation and aquatic learning opportunities. It will be the responsibility of the Aquatics Coordinator, or their designee, to administer and maintain the Tukwila Pool Scholarship Program.

**QUALIFICATION AND AWARD:** Applicants must qualify to receive an award.

Qualification is based upon Household Income Guidelines or Free and Reduced Lunch Qualification. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's current "Income Guidelines for King County" will be used as the basis for establishing the award guidelines. Additionally, students qualifying for free/reduced lunch with the Tukwila or Highline School Districts may automatically qualify. The table below details award amounts based upon qualifications.

Tukwila/Highline Free/Reduced Lunch	HUD Income Guidelines	Scholarship Award Amount
	80% - 50% of Median Income	50% of program or pass cost
Reduced Lunch	50% - 30% of Median Income	75% of program or pass cost
Free Lunch	30% or lower of Median Income	100% of program or pass cost

Scholarships are distributed to residents and/or students in Tukwila. Proof of residency and/or verification of school attendance may be required.

Scholarship awards may not be available for all programs, and some programs may only be eligible for partial funding.

**SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABILITY:** Scholarships are dependent upon annual funding, season, and participation limits.

**Funding:** The Scholarship Fund is determined annually and funding is allocated through the budget process.

**Seasonal Distribution:** Annual funding is distributed as detailed in the table below. Scholarship awards will only be valid for the season for which the application was submitted, however, a complete application is valid for one year from the time it was submitted. Applicants need not complete a new application for each season for up to one year.

Season	% of funds to be awarded
Winter: January – April	25%
Summer: May – August	50%
Fall: September - December	25%

Participation Limits: Scholarships are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. One scholarship per participant per season may be awarded. Additional scholarships may be awarded at the discretion of the Aquatics Coordinator depending upon funding availability. Only lessons continuation will be considered for additional scholarship funding in a given season. The intent of additional scholarships for swim lessons is to encourage skills competency relative to water safety.

**REVIEW PROCESS:** The following steps will be taken to ensure accurate and consistent review.

1. Scholarship requests will be accepted at the Tukwila Pool on an ongoing basis.
2. Requests will be promptly reviewed by the Aquatics Coordinator or his/her designee.
3. Scholarship Request Forms must be complete for consideration. Incomplete forms will be returned to the applicant.
4. Applicants will be notified of their award status by US Mail within 10 business days of application receipt

**CONFIDENTIALITY** All application materials will be confidential and used solely to evaluate and/or confirm eligibility for the Tukwila Pool Scholarship Program.

**DEFINITIONS:**

*Scholarship* – A partial or complete reduction of fees or resident rates for a Tukwila Pool Program or Pass.

*Program* – Offerings for which the Tukwila Pool has a course fee for.

*Pass* – A pass for which an individual can register for that allows them access to drop in offerings at Tukwila Pool.

*HUD Income Guidelines* – United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) "Income Guidelines for King County" for the current fiscal year will be used as the basis for establishing income guidelines.