



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Liana Kallivoka, PhD, PE, Interim Director
Austin Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: August 12, 2019

SUBJECT: 2019 Summer Swim Season – Status Update

L Kallivoka

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update regarding operations, maintenance and staffing associated with the Austin Parks and Recreation Department's (PAR) Aquatic facilities for the remainder of the 2019 summer swim season.

SWIMMING POOLS AND SPLASH PADS

Govalle and Shipe pools are currently under construction. Both pools have incurred delays due to heavy rains earlier this year, unforeseen infrastructure conditions, significant delays in the delivery of construction material, and subcontractor performance issues including default.

Govalle Pool is tentatively scheduled for completion in mid to late August 2019, and has a projected opening to the public in late August 2019. The Aquatic team has developed a new schedule extending the swim season for Govalle Pool through September 29, 2019, and will consider opening the pool earlier for the 2020 swim season, contingent upon having adequate lifeguard staff available.

Shipe Pool is tentatively scheduled for completion in September 2019, and at this time, the pool is not expected to open this season. The Aquatic team will consider opening the pool earlier for the 2020 swim season, contingent upon having adequate lifeguard staff available.

The Public Works Department is managing the construction projects, and the project manager will continue to work with the contractors for the successful completion of the two pools.

All other swimming pools and splash pads are currently open. PAR will continue to post pool closures to the *Park Closures* website, at <http://www.austintexas.gov/parkclosures>.

END OF SEASON CLOSURES

The following list provides the pool closure dates for the City of Austin's 2019 summer swim season as it winds down, with the first round of pool closures to begin on Sunday, August 11.

Dates	Swimming Pools and Splash Pads
Sunday, August 11	Civitan (D3), Gillis (D3), Metz (D3), Parque Zaragosa (D3), Stacy Wading (D9), Kennemer (D4), West Austin (D9)
Sunday, August 18	Dottie Jordan (D1), Givens (D1), Rosewood (D1), Dittmar (D2), Dove Springs (D2), Martin (D3), Montopolis (D3), Canyon Vista (D6), Balcones (D7), Brentwood (D7), Dick Nichols (D8), Patterson (D9), Murchison (D10), Ramsey (D10), Reed (D10), Westenfield (D10)
Sunday, September 22	Chestnut Splash Pad (D1), Lott Splash Pad (D1), Rosewood Splash Pad (D1), Metz Splash Pad (D3), Bartholomew Splash Pad (D4), Clarksville Splash Pad (D9), Eastwoods Splash Pad (D9), Pease Splash Pad (D9), Ricky Guerrero Splash Pad (D9), Bailey Splash Pad (D10)
Sunday, September 29	Govalle (D3), Mabel Davis (D3), Garrison (D5), Northwest (D7), Walnut Creek (D7)

LIFEGUARD RECRUITMENT AND STAFFING LEVELS

PARD currently has 865 lifeguards who have been trained and are ready to work, far exceeding the Department’s goal of 750 lifeguards.

PARD would like to advise that although our scheduling software shows all lifeguard shifts currently covered, this is historically the time of year when we experience an increase in temporary staff not showing up for scheduled shift(s). It is important to consider that the majority of our temporary staff are high school or college students, and multiple factors come into play to interfere with their availability during this time of the year. Although we have implemented policies and procedures to help ensure staff provide at least the standard two weeks’ notice, and communicate their intent for the following summer, the Department has not been able to get 100% participation by the temporary staff.

To date, the Aquatic Division expects all pools to remain open for the remainder of the season, with the exception of those pools currently closed for repairs or construction. However, since the number of temporary staff not showing up for their scheduled shifts is likely to increase, some of the diving wells, baby pools and other amenities may not remain open.

Should you have any questions, please contact Anthony Segura, Assistant Director at (512) 974-9411, or via e-mail at Anthony.Segura@austintexas.gov, or Jodi Jay, Aquatic Division Manager at (512) 974-9459, or via e-mail at Jodi.Jay@austintexas.gov.

- Cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
- Elaine Hart, Deputy City Manager
- Chris Shorter, Assistant City Manager
- Richard Mendoza, Director, Public Works Department