

San Bernardino Investment Playbook

Project Details: Olympic Aquatic Center

An Olympic Aquatic Center in Ward 5 will boost quality of life, improve access to healthy exercise options, and establish San Bernardino as a destination location for aquatics competitions. This 65,000-ft² state-of-the-art facility will be composed of three swimming pools (a 10-lane 50-meter main pool, a swim lesson/adaptive-use pool, and a diving well with 4-10 25-yard training lanes) with space for spectators; a building for 1-, 3-, 5-, 7-, and 10-meter platform diving; non-aquatic exercise areas; meeting rooms; event space; party rental gazebos; and a playground.

Core activities will include swimming activities for all ages, competitions and other large aquatic events, aerobics and other exercise training that requires an aquatic environment, and weekend facility rentals. Free water safety workshops and sliding-scale swimming lessons will ensure that area residents have the skills and knowledge needed to guard against drowning accidents.

RATIONALE

The City of San Bernardino lacks a state-of-the-art aquatics facility that could provide the foundation for improved health and well-being. Area residents (particularly those from the city's historically disadvantaged and disinvested communities) have limited access to recreational / competitive swimming opportunities and water safety education, which together perpetuate racial disparities in drowning deaths.

OBJECTIVES

- Promote healthy living in San Bernardino by expanding range of exercise opportunities
- Provide needed water safety education and swimming lessons for area residents
- Boost tourism by attracting major aquatics competitions to the city

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Rentals will include pool lane(s), entire pool(s), classrooms, exercise areas, canopies and gazebos, concession stand, and equipment.

COST

\$20M Site infrastructure and construction

- \$19.5M Building structure
- \$500K Exercise equipment

\$8.6M Pools

- \$4.2M Pool #1
- \$2M HVAC for pool areas
- \$950K Pool #2
- \$787K Pool #3
- \$650K Outdoor splash pad

\$4.4M Additional project costs

- \$1.9M Engineering, planning, architectural fees
- \$1M Furnishings, fixtures, equipment
- \$1.5M Five percent project contingency

\$10M Annual operating costs (over five years)

\$43M TOTAL over five years

POTENTIAL FUNDING

State

State of California SB5
Community Bond

City

Existing capital
Local bond issues
Fundraising

Other

Commercial loans
Fundraising
Partnership with hospitals / health organizations seeking space for aquatic programming
Philanthropic grants
Rental fees
Retailers (e.g., in-kind equipment donations)
User fees

LEAD ORGANIZATION

City of San Bernardino – Lydie Gutfeld, director, Parks, Recreation, and Community Services
Premier Aquatic Services (contractor—staffing, programming, and operations)

SIMILAR PROJECTS ELSEWHERE

[Riverside Aquatics Center](#)

[Marguerite Aquatics Complex \(Mission Viejo\)](#)

[Splash! La Mirada Regional Aquatics Center](#)

[Fontana Aquatic Center](#)

[Hansen Dam Aquatic Center](#)

[William Woollett Jr. Aquatics Center \(Irvine\)](#)