

The North Austin Neighborhoods of
Milwood Neighborhood Assoc & Walnut Crossing Neighborhood Assoc
Northwood Neighborhood Assoc & Angus Valley Area Neighborhood Assoc

May 28, 2015

Dear Mayor Adler, Council Member Pool, and Sara Hensley, Director:

The Balcones Neighborhood Pool is the 6th most utilized in the city and when compared to populace and location is the most utilized in North Austin. We are adamantly against any proposed cutbacks in this year's summer schedule for any aquatic or P.A.R.D. cutbacks citywide and are advocating that Council allocate full funding to cover our most precious amenities; our pools and parks.

The P.A.R.D. Aquatics Division and the Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Committee and ultimately the City Council must fully reconsider these cutbacks to provide us with, at a minimum, the same schedule as previous years for the following reasons:

1. Last year the city cut several days and hours causing the pool to open later and lose operating hours.
2. Balcones Neighborhood Pool is one of only four in a large area with an active and growing population, which makes it a paramount resource for our ever-growing population of North Austin.
3. The pool hosts swim teams for adults, recreational users, as well as for children to get exercise.
4. The proposed cuts in hours would cause a **near 20% decrease** in Balcones Pool's hours. (See Spreadsheets Attached.)
5. The loss of an entire day (Monday) throughout the summer is unacceptable, especially due to the already limited dates throughout the year that the neighborhood pool is open, and would result in a **20% reduction in the swim team practice hours** as in years past they have practiced every Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs and Fri from 8am to 10am.

Other Details:

- Out of 29 neighborhood pools, the Balcones Pool is the 6th Most Used neighborhood pool based on Attendance by Population in the city using 2013 Attendance and 2014 Population.
- Balcones Pool is the 5th Ranked for Lowest Cost per Participant per Neighborhood Pool (29 total) from 2012-2013 Data at \$2.30/participant.
- District 7 contains 4 city pools: 2 neighborhood and 2 municipal
- School Ends: June 4th & School Begins: Aug 24
- Balcones Pool is a free pool, so attendance is counted every hour by the lifeguard and recorded on a clipboard
- Balcones Pool is a swim team pool, so weekdays 8-10am the swim teams occupy the pool.

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We will continue to advocate for the Aquatics Division and the P.A.R.D., as well as our neighbors, friends and other residents of North Austin.

Sincerely,

Milwood Neighborhood Assoc.
Meg Davis, President
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Walnut Crossing Neighborhood Assoc.
Kernan Hornburg, President
512-470-3123

Northwood Neighborhood Assoc.
Rosalia Nassaux – Secretary
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Angus Valley Area Neighborhood Assoc.
Stacey Peterson, President
512-250-9570

The following are attached for reference:

- Recommended Pool Schedule 2015
- Balcones Pool Stats 2011-2012
- Balcones Pool Stats 2012-2013
- Balcones Pool Stats 2013-2014
- Summary of the Previous Year Stats with Recommended hrs for 2015
- Attendance By Pool
- City Map of Pools in the City
- Aquatics Assessment as it Includes Balcones, for the complete go to:
<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/aquatics-assessment>