

Subject: Concern over Recommended Cuts in Balcones Pool Hours this Summer

Date: Friday, May 29, 2015 at 10:10:32 AM Central Daylight Time

From: Milwood NA <milwoodna1@gmail.com>

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Dear Mayor Adler, Council Member Pool & Ms. Hensley:

Milwood, Walnut Crossing, Northwood and Angus Valley Area Neighborhood Associations **strongly oppose** the cutting of hours at the Balcones Pool that are being recommended for this summer. Please find our letter attached as well as back-up data on the issue.

Please also note:

- The Water Safety Community attest to the fact that access to guarded swimming reduces the drowning rate in a community. Drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death for kids age 4-17. The strategies that are used to reduce the drowning rate in a community are to provide swim lessons and remind parents that active supervision is their job. It has been shown that when a community closes a guarded pool, the kids will still find a way to swim, which is usually in an unguarded pool or unguarded natural body of water and the drowning rate in the community increases as a result. Reducing the hours and cutting days at the Balcones Pool can have a deadly affect in our community. One child drowning is too many.

- The Balcones Pool produces State level swimmers that compete at the Texas Amateur Athletic Foundation swim competition on an annual basis. Cutting the days and available practice time at Balcones Pool will decrease the competitiveness of its swim team and put its swimmers at a disadvantage. A true failure to serve the kids of our community.

Sincerely,

Milwood, Walnut Crossing, Northwood and Angus Valley Area Neighborhood Associations