

Friends of Half Moon Bay Parks and Recreation (FOHMBPAR, HMBPARKS.ORG, a 501c3 entity) is working to bring a two-pool Aquatic Center to the coastside, preferably at CUSD's Half Moon Bay High School campus. The Aquatic Center will replace the 50-year-old substandard pool to enable league water polo and swim competitions, and provide a second community-centered pool.

We believe new pool facilities are needed at HMBHS for two reasons:

1. To enable interscholastic water polo league-level matches and swim meets. Presently, league competition requires HMBHS students to be transported over the hill.
2. To provide a second, smaller community pool for open access during the day without interference with school sessions. This second pool would help to bring equity in access to swim lessons to foster basic water safety and swimming instruction for all age groups, as well as lap swimming and warm-water exercise.

We believe funding for a new two-pool aquatic center like that recently built for ~\$16M at Sonoma Valley HS (see image at HMBPARKS.ORG) need not come only from CUSD. We propose to help raise funds for this project using a combination of public (County and State) funding, non-governmental grants, and philanthropic donations. Possibly, CUSD may be able to obtain State school facilities funds under the renovation (Prop 51) provision or use other funding mechanisms for at least a portion of the Aquatic Center's cost. Importantly, we have discussed with the CUSD Superintendent and others the idea that CUSD allow the use of district real estate for the development of modernized aquatic facilities for the benefit of students and the coastside community as well.

Please know community access to high school pools is completely feasible and has been successfully implemented in multiple public high school sites in the Bay Area and elsewhere. Public access during school hours is, in fact, so common it is the rule rather than the exception for many modernized high school sites. Of note, the HMBHS tennis courts have been open to the community with similar mutual benefit and without security issues for decades now.

Thanks to significant funding provided by local philanthropic donations, multiple new sports fields and event facilities have been funded and completed at both the HMBHS and Cunha Intermediate School campuses in recent years, bringing huge benefit to the entire coastside community while incurring modest costs to the District for either their build or maintenance. Operation of a new Coastside Aquatic Center with full community access at HMBHS may be managed by a separate, non-profit entity as is currently done by Sonoma Valley High School using a user-vetting model based on aquatic center "membership." FOHMBPAR is also building an endowment fund to perpetually offset operating and maintenance expenses so that the facility remains open and requires minimal District funding. We believe such a model could work here.

We ask you to visualize coming up Lewis Foster Drive and seeing a new and very attractive Coastside Aquatic Center on the Half Moon Bay High School site. For more

than 20 years, coastsiders taxpayers have worked with Mavericks Swim Club and others in the maintenance of the HMBHS pool, providing enhanced access to the public in a mutually beneficial partnership. Now is an opportunity for a true win/win for the students and the community. FOHMBPAR is currently fundraising for a site feasibility study to determine true costs required to build such a community legacy that will serve generations of Coastsiders going forward.

Recently, dozens of swimming enthusiasts attended a Half Moon Bay City Council listening session, revealing that many consider the current access to HMBHS aquatic facilities is insufficient for community needs. We know that the trustees of the CUSD Governing Board are aware of this public sentiment. We want to invite the coastsiders community today to unify toward a dream of a Coastsiders Aquatic Center. We believe now is finally the time to act to let us bring to our diverse community, better, safer, and more equitable and inclusive access to enhanced aquatic recreation facilities for the coastsiders.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors of FOHMBPAR