

Thank you to everyone who donated to Swim Winchester in 2020! Swim Winchester is very grateful to have received an outpouring of generous gifts in this challenging year. There is such amazing enthusiasm for our community pool!

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SWIM WINCHESTER UPDATE 2021

Swim Winchester is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building a community pool to give everyone easy access to swimming and fitness all year round. This pool will be available for use by all members of the community including families, seniors, athletes, and residents with special needs. Swim Winchester's goal is to create a gathering place that not only promotes water safety and good health, but brings the community together through creative programming and event spaces at a central location.

NOTE FROM THE BOARD

In early 2020 we met our design fundraising goal of \$250,000! In the challenging pandemic year that followed, we were reminded even more how community spaces are important for health and connection. We have missed seeing our dedicated community members in person at events but we have been just as active as ever!

Swim Winchester is working with two industry-leading firms, Isaac Sports Group and Water Technology Inc., to update the financial figures and define programming options. Their analysis will inform our design decisions (see inside for more details). Thank you to our generous donors, organizations, and volunteers who contribute to make this project possible.

LOOKING AHEAD

- By fall 2021, we will have updated financials and costs for different design options
- We will choose a firm to create our advanced concept design
- We will expand our Board and committees as we get ready for our capital campaign



GET INVOLVED! This is your community pool and we want you to be involved in important decisions! We will be looking for people to comment on design options in the fall/winter. We are also looking for new Board and committee members. To volunteer, please send an email with your information to info@swimwinchester.org or sign up on the website swimwinchester.org or **HELP MAKE OUR POOL A REALITY!**



COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Swim Winchester hired the Isaac Sports Group (ISG) to cost out various design and programming options for the pool. ISG



President Stu Isaac has helped build pools all over the country, including most recently in Wellesley MA.

In fall 2020 and winter 2021, ISG held online meetings with Town of Winchester officials, the Winchester Chamber of Commerce, Winchester Hospital, the Gables at Winchester, Swim Angelfish,

the Jenks Center, Winchester Recreation Department, and the Friends & Neighbors of Skillings Field. Swim Winchester and ISG also set up numerous focus groups to solicit input and ideas from community members. Focus groups included: Young Families, WHS Parents, WHS Students, Older Adults/Seniors, Masters Swimming, Special Needs/Adaptive Aquatics, and Sustainability/Green Design. These discussions gave us lots of great feedback to influence the design and programming for the pool!

Thank you to all of our focus group participants!

Abbie DiMatteo	Catherine Coccoluto	Diego Rosenfeld	Gail Larocca	Judy Blaine	Maaike Biemans	Shannon Callahan	William Chan
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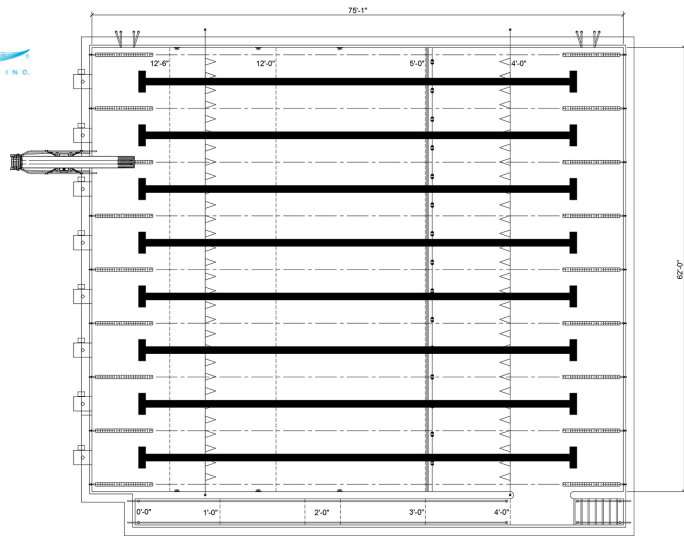
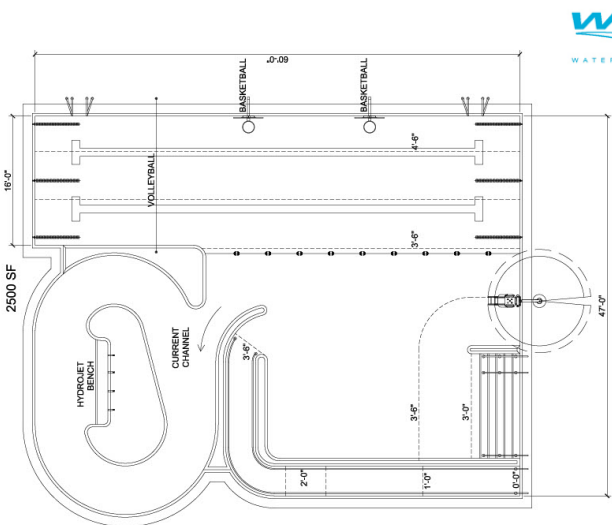
EXPLORING DESIGN OPTIONS

Our second project partner, Water Technology Inc., has been brainstorming design options based on the input from community meetings and focus groups. Currently, we are planning for two pools in the facility, one 25 yard lap pool and one recreational pool. A small therapy pool could also be added depending on funding.

The focus groups showed high demand for popular activities such as swim lessons, lap swimming, swim team practices, and family swim times.

Community members are excited about many different types of aquatic classes that could be offered, such as water aerobics, lifeguard training, scuba certification, and floating yoga. There was also strong interest in physical therapy, rehabilitation sessions, and special needs classes.

In the summer 2021, ISG will carefully analyze the cost of various design options and how much revenue they will generate. This will help Swim Winchester identify a “winning” mix of features for the pool facility!



WTI design option for a recreational pool with current channel

WTI design option for a 25 yard, 8 lane pool.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHERE will the pool be located?

The Winchester Select Board and School Committee unanimously voted to approve a site in the northeast corner of Skillings Field subject to certain conditions. Two of the site's major advantages are its central location and the extra parking that is available when Winchester High School is not in session. Schools and pools go very well together based on usage and hours.



For high school swimmers like myself, building a pool in Winchester would mean no more waking up at 4 am to drive to Medford for practice. But the facility will be for more than just high school athletes. As an intern at Swim Winchester, I got to see how hard Swim Winchester works to create a facility that is well suited for every age and skill level. I really believe that having a pool in Winchester would benefit everyone in the community!
- Emily Campo, Swim Winchester Intern and WHS Class of 2021

HOW MUCH will it cost to build?

The ISG analysis and advanced concept design work in the fall of 2021 will allow Swim Winchester to determine an accurate cost range for the community pool. With the recent rise in local area construction costs, the facility price tag will be higher than our \$15 million estimate from 5 years ago. A more precise estimate will be available when the ISG cost analysis work is completed in fall 2021.

WHAT is the financial plan?

The pool is a public-private partnership with the goal of building a self-supporting facility open to all residents in town. The facility will be constructed via privately-fundraised capital on Town of Winchester land. Yearly membership fees will cover maintenance and operational costs. This annual fee-for-use model is similar to other Winchester public amenities such as the Packer-Ellis tennis courts.

WHEN will it be built?

The community pool is a complex, long-term project. With the enthusiastic support we have received so far, we are hopeful that this wonderful amenity could be built within the next five years. Construction will start after the completion of the Town of Winchester flood mitigation work and a multi-year capital campaign. We are putting a lot of effort into planning in order to make sure the facility meets community needs and the financial plan is sound.



Serving as a community center, this project would help to bring people from our lovely Winchester community together. It would offer us a great place to enjoy some fun healthy entertainment no matter what age we are or whether we can swim.
- Jifeng Liu, Board Member

