Larry R. Walkup Aquatic Center Pool Renovation Update

Incorporated County of Los Alamos
Public Works & Community Services Department

County Council
October 6, 2026

LOS ALAMOS

Attachment A

Pool Restoration & Mechanical System Improvements - Background

Pool Restoration

- Repair, Restoration & Resurfacing of the Original Shell (1988)

Mechanical System Improvements

- Replace Olympic Pool Pumps (38-years-old)
- Upgrade Olympic Pool Filtration System
- New system designed to provide system redundancy, increase filtration capacity, pump efficiency & longevity

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Project Planning and Delay

Originally This was Two Separate Projects

- Original Replastering Schedule - **March 2025**
- Due to concerns from LAHS Swim teams and others the replastering project was moved out to **May 2026**
- Original Schedule for the Pumps & Filters replacement was **2027**
- Due to condition assessment and concerns over potential issues of the replastering curing, this project was moved up by Change Order in July 2026 and was originally scheduled for **October 2026**.
- In September 2026 the manufacturer changed the pumps scheduled to **November 2026**
- November-December 2026 is scheduled to install the new pumps, finish the plastering, allow proper cure time, and allow aquatic center staff time to prepare the pool for re-opening in **January 2027**

Replastering Project 2025 → October 2026 ← Pumps and Filter Project 2027

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Attachment A

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Pool Restoration – Current Status

Completed

- Removal of existing plaster
- Inspection and repair of pool shell
- Replaced toe ledge tile, lane tiles, deck depth indicators, wall targets, and no diving signage
- Replaced bases and wiring for underwater pool lights
- Installed concrete bases for new starting blocks
- Handrails and anchoring points (including Therapy Pool)

In Progress

- Pool deck patching
- Deck coating

Pending

- Pool plastering
- Grates, suction inlets & underwater pool lights

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Mechanical System Improvements – Current Status

Completed

- Removal of the existing system
- Pads and bases for new pumps
- Surge tank outlet coring and patching
- Filters in place

In Progress

- Installation of filter hardware and piping
- Surge tank waterproofing and new deck

Pending

- Pump & motor installation and piping
- Filtration system startup and commissioning

New filters up to 2,275 gpm, 8'x5'
5,000 lb. empty, 11,000 lb. in operation

New concrete pads for pumps

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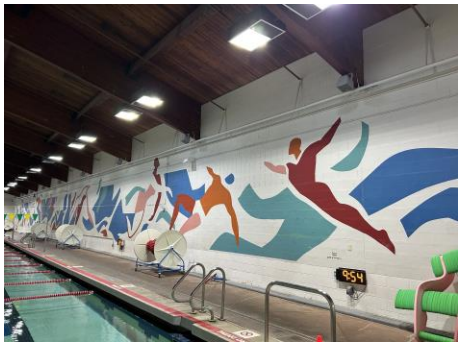
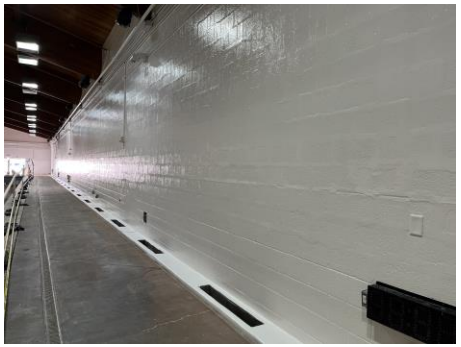
Additional Maintenance

Completed
- *Aquatic Figures* mural deaccession
- Natatorium wall painting
- Mechanical room
  - Roof structure cleaning and painting
  - Floor drain repair

In Progress
- Natatorium light replacement
  - Dust concerns have been tested
  - Professional Cleaning
- Heat exchanger maintenance

Pending
- Sewer drain and vent repairs
- Thorough cleaning of natatorium
- Remainder of painting *(can't be completed until bulkhead is put into water)*





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Alternative Pool Facilities

- Background – anticipating the LRW pool closure, Pinon Pool supposed to be operational through October
- All outdoor community pools were considered and contacted (January 2025)
- Only Pinon Pool property owner was willing to contract with the County
- June 2026, boiler out, $250K to replace and would take time to procure and install and other unforeseen issues might arise
- Due to cold water temperatures, the Pinon Pool was closed a month early

Alternatives Considered

Two alternates were considered when the Pinon Pool closed early

A. Other community pools
B. Other regional pools

Limiting factors in decision making

1. Staffing
2. Bridging as much time as possible – October through January
3. Procurement requirements
4. Prioritizing high school swim team

Evaluation Criteria 3 - Procurement Process

- Any new service agreement would need to be open to fair competition to all interested parties
- Lead times need to be considered for a new Agreement or Contract
- 2025 Local Pool Partnership Background Information
  - Terms were negotiated with Canyon Vista Pool Association over the course of 5 months, and did not result in an executed contract
  - Terms were negotiated with the Pinon Park Pool owner over the course of 3 months

Evaluation Criteria 4 - LAHS Preference

- LAHS Swim and Dive team prefers to use East Park Pool until temperatures get too low to swim outside. They (LAHS and EPP) have agreed on the proposed rate of $5 per student, per day.
- Interested in County's MOU with Lucero Center
- When temps do get too low, LAHS would like to use Lucero Center 1-2 days per week.
- LAHS to track student athlete costs and submit reimbursement request to Los Alamos County

LAHS and Lifeguards

- LAHS may be able to use their coaches as lifeguards for their athletes per:
  - *NMAC 7.18.1.25: When swim teams are the only users of an aquatic facility, in lieu of a qualified lifeguard the owner or designated agent may allow substitution of a swim coach attendant, who is certified by the American Red Cross or an equivalent organization in first aid (CPR) and is trained to deal with safety hazards. Both the owner of the public aquatic venue and the sponsoring organization furnishing the swim coach shall be responsible for assuring proper credentials, training and bather controls are maintained in accordance with these requirements.*

Two Viable Options

- East Park Pool (EPP)
- Lucero Center (LC)

East Park Pool Proposal

- Verbal request that was made during Public Comment on Sept 29, 2026:
  - James Wernicke, on behalf of East Park Pool:
    - "Ask County Council to direct County staff to send lifeguards to East Park Pool, instead of off the hill."
    - "Don’t want the County to run their facility."
    - "Enter into a short-term agreement to cover $2,000 per week in facility operating expenses; such as chemicals and utilities."

East Park Pool Feasibility Evaluation

1. Staffing- With the recent news that the County lifeguard staffing numbers are reducing by two in October, there is not sufficient staff to fully staff EPP
2. Timeline- Lifeguards have indicated they have concerns working outside past October
3. Procurement Requirements- Any new service agreement would need to be open to fair competition to all interested parties and takes time to draft, solicit, and evaluate proposals; then draft and award an agreement
4. LAHS- The high school swim and dive team would prefer to practice locally- weather permitting

Lucero Center Feasibility Evaluation

1. Staffing- required County life guard staffing is less than EPP, because of partnership with LC staff serving as lead-lifeguards
2. Timeline- Since the LC is an indoor facility, pool availability is not weather dependent
3. Procurement Requirements- Government-to-Government agreements can be direct partnerships through a negotiated MOU
4. LAHS- The high school swim and dive team would prefer to practice locally- weather permitting, however, when the weather does get cooler, LAHS is willing to travel to the LC to practice

Questions??