

DATE OF MEETING | MARCH 20, 2019 |

AUTHORED BY | KATHY GONZALES, ASSISTANT AQUATICS MANAGER,  
PARKS AND RECREATION |

**SUBJECT                      NANAIMO AQUATIC CENTRE SCORE CLOCK REPLACEMENT**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To obtain Council approval to amend the 2019-2023 Financial Plan to include funding for replacement of the score clock at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre. |

### **Recommendation**

That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council approve adding \$32,000 to the 2019 budget for a LED numeric score clock for the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre, to be funded from the Facility Development Reserve and a \$5,000 private contribution from the Nanaimo Riptides Swim Club.

## **BACKGROUND**

The score clock at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre (NAC) was installed in 2010 with the purpose of displaying information for aquatic sporting events. Each year the Aquatic Centre hosts approximately six swim competitions for several different community groups that utilize the display. Swim competitions require specialized timing equipment that must be compatible with the score clock in order to meet the needs of the community groups who utilize the equipment. The next scheduled events are booked for April and June. These events will host more than 300 swimmers from across Vancouver Island.

The clock was estimated to have approximately a ten to twelve year life expectancy and was slated for replacement in 2022. In late 2018, the score clock failed to perform during a competition. After review by the City's IT Department, several issues were identified that could have contributed to the display failure including extreme corrosion within key components of the display system. Several options were executed in effort to eliminate the display issue; however, none of these actions were successful in solving the display problem. At this point, the IT Department contacted the manufacturer. The manufacturer provided a quote for possible repair at approximately \$22,550.00 USD and no guarantee that this repair would not cost more or solve the display issue.

There are two models on the market that would meet minimum requirements for the facility and the needs of the user groups. The first score clock is a similar model to the current score clock and is a full-colour LED video display model with multiple display options and capabilities (Attachment A). This model would function as a score clock and provide opportunities for advertising and programming for the City of Nanaimo, and potentially allow for revenue opportunities through external advertising and sponsorship. Programming and use of the LED Video display model has been challenging in the past and required additional staff support to

ensure operation during events. This model is similar to the score clock in place at NAC and has not been modified to prevent similar damage and corrosion that has been demonstrated in the current score clock. The LED Video display model costs approximately \$92,000 for the product, taxes, and shipping and continues to have a life expectancy of approximately ten years. The capabilities of this score clock would allow for 16-lane swim competition capabilities, if required.

The second option, a LED numeric score clock, is simpler score clock display that only shows lane, place, and time for up to eight lanes (Attachment B). This model costs approximately \$35,000 for the product, taxes and shipping and has a life expectancy of 10 to 15 years. This model is designed to add lines or replace individual lines if they become damaged. The simpler design of this model would limit use to 8-lane swim competitions and function only as a score clock, not a display. Staff have connected with the local swim clubs to ensure support for the simpler display of the numeric score clock.

The Nanaimo Riptides Swim Club is providing a contribution of \$5,000 for the replacement of the score clock.

Staff are recommending the replacement of the score clock with the second option, the LED numeric clock, including a 10% contingency, using funds from the Facility Development Reserve Fund with the possibility of re-budgeting for the replacement of the video display model in the capital planning process.

## **OPTIONS**

1. That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council approve adding \$32,000 to the 2019 budget for a LED numeric score clock for the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre, to be funded from the Facility Development Reserve and a \$5,000 private contribution from the Nanaimo Riptides Swim Club.
  - **Budget Implication:** The final 2019 – 2023 Financial Plan will be amended to include the score clock replacement in 2019 and the 2022 project will be removed from the plan.
2. That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend to Council to approve adding \$96,000 to the 2019 budget for a LED video display score clock for the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre. Project to be funded from the Facility Development Reserve and a \$5,000 private contribution from the Nanaimo Riptides Swim Club.
  - **Budget Implication:** The final 2019 – 2023 Financial Plan will be amended to include the score clock replacement in 2019 and the 2022 project will be removed from the plan.

## **SUMMARY POINTS**

- The score clock at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre has failed and requires immediate replacement to host swim events through 2019.
- Replacement is currently planned for 2022.

- Replacement of the clock this spring would allow the City to fulfill rental commitments for swim competitions in 2019.
- Staff are recommending replacing the current video display model with a simpler LED score clock display with a life expectancy of 10 to 15 years. |

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: LED Video Display Model

Attachment B: LED Numeric Score Clock |

### **Submitted by:**

Kathy Gonzales  
Assistant Aquatics Manager |

### **Concurrence by:**

Richard Harding  
Director, Parks and Recreation |