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**Subject:** Crystal pool location: a solution.

**Reply-To:** [REDACTED]

I am writing you regarding Counselor Young's recent interviews regarding going back to the SW corner of Central Park as the location for Crystal Pool.

We've been here before and the problems with that site have not been solved. In addition let me say that this very much not in keeping with an equity approach. It is taking away a vital community amenity from those that need it the most. It is also not in keeping with the Urban Forest Master Plan as it will result in the loss of significant tree canopy.

I do understand the need for speed here but I would suggest that jumping from one site to another without doing proper analysis has proven **not** to be the fastest way forward.

Instead I suggest that **the fastest way forward** would be to do one of two things:

- 1) Rebuild the pool in its current location and accept a temporary loss of service.
- 2) Undertake a site selection process where all reasonable sites are considered and the pros and cons of each are enumerated.

My suggestion would be *inside* the Royal Athletic Park on the eastern end, bordering Cook St. for the following reasons:

1. Equity model: A block away from the existing site.
2. There is room enough without interfering with the baseball diamond.
3. No interruption of service for existing pool users
4. No trees to be cut down.
5. No need for underground parking. RAP parking adjacent.
6. Zero net loss of greenspace once existing pool returned to park.
7. On cycle route.
8. City owned.
9. Possibility of opening the park to the public.

The last point is significant. The City currently spends half a million dollars a year on a large piece of land that is only ever accessible for a few paid, for-profit events. The other 295 days a year it is inaccessible to the public. There is a lot of potential here for giving back to the community by making it accessible by having Parks staff on site when the pool is open. This particular portion of the park is **entirely unused** other than for a few days a year for beerfest and (sometimes) Rifflandia.

Lastly, I think that the possibilities for pool siting raised by the Neighbourhood at the very least demonstrates the reality that there are potential solutions that have not been explored. If City staff with expertise in these matter were given a mandate we may well get a solution amenable to all.