

YWCA IS ON A MISSION

YWCA of Lubbock

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August 9, 2018

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To all of our dear friends and patrons:

After all the contractors have completed their investigations, submitted their analyses and reviewed the big-picture situation at our Margaret Richards Aquatics Center, the conclusion is that the cost to repair the building is not economically viable for the YWCA. I am saddened to let you know that **the YWCA indoor pool will remain closed** for the foreseeable future.

I do understand the impact of this decision and wish there was something more hopeful we could offer. Please know we are so grateful for your patronage and friendship over the years. The fact is that after 52 years of service, the building needs more than a new roof. As a patron, you are well aware of the many concerns. We are forced to bite the bullet and make a new plan.

Many of you have asked if we will build a pool at the new location on University Avenue. We will not take on an indoor pool in the initial phase of the project. We do have the physical space on the property and have designated an area for an indoor pool at some point in the future. Our vision is to engage with other partners to create a Community Natatorium. In that scenario, we could build an indoor pool with separate areas to address the unique needs of various users. Water temperatures could accommodate the wide range of activities needed whether therapeutic, swim team, lap swimming, exercise or recreation. That is the only way a pool can survive economically.

As you might imagine, the cost of such a proposed facility is daunting and definitely needs a broad base of support to succeed. Preliminary costs have been estimated to be as high as \$37,000,000. There is no doubt that an indoor pool is something Lubbock needs and deserves for its citizens. We need ways to promote water safety. We need ways for people to exercise without damaging their joints. We need ways for people to participate in a life-long, life-enhancing sport.

Although we cannot promise any kind of timeline, you can definitely help us build the community of support for an indoor pool. Many of you have volunteered to help us with video testimonials. **Thank you.** Your words and experiences were very powerful examples of the importance of an indoor pool. If you or someone you know would like to add your voice for an indoor pool, please write a letter and send it to me

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here at the YWCA. We cannot guarantee anything but those letters of support make a difference to funders and potential donors.

Right now, we are concentrating on getting the new building underway. That will help us build support for the ultimate vision. Nonetheless, please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions about this decision or if there is any way we can be of assistance to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Glenda Mathis
Executive Director

For your ongoing fitness needs:

We are open to designing a fitness program that would be of value to you so that we can maintain your commitment to the YWCA. Please contact Chris Gonzales (806) 535-6977 or one of our front desk associates to see if any of the current offerings would work for you. We do understand that the warm waters of the indoor pool was the only reasonable exercise option for so many and we will do anything we can to help you find an alternative. A list of potential providers is included below.

Other Indoor Pool Venues

Carillon

Ask for their Activities Coordinator, Debbie Griffin. She was willing to allow YWCA members come to their group classes. Alternately, you can ask for Scott Wynn.

808-281-6000

Covenant Lifestyle Center

3615 19th St.

806-725-4386

Southwest Aqua Sports

3909 N Frankford Ave

806-780-2782

Texas Tech Indoor Aquatic Center

3219 Main St

806-742-3896

*Requires university or local school district affiliation