

City Lake Park renovation to cost \$23M

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HIGH POINT — High Point officials say they've been working for months to negotiate the cost of a major renovation to City Lake Park, and they now know the price tag: \$23.15 million.

Assistant City Manager Greg Ferguson told the City Council Finance Committee Thursday that a construction package with general contractor Samet Corp. is ready for approval that will lock in a "guaranteed maximum price" to the city of \$19.89 million.

Architect's fees, asbestos-removal costs and other expenses for renovation work done or initiated so far bring the total project budget to \$23.15 million.

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The council on Monday will consider approving the construction package with Samet.

The park's pool will get several upgrades, including a redesign with new attractions, and the adjacent gymnasium is being converted into a community center.

The city's goal is to have the project done and the pool, which has been closed since spring 2020, reopened

by Memorial Day of next year.

Ferguson also shared the financing plan for the renovations with the committee.

A bond package approved by city voters in 2019 designated \$9.5 million for the project, and these funds will be combined with \$5.3 million in two-thirds bonds to be issued next year, along with an interfund loan of up to \$8.3 million from the landfill post-closure fund.

Several items were bid as alternates and have been removed from the project scope at this time in order to

minimize the overall project costs, according to the city.

The largest of these is a pedestrian bridge from the park across the lake to the Piedmont Environmental Center.

Ferguson said the city is pursuing grant funds for this. He also told the committee that the Samet contract includes 67% participation from local firms and 24% participation from minority and women-owned business enterprises.

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