


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	26-011	Meeting:	January 12, 2026
	Agenda Item:	30	Roll Call:	26-0074
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Parks and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Resolution approving procurement of and payment for pool maintenance and repairs for the City of Des Moines from Fischer Brothers, LLC in a total annual amount not to exceed \$150,000.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of a five (5)-year service contract with Fischer Brothers, LLC (4750 W. Park Avenue, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729) for specialized pool slide inspections, preventative maintenance, and repairs at the City of Des Moines outdoor aquatic facilities for the period January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2030. This will include capital repairs over the next five (5) years.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: Not to exceed \$150,000 for the duration of the five (5)-year contract.

Funding Source: Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 81, Swimming Pools and Aquatic Infrastructure, PK153 and Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Operating Budget, Parks and Recreation Department, General Fund

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Fiberglass aquatic slide maintenance and repair is a specialized, niche service. City staff do not currently possess this expertise, so contracting with a company such as Fischer Brothers is the optimal approach to support timely, safe, and compliant operations.
- Fischer Brothers is currently completing fiberglass slide repair work initiated during the 2025 season. They provide certified technicians who meet manufacturer and Iowa Department of Health and Human Services requirements, have extensive experience with the City's specific slide models, and have already completed a comprehensive inspection of all fiberglass slides in the City's system identifying priority repairs and long-term needs.
- Procuring Fischer Brothers's services for a multi-year agreement will support long-range planning, cost control, and consistent maintenance standards across all City aquatic facilities. The proposed contract term runs from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2030.

- This contract is proposed to be sole sourced to Fischer Brothers due to their unique expertise with existing slide models, lack of other slide repair contractors in the region, and their proven history of performing safe, accurate repairs at City facilities. Their regional presence and familiarity with City systems allow for timely service, continuity of work, and assurance that repairs meet required safety standards.
- The contract identifies work Fischer Brothers will complete in fiscal years 2026 to 2028 based on the results of the comprehensive inspection, prescribes annual inspections of all fiberglass slides at City aquatic facilities as a proactive approach, and allows for limited additional funding to be available for currently unforeseen but anticipated maintenance and repairs that may arise. The three (3) known projects include:
 - FY 2026 – Birdland Pool Slide Restoration Repairs – not to exceed \$112,274
 - FY 2027 – Northwest Family Aquatic Center Repairs – not to exceed \$32,415
 - FY 2028 – Teachout Family Aquatic Center Repairs – not to exceed \$103,655
- In May 2022, similar repairs to the fiberglass slides at Nahas Family Aquatic Center were completed by Fischer Brothers. The current inspection results show that no additional work is recommended.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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