

# Wasatch Taxpayers Association

## The Aquatic Center

A need, or a WANT??

Who will pay?

How much?

Oct 2014

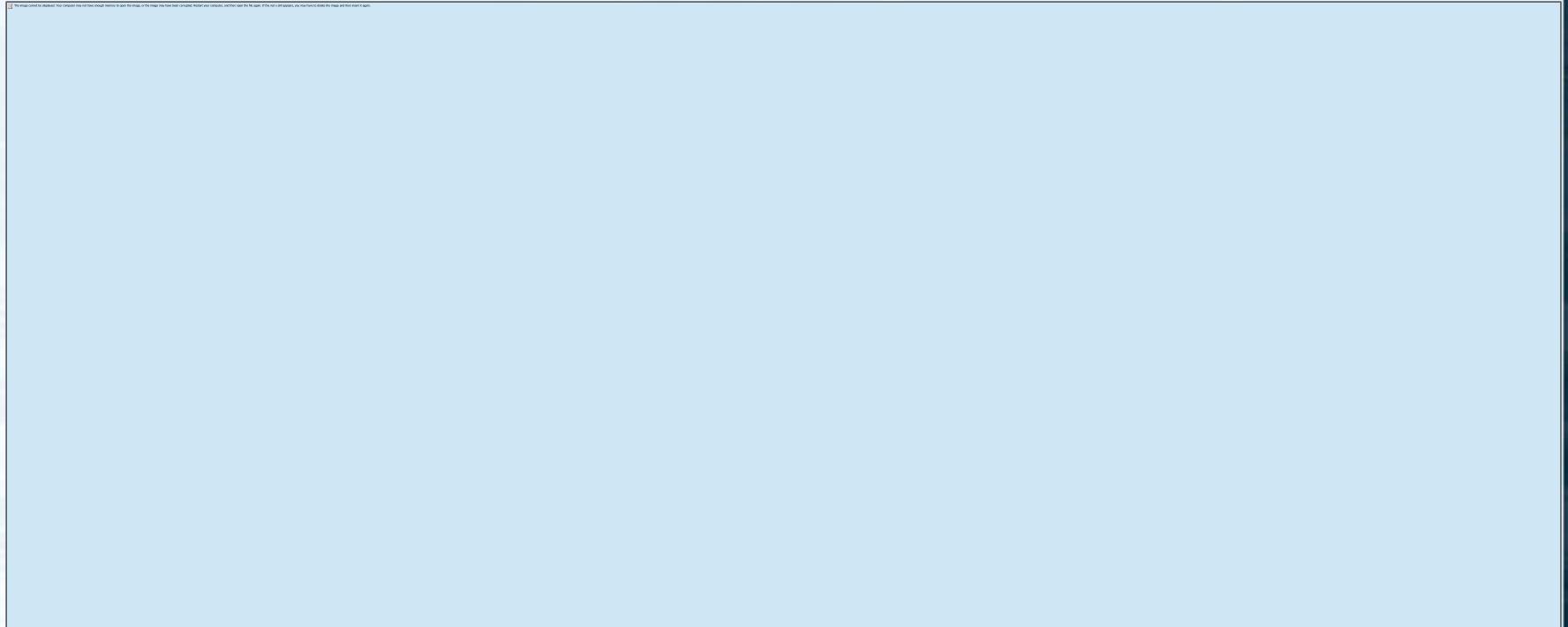
# The Costs

- The \$20 Million Bond for the Pool will cost around \$1,300,000 per year @ the 'estimated' 3% interest.
- Operation & Maintenance has been suggested as “up to” \$500,000 from additional taxpayer subsidies per year.
- Ballfields: Not much discussion or information
- Trust Me, It's only \$4 Million,
- but at \$4+ M bond the carry cost will be over \$250,000/year
- Field Operating cost – unknown – but it will be coming from the Parks & Rec budget of \$2.4 M. (UP 7% in 2014)

That's a total of \$2,000,000 a year, for the first 20 years.  
After that, it's someone else's problem.



# Pool Cost vs Population



# A little more rational comparison



## Markey & Associates Pool Architects

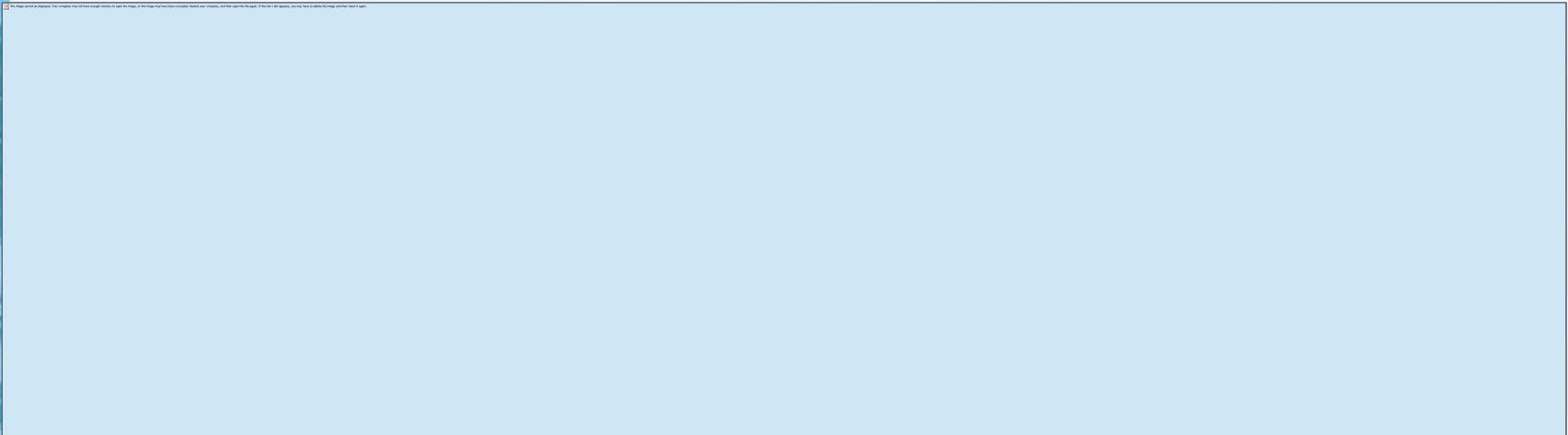
- 'If your budget is \$10 to 15 Million, you need a minimum of 200,000 annual attendees,'
- 'If your budget is \$15 to 20 M, you will need 400,000' !!
- That would be over 1,000 per day, 365 days/yr.
- Would Wasatch get that for even one day??

# Recovery Rate

## Revenues/Expenditures

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# Wasatch's varying estimates



For the same \$24 M, we could buy  
a pool for  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the residents!!!

(NOT, that I'm suggesting that)



## Daily Herald: Eagle Mountain Rejects Aquatic Bond

In a resounding defeat, Eagle Mountain residents have put an end to a proposed aquatics center.

**The vote was more than two-to-one against** the proposed 25-year bond for \$7 million to build a public pool.

The aquatics center would have included an 11,000 square-foot leisure pool, a zero-depth pool for young children, water slides, a lazy river, lap pool, six-lane competition-style pool, general swimming area, locker rooms, concessions, a party room, pavilions, and outdoor grassy areas.

## Public Pools Closing Across Country As Cities Struggle With Budget Cuts

But as the Great Recession has drained city budgets across the country, it also has drained public pools for good. From New York City to Sacramento, Calif., **pools now considered costly extravagances** are being shuttered, taking away a rite of summer for millions. It's especially hard for families that can't afford a membership to private pool or fitness club and don't live in a neighborhood where they can befriend with someone with a backyard pool.

... **But running a pool is an expensive proposition.** The Anderson Swim Club spends \$10,000 a month on insurance, operations and maintenance even for the pool's current limited use. In Grand Traverse County, Mich., the only public pool for the county's 87,000 residents lost \$244,000 last year.

# Summary

- This proposal is a WANT, not a Need.
- VERY few towns with as small a population have a pool as large as this proposal.
- Remember Troy, MI??
- Small outdoor pool!
- But even Eagle Mountain killed theirs.
- Is it morally RIGHT to force your neighbor to pay for your wants???
- Operation cost WILL be higher than estimated,
- Other community's experiences demonstrates that!!!

If we buy a pool, is it . . .

