

TO: Board of Commissioners

FROM: Brian Kimbrough, Director of Parks and Planning  
Steve Hinchee, Superintendent of Planning

THROUGH: Michael Benard, Executive Director

RE: Aquatic Maintenance Services

DATE: January 21, 2026

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### **SUMMARY:**

There are several small ponds in our parks that require seasonal care and maintenance that is effectively performed by an aquatic maintenance contractor. This work encompasses the following procedures and techniques:

- Monitor all sites every two weeks
- Identify management issues (e.g. weed infestations, overgrowth, algae)
- Determine management strategies available (e.g. herbicide, manual)
- Select appropriate management action (e.g. herbicide)
- Carry out action of removal & monitor results
- Assess previous management strategy and modify plan as necessary to adapt to site conditions

The work is being performed in the following parks:

- Seven Gables Park
- Toohey Park
- Rathje Park
- Park Services Center
- Northside Park
- CL Herrick Park

Quotes were solicited on December 15, 2025. The results were as follows:

| Contractor            | 2026     | 2027     | 2028     |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| McCloud Aquatics      | \$14,550 | \$14,550 | \$15,250 |
| Solitude              | \$17,232 | \$17,232 | \$17,232 |
| Jones Lake Management | \$44,200 | \$45,527 | \$46,893 |

McCloud Aquatics was the lowest bidder. They have performed aquatic maintenance previously for a current staff member and have been pleased with their service in the past.

### **PREVIOUS COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTION:**

The Board approved a three-year contract in the amount of \$58,809.38 with Integrated Lakes Management at the December 12, 2018, Board meeting. For the last three years the district has contracted SOLitude in the amount of \$16,260.00 annually for these services.

**REVENUE OR FUNDING IMPLICATIONS:**

| <b>Fiscal Years</b> | <b>Account:</b>         | <b>Budget:</b> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 2026 - 2028         | 40-000-000-52-5210-0000 | \$17,000       |

**STAKEHOLDER PROCESS:**

N/A

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

Continue to utilize agreement previously provided by legal counsel for new agreement with the selected bidder.

**ATTATCHMENTS:**

N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Not contracting pond maintenance would result in algae and weed growth. Park staff does not have experience/ qualifications to treat ponds internally.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Wheaton Park District Board of Commissioner's approve the base bid for aquatic maintenance services from McCloud Aquatics for a one-year term for 2026 in the amount of \$14,550 with options to renew for additional one-year terms in 2027 and 2028.