

>> "Cara L Rasmussen" <[cara.l.rasmussen.iftg@statefarm.com](mailto:cara.l.rasmussen.iftg@statefarm.com)> 04/17/08 9:54 AM >>

Dear City Manager and City Council,

I am sorry but I must disagree with the decision to close Olinger and Walker pools. My girls are learning to swim at those pools and this closure means that either my daughters never learn to swim or I must join a very expensive gym in order to give them lessons myself.

My family also enjoys going to the pool in the summer for a few hours on the weekend.

I can't believe that a city that wants to promote the high quality of life it offers to its citizens would drop such an important piece as a local swimming pool. I also can't believe that the city of Salem wants everyone to travel outside the city to get their pool time. Dallas isn't that far from my home and if necessary I will take my children there to enjoy the weekends but swim lessons will be out. Which is so sad at the ages of 4 & 7 living with a major river in downtown plus being close to the pacific ocean.

The fact that the city wants to remove all swim team programs at from the high school levels also shows a lack of care and concern for our youth. How many kids will not have the opportunity for college scholarships or just plain physical activity because the city of Salem doesn't care.

I'm sorry but I thought that the kids were our future and that we should do everything in our power to give them the best. I pay more than \$3000 a year in property taxes and know that there has to be a way to find the money to maintain at least one pool if not both.

I ask that you re-think the closure and try to find in your budget the will to keep the local public pools open.

Sincerely yours,

Cara Rasmussen  
Homeowner & Concerned Mom  
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