

18:04:23 From Courtney Gidengil to Hosts and panelists : As a parent of three children in Newton who love to swim and love the Newton Bluefish in particular, I urge you to strongly consider a year-round pool. We have a wonderful, robust community swim team, but access to swim time is inequitable. As kids grow older, those with money and privilege can access swim clubs (which are expensive) to get more practice time in the pool. Those who don't have such resources have minimal practice time through Bluefish (45 minutes twice a week for teens) since we have to battle for pool time with the high schools and others. Please give our community the opportunity for swim, exercise, and camaraderie in an equitable way. Thank you!

18:06:27 From Betsy Simmons to Hosts and panelists : I'm here to support a indoor-outdoor pool for all ages, all abilities, with sun, shade, green space, fully accessible. I live on Albemarle Rd and believe all year pool and intergenerational community center is perfect for this spot. Thank you for your work. Betsy Simmons

18:10:06 From Ruma Rajbhandari to Hosts and panelists : Thank you for your work on this important project. We need a year-round pool for the community. There has been extreme congestion with the Newton North facility this year and that is causing problems for all of the aquatic programs. I encourage the city to deliver a year-round facility for the community, even if it puts pressure on budgets. We will regret not doing so.

18:10:44 From sarah fogelman to Hosts and panelists : My family loves Gath and loves swimming. It is so difficult to not have a solid indoor option. We do Bluefish and my young kids have to swim so late.

18:13:39 From Helene Sroat to Hosts and panelists : Please build a year round pool for Newton! Swimming is a very safe and enjoyable form of exercise. also the Newton Bluefish are very important welcoming team in our city. Helene Sroat - 60 Wildwood Ave, Newton

18:21:06 From David Sachs to Hosts and panelists : We love living in Newton. While challenging, it would be a huge benefit to have a year-round heated pool in town. Both of our young children love to swim, and we love that it's great exercise for them. My mom (79 years old) also lives in Newton and would love to have a year-round pool for exercise and socializing. This is a big opportunity that we should not miss. Thank you.

18:21:36 From Maggie Wong to Hosts and panelists : The Newton community absolutely needs an indoor pool where we can use year round. An outdoor pool is not conducive when we only have 3 months of warm weather, it doesn't make sense! An indoor pool is an absolute must for our community. Also what is the point of investing on an outdoor pool that's closed majority of the time. Investment is much more well spent for an indoor pool and revenues from year round swim classes, senior water exercise classes, and other water activities should be able to pay for all the maintenance costs.

18:21:44 From Stephen Davenport to Hosts and panelists : Thank you very much for the presentation tonight. As a Newton resident for nearly 20 years I want to stress my strong desire for a year-round aquatic facility. For a city of 90K residents, it does not seem right that we only have one pool for our community swim teams to use (NNHS) over the winter. That has caused some extreme schedules and challenges for the kids. I wanted to record my comments of strong favor for a year-round project.

18:25:15 From James K to Hosts and panelists : I think Josh has done an ABSOLUTELY AMAZING job gathering, organizing, and presenting this information.

18:29:12 From Ag Gee to Hosts and panelists : I've been a resident of The City of Newton for over 30 years and have 2 teens who are active swimmers for Newton Bluefish and NNHS swim team. With the amount of residents and swimmers, it is so important for us to have a year round pool facility to use for the community. Gath Pool is so old and deteriorated. We definitely need a pool which would be available to the community year round rather than just 3 months in the summer. There's not enough community swim time sharing Newton North facilities with both high school swim teams. Having a new year round pool is long overdue.

18:30:56 From Pam Wright to Hosts and panelists : Are the present lanes 25 yards? Mr Scarlata said the new pool would be 60' or 20 yards.

18:32:12 From Andrea Flint to Hosts and panelists : I am a parent of two children who have swam for Mary and Scott's team and it is a wonderful program that needs more pool space and support from the town. In terms of the financials, I understand that because of our excellent bond rating, we could get an extremely low rate on the loan. I believe that we need to do more than just renovate the bath house. We have done this before and now is the time to redesign it with the aim to meet Newton residents needs. I

believe it should be a year round pool with 10 lanes. If we do this, we can rent it out to private clubs and use it for championship swim meets. This way it can meet the needs of our city as well as become an income stream we can count on to help pay back the loan and subsidize ongoing operating costs. I know this will require a balance between Newton resident's needs and the income stream. Finally, I suggest that the city invite Mary and Scott Pohlman to be a part of the design phase as they have 35 years of experience. Sincerely, Andrea Flint

18:32:40 From Stephen Friree to Hosts and panelists : As a Newton family of three regular swimmers, we'd love to have access to a year-round lap pool in Newton. We're not tied to one particular design, but strongly feel that a city of this size would benefit from this. - Stephen and Caitlin Friree

18:33:29 From Luis Perez Demorizi to Pam Wright and all panelists : Thanks for your question. Yes, the lanes at the current pool are 25 yds. The new lanes will be 25 Yds in order for Newton to continue to host meets. That may have been a minor miscommunication on Tom's part.

18:37:27 From Julia MALAKIE to Hosts and panelists : With connected pools, if someone poops in one pool, do you have to close both for 'shocking' the water?

18:37:58 From Julia MALAKIE to Hosts and panelists : You read my mind!

18:38:54 From Julia MALAKIE to Hosts and panelists : How long are the lap lanes?

18:39:36 From Luis Perez Demorizi to Julia MALAKIE and all panelists : The lap lanes are 25 yds. so that Newton can continue to host meets.

18:39:56 From Pam Wright to Hosts and panelists : but is Mr. Scalata's design used 60' or 75'?

18:40:14 From Kathleen Grieser to Hosts and panelists : Two pools is a good idea. Thanks for thinking creatively.

18:44:02 From Monica Richardson to Hosts and panelists : Can you speak more to the options for a four season pool?

18:44:03 From Luis Perez Demorizi : www.newtonma.gov/gathpoolproject

18:44:57 From Karen Stevens to Hosts and panelists : indoor option does the best job covering all goals

18:45:01 From Lindsey Valente to Hosts and panelists : In the option to enclose the lap lanes in a solid building, would that be just the same option with those lap lanes enclosed?

18:45:23 From Maria Plati to Hosts and panelists : What is "address code"?

18:45:37 From James K to Hosts and panelists : I totally appreciate the need for Unisex/Gender Neutral changing rooms. That being said, what scaffolds will be in place to prevent someone from abusing that feature?

18:46:08 From Cára Mezzetti Salmon to Hosts and panelists : What is the draw back to having a year round pool with a dome versus these options? It seems that requests of the community to provide a year round swimming facility that is accessible to all residents is not being held as a priority. Can you expound on that?

18:46:34 From Cindy Callaway to Hosts and panelists : This is a lot of information to digest. The designs were very good, but clearly these were only for outdoor pool.

18:46:43 From sarah fogelman to Hosts and panelists : My 5th grade daughter wants to say that there should be a year round pool for us to use even when it is cold. Please consider this. Thanks, Charlotte

18:47:43 From Julie Cohen to Hosts and panelists : Are the 3 design options Tom spoke about only for the fifth option that Josh discussed (i.e. the one without the bubble)? If so, will BH+A be presenting design options for the other plans Josh spoke about?

18:47:48 From Ozlem Ergun to Hosts and panelists : Given that this is a public project, has there been any estimates on how many person hours will be served by an indoor/outdoor pool vs. just an outdoor pool. This should be taken into account in making a decision not just cost.

18:48:12 From jessica orourke to Hosts and panelists : The pool can only be used for a few weeks a year, as a taxpayer it seems like the investment in rebuilding the pool should expand the season when it can be used. If a full year round complex is too expensive, perhaps options for use of the dome cover could expand the season when it is available to the community. I live on Albemarle Rd., I previously lived in Alaska where I used a community pool which was covered in this way, in that climate it was usable 8 months a year. If this is too expensive, can the pool, or at least the lap pool be heated for shoulder season use?

18:49:12 From Donna Heimlich to Hosts and panelists : Apologies as I missed the financial presentation about the costs associated with building a covered pool. It is frustrating as a parent of a

Newton Bluefish parent that the rendering options only provide uncovered one season pool. This is the second presentation I have attended. The city swim team provides an opportunity for equal access. The bluefish offers community building and is an option to reach out to all Newton regardless of socio-economic class. I wonder if any COVID relief funds could be used towards an indoor pool? Other resources we could access?

18:49:12 From jessica orourke to Hosts and panelists : By the way, of course I would prefer a year-round pool complex, that would be the best option

18:49:29 From Mary Pohlman to Hosts and panelists : 400+ swimmers for swim meets where will the swimmers be housed? Uneven water in lanes due to diving boards. Where would spectators sit?

18:49:33 From Leslie Gonzalez to Hosts and panelists : Thank you for your research on this. I completely agree 100% with the other parent comments. I also have swimmers who have been on the amazing bluefish team and now at south. Newton north pool is not sufficient for all the towns needs. As someone mentioned, it is absolutely an equity issue.

The issue of revenue brought in currently (or pre covid) I don't think accurately reflects the true potential. The fees at the gath have always been so minimal. They can certainly be increased.

Newton needs this! Thank you!

18:50:03 From Stephan Hartman to Hosts and panelists : Wondering about priority of goals for the pool, which goes to some of the points previously made, and some of the choices that might be made.

18:50:23 From Julia MALAKIE to Hosts and panelists : What would be the costs for just bubbling the lap/competition pool, not the wading pool?

18:50:31 From Andrea Kelley to Hosts and panelists : are you only looking at chat input vs. Q&A?

18:51:38 From Tim Caputo to Hosts and panelists : If upgrading the gath to full year is prohibitively expensive, has there been any investigation adding a full year facility somewhere else in Newton? With a city of 90,000 residents, 6 year-round lane is not enough.

18:51:41 From Julia MALAKIE to Hosts and panelists : Why are we not able to see the whole chat?

18:52:12 From Lindsey Valente to Hosts and panelists : Newton has grown greatly in the last several years. The amount of pool time my daughter's team gets at North has been greatly reduced. Having seen what is offered in the surrounding towns Wellesley, Framingham, Natick, Sudbury to name a few) we realize that these towns are able to offer much more aquatic programming and pool time to their residents because they have year-round (fully enclosed) pool facilities. These programs benefit the

town swim teams, parents who want their children to learn to swim, seniors who want to stay active year round, and therapy for individuals with special needs.

18:52:12 From Mary Pohlman to Hosts and panelists : With Newton's Triple A Bond rating, we need to look at the longer term perspective that requires time and money. This is an investment that would be an asset. We need to stop outsourcing Newton residents to surrounding towns due to lack of swimming programs available in the City.

18:52:18 From Stephan Hartman to Hosts and panelists : Priorities could seem to be 1) For the Community and all its general needs 2) as a competitive facility and 3) as a landmark that might bring more people to the park, just imagining a Newton North-Waltham high school swim meet, people watching around the side, from outside

18:52:22 From Lindsey Valente to Hosts and panelists : Because of a mass effort to increase the size of the town of Newton, the mayor has the responsibility to increase the programming as well. What we had ten years ago doesn't work with the number of residents residing in and moving into our neighborhoods.

PLEASE include a year round aquatic facility in the town of Newton now, and not deflect to some unknown time in the future. You mentioned that it would require adding programming, but that is exactly what we are all looking for.

18:52:31 From William Oppenheimer to Hosts and panelists : what happens to the second tennis court?

18:52:32 From Julia MALAKIE to Hosts and panelists : Please turn it on as in past meetings.

18:52:52 From Tara Furlong to Hosts and panelists : As an Albemarle Road resident, I strongly urge you to pursue building a year round pool.

18:53:09 From Saumya Khanduja to Hosts and panelists : We write in support of a year-round pool for the community at Newton. Let us use this opportunity to not be short-sighted, but rather consider the long-term physical and socio-emotional benefits and effects that swimming year round will have on our kids and other members of our community. We should consider looking at revenue models for community use aquatic facilities outside of the Boston/MA.

18:53:57 From Karen Stevens to Hosts and panelists : I swim at the Y five days per week, and even if the Y takes over the space on Wells Ave there is still more demand than supply. The Y services their own youth swim team, senior swim team, senior rec time and lessons to contend with. Adding Gath as another indoor option could greatly improve congestion in other facilities.

18:56:17 From Connie Wong to Hosts and panelists : Is there a model for year round pool?

18:57:16 From Ann Hollos to Hosts and panelists : I'm still not clear on the access issues. Maybe this is too early in the process to ask these clarifying questions? I still need to understand if the chair that can go into the pool can be moved by the user. Also, can you clarify again what the access to the lap pool will be? A lift? That was not in the picture.

18:57:21 From Anna Mariani to Hosts and panelists : it seems short sighted to build a seasonal pool for the community. we need a year round pool.

18:57:55 From Christina Abele to Hosts and panelists : Can you share links to the plans? I apologize I arrived late.

19:00:48 From Natalia Espinal to Hosts and panelists : To say there is an interest, feels like a huge understatement.

19:00:53 From Cindy Callaway to Hosts and panelists : It would be very short sighted to not use solar and/or geothermal which would support our city's Climate Action Plan.

19:01:31 From Anna Mariani to Hosts and panelists : what is the cost of adding a bubble later?

19:02:53 From Monica Richardson to Hosts and panelists : Thank you panelists for your hard work on this project. I am another parent of Newton Bluefish interested in indoor pool options. I echo what has been said about diverse students who participate in this incredible program. Please consider the indoor feasibility.

19:04:55 From Donna Heimlich to Hosts and panelists : 🙌🙌🙌

19:05:17 From Anna Mariani to Hosts and panelists : what about extending the season from may 1 to oct 1?

19:07:14 From Kathleen Grieser to Hosts and panelists : Please spend more time listening to the public, not talking about how you're listening. This is your chance to hear us.

19:07:30 From Ann Hollos to Hosts and panelists : (Also I have to go so hopefully these questions can be addressed at another time! There are many ways to make a site ADA accessible, and some are better for the user than others)

19:08:56 From Kathleen Grieser to Hosts and panelists : When does this meeting end? Can you tell the audience if we have any chance of speaking or having our questions read out?

19:11:38 From Stephanie Bucci to Hosts and panelists : As a long time Newton resident, I urge this group to consider a year-round pool facility for our community. While the designs presented tonight are appealing, I believe this level of financial investment is not efficient given our short outdoor swim season here in New England. The need is great. It is also unclear why small towns are able to support a year-round facility but our city is struggling (?) to do this. Thank you for your consideration.

19:12:13 From Kathleen Grieser to Hosts and panelists : Lenny is RIGHT.

19:12:40 From Lindsey Valente to Hosts and panelists : 100% Mary and Scott Pohlman should be a part of this process.

19:12:53 From sarah fogelman to Hosts and panelists : Agree! Mary and Scott Pohlman should be at the table!

19:13:37 From Cassie Bethoney to Hosts and panelists : And the maintenance costs of installing it and removing it seasonally.

19:13:38 From Jennifer Morgan to Hosts and panelists : Thank you very much for presenting the building cost options I am strongly in support of a year-round pool. As we've heard tonight and at the three previous community meetings, Newton is losing revenue because of limited pool time for the one year-round pool in Newton. Gath has been a great resource for my family as one of the first independent things my kids did was get a pool membership for themselves. We have a great opportunity to be creative and build a pool that supports everyone in Newton for equal access to a pool 12 months a year.

19:14:13 From Anna Mariani to Hosts and panelists : we should have the bubble and keep the pool open year round.

19:14:52 From Kathleen Grieser to Hosts and panelists : This is not adding any capacity. Stop it.

19:17:35 From Donna Heimlich to Hosts and panelists : Here here 🙌🙌🙌🙌

19:21:50 From Jenna Ceddia to Hosts and panelists : In thinking about the indoor pool need - I don't think it makes sense to try to get time from other places like the Y - we need more than that - the indoor time wouldn't just be for the swim team. Is there potential to add onto Newton South HS? When it was originally designed, it was with a pool, but it "wasn't needed" so it wasn't built. Now both of our high schools share one pool with all other community members at North - totally ridiculous - esp. since the North pool isn't exceptional - they almost didn't build that the right dimensions if anyone recalls... If there was a pool on the South side indoors and on the North side indoors I feel like that would be equitable for the community - and the poor swim teams from South wouldn't have to travel across the city all the time for practice!

19:28:38 From Brian Sullivan to Hosts and panelists : I have enjoyed lap swimming since I was child. I pay the Y family fee just to use their pool with my kids (Newton corner). Due to all the group activities there is limited availability. Quite often when I lap swim I have to circle swim. Circle swim is when there are more than 2 swimmers per one lane. The water polo team uses the pool at 9 pm. The Y is closed at that time, but that is the only available time for them. I feel strongly that we have a great opportunity for a 365 day swim pool that Newton needs. I would like to see plans that show a bubble over just the lap pool as Tom suggested as well as a larger all encompassing option.

19:31:55 From Bill Frabizio to Hosts and panelists : 1. Give Mary and Scott a seat at the table or you will continue to be inundated with bluefish parents. Save yourself from the headache and you will only have to deal with two people instead of hundreds.

2. Do it right once. You have one opportunity to screw this up or get it right.

3. YMCA is a no go! Don't waste time.

19:32:26 From Cathy Wong to Hosts and panelists : I am joining the meeting for the first time. I think Newton needs a year-round pool for the community as well as for the various swim teams to use. My daughter is a part of the Newton Bluefish swim team. It doesn't make sense that all the swim teams share the Newton North pool. Newton needs another indoor pool. Please consider an indoor pool for this project. If it is not possible for this project, please seriously consider an indoor pool for another site in the near future. Thank you.

19:38:05 From James K to Hosts and panelists : Great session Looking forward to the next one. Take care

19:38:15 From Anna Mariani to Hosts and panelists : please don't disrupt the other fields at albermale. where could it be relocated?

19:40:29 From Tim Caputo to Hosts and panelists : Having waited through many delays due to bio contamination at mixed use facilities, having separate pools is highly desirable. What I would love to see for the competition pool is a 25 yard by 50 meter pool. Primarily, It would allow for bluefish practice (or diving) without having to close to recreational lap swim. Additionally, due the utter lack of long course pools in New England, a 50 meter pool could be rented at off hours and cover much of the operating costs

19:47:11 From Sean & Mary Fitzgerald to Hosts and panelists : This question should probably go hand-in-hand with the Albemarle Park Master Plan but would it be more feasible to move the pool complex closer to NECP placing the splash pad adjacent to the playground and further away from Cheesecake Brook where there is no flooding? This would open up the vacated space for more comprehensive field & court development.

19:49:29 From Donna Heimlich to Hosts and panelists : Here here 🙋🏻🙋🏻🙋🏻

19:50:38 From Stephan Hartman to Hosts and panelists : Would really encourage consideration of the Naming option/idea funding I referenced. I've been involved in such naming options on University Programs, scholarships and the like, and if it is made a priority, there very likely could be people with interest, either for their own name, or broader name. And it potentially could significantly help with either the Capital or operating budget, and/or not make it necessary to make some of these choices between options that people seem to feel so passionate about.

19:51:34 From Mary Pohlman to Hosts and panelists : My hand has been raised.

19:51:47 From Emily Cagwin to Hosts and panelists : Echo everything Kristen just said, including the kudos for all of the research and hard work to date, along with the personal experiences she described and request to think about the big picture: very high need for leisure space and very high need for organized aquatics activities.

19:51:48 From Mary Pohlman to Hosts and panelists : My hand has been raised. Can you see my hand raised?

19:53:01 From Stephan Hartman to Hosts and panelists : Thank you for allowing me to join. I'm going to be signing off. As mentioned, I live in Manhattan, but grew up on Albermarle road and swam there, and my father swam a mile a night, 5 times a week from 1970-2019 a few months before he died from cancer at 90, though in later years, he wasn't coming as much. In fact, not much. But did final swim in June 2019, 1/4 mile struggle, but at 90 with Stage 4 cancer, was pretty good. Probably 2,500+ miles. But great job here, really, on dealing with sticky issues.

20:05:13 From Donna Heimlich to Hosts and panelists : Here here, Mary!!! 🙋🏻🙋🏻🙋🏻

20:05:44 From Cindy Callaway to Hosts and panelists : I also agree with Mary, would be a lot of revenue from club swim teams. This would cover a lot of the costs.