

ELECTION INFORMATION

PROPOSITION NO. 1

On November 7, 2023, Quincy Valley residents will vote on **Proposition No. 1**, concerning the formation of the Quincy Valley Regional Parks District (QVRPD). The city councils of Quincy and George, along with the Grant County Commissioners passed resolutions proposing the formation of a regional park district to fund the construction and operation of a sports complex called the Q-Plex and a new aquatic/pool facility called the Q-Aquatic Center.

Approving Proposition No. 1 will provide these benefits for youth and adult residents in the Quincy Valley:

- The construction of an indoor turf facility able to accommodate four 7vs7 soccer fields, indoor walking path, sport courts for pickle ball and basketball, and space for recreational activities.
- The construction of a new pool, bath house, and water recreation facilities.
- A dedicated funding source for maintenance, operation, security, and improvements of these facilities.
- Tournament size facilities that will draw sporting-event participants to the area that will stimulate tourism and expenditures from out-of-town travelers.
- Provide indoor recreation opportunities for youth and adult residents during winter season and summer periods of air quality issues from wildfire smoke.

PROPOSITION NO. 1

Formation of the Quincy Valley Regional Parks District

City of Quincy Resolution No. 23-632, City of George Resolution No. 2023-326, and County of Grant Resolution No. 23-070-CC jointly propose the creation of a metropolitan parks district with a boundary coterminous with the boundary for Quincy School District No. 144 except for that portion of land that is within Douglas County, and for the limited purpose to construct, renovate, expand, operate and maintain a Regional Recreational Facility within the City of Quincy, and to renovate, expand, operate and maintain the Regional Aquatic Center currently constructed within the City of Quincy. If approved, this proposition would create a metropolitan parks district to be named the “Quincy Valley Regional Parks District” and it shall have all the powers provided in Chapter 35.61 RCW; provided that the authority to levy on property shall not exceed a maximum of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The Quincy Valley Regional Parks District shall be governed by a board composed from the selection of one or more members from Quincy City Council, George City Council, and Grant County Board of Commissioners. The selected members shall collectively serve ex officio as the Board of Commissioners for the Quincy Valley Regional Parks District.

- For the formation of a metropolitan parks district to be governed by a board composed from the selection of one or more members of the Quincy City Council, George City Council, and Grant County Board of Commissioners collectively serving as the ex officio board of commissioners for the metropolitan parks district.
- Against the formation of a metropolitan parks district.

Proposition No. 1 requires a simple majority for approval

More information about the proposed Quincy Valley Regional Parks District and the proposed facilities can be found at the websites www.quincyqplex.org or www.quincywashington.us.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is a Regional Parks District (also known as Metropolitan Parks District)?

A: A regional parks district is a junior property assessment district with special authority for park management, control, improvement, maintenance, and construction of recreation facilities, trails, programs, and services.

Q: What areas will be included in the Quincy Valley Regional Parks District (QVRPD) boundary?

A: The QVRPD will match the Quincy Valley School District boundary (except portions in Douglas County), which includes Quincy, George, Crescent Bar, and surrounding areas of Grant County.

Q: Who will govern the Quincy Valley Regional Parks District?

A: Each city governing body and county legislative authority may be designated to collectively serve ex-officio as the board of park district commissioners through selection of one or more members from each to serve as the board. Within six months of the date of certification of election results approving creation of the QVRPD, the size and membership of the board shall be determined through interlocal agreement of each city and county.

Q: How will revenue generated by the QVRPD be used?

A: QVRPD funds will make the construction of the Q-Plex possible—an indoor sporting complex—and the Q-Aquatic Center—a new pool, bath house, and water recreation facility. QVRPD funds will also be used for the operation, maintenance, security, and improvements of these facilities. Additionally, the QVRPD can generate revenue from tournament and rental fees, sponsorships, promotions, advertising, and public & private support.

Q: If Proposition No. 1 passes, could the QVRPD funds be used for other City of Quincy needs?

A: No, by state law, park district funds can only be used for park and recreation-related facilities. QVRPD revenue will exclusively be used for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Q-Plex & Q-Aquatic Center.

Q: What will be the financial impact on property owners?

A: The QVRPD board will set a rate at 50¢ per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, which is well below the maximum allowable rate of 75¢. For example, on a \$250,000 home, the financial impact at the rate of 50¢ per \$1,000 of assessed valuation is **\$125 per year** or approximately **\$10.40 per month**. On a \$350,000 home the impact is **\$175/yr** or approximately **\$14.50/mo**. Residents within the QVRPD boundary will also have access to the Q-Plex and the Q-Aquatic Center at a reduced/nominal rate.

Q: When will the facilities be constructed?

A: With the passing of Proposition No. 1, the City will begin design and preparation of construction drawings and project documents in 2024 with construction planned for the Q-Plex & Q-Aquatic Center in 2025. The financial impact will appear on 2024 property assessments.

Q: How will the QVRPD revenues be used?

A: Normally a city the size of Quincy would be unable to afford these types of facilities. However, since over 60% of property revenue is paid by industries including data centers, the creation of the QVRPD will provide resources to build something that has a significant benefit for both youth and adult area residents and out-of-town tournament participants.

Q: What happens if Proposition No. 1 fails?

A: The City could choose to cancel the projects or construct a much more scaled-down version of each facility with limited availability because of the lack of resources for operation, maintenance, and facility improvements.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Quincy Valley Regional Parks District

Q-PLEX & Q-AQUATIC CENTER

For construction, maintenance, operation & improvement of the only indoor tournament-scale sports facility in the region and a new pool/aquatic facility

Proposition No. 1 is asking voters to create a Quincy Valley Regional Parks District (QVRPD) that would fund the construction, maintenance, operation, and improvement of two recreational facilities called the Q-Plex and the Q-Aquatic Center. These facilities would provide protected weather and air-quality activities in an indoor sports complex for both youth and adult participants and swimming/water recreation in the summer months. They would also stimulate tourism and out-of-town spending from sporting and tournament events, concerts, tradeshow, banquets, and a host of other group gatherings.

Facility Activities

The Q-Plex was designed for youth and adults to be a year-round, multi-purpose indoor facility: a turf arena for field sports (soccer, football, etc.), a perimeter walking path (for increment weather exercise), and hard flooring for court sports (pickleball, basketball, volleyball, etc.). There's also space for exercise programs and private gatherings. The Q-Aquatic Center will replace the existing pool facilities that have significantly aged. It includes a lap pool, lazy river, water slide, and children's water play area, along with a new bath house.

Construction

The estimated budget of the Q-Plex is expected between \$20-23 million and the Q-Aquatic Center between \$7-10 million. Together the budget for both facilities is approximately \$30 million and funding for the construction will be done with a long term bond. The assessment revenue from the Quincy Valley Regional Parks District (QVRPD) will be sufficient to cover the repayment of the bond.

Operation

The operation of these facilities will require an increase in staff to be hired by the City. While the Q-Aquatic Center is used only seasonally, the Q-Plex will be open year-round with full hours of operation. This involves personnel for scheduling, marketing, maintenance, security, and facility management. The assessment revenue from the QVRPD will be sufficient to cover the operational budget for these facilities.

Maintenance

The assessment revenue from the QVRPD will be sufficient to cover the maintenance budget for these facilities. Each component of the Q-Plex and the Q-Aquatic Center has a projected lifespan, and, in addition to the ongoing maintenance of the facilities, the revenue will provide the resources to replace and repair components of the Q-Plex and the Q-Aquatic Center as they age to keep them in optimal condition.

Why a parks district – why not use City funds?

Parks are always a subsidized function of any city because they generate little or no revenue. In the expenditure of public funds, the City prioritizes budgets for streets, water/waste water infrastructure, community development, public safety, and public buildings. The City will use its available park budget to cover the cost of design and preparation of construction documents. Many park districts across Washington State exist for just these types of facilities—swimming pools, community centers, sport fields, trails, and acquisition of additional park land. The creation of the QVRPD will provide the City with dedicated funding for the construction and operation of the Q-Plex and the Q-Aquatic Center.