

## **BEST IN CLASS AQUATIC FACILITIES**

SF/ISG identified Best in Class Aquatic Facilities in the region and nationally to assist in the Feasibility Study process and provide insight, examples, and resources to support the Feasibility Study. These facilities are comparable in scope or programming and relevant to the proposed Bellevue Aquatic Center. These regional scale facilities represent those which demonstrate through their formation, operation, partnerships, funding, and breadth of programming best in class criteria aligned with the SF/ISG Feasibility and Aquatic Stakeholder goals and objectives.

Best in Class Facilities include the following:

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|---|----------------------|
| 1. *Elkhart Health and Aquatics                       | Elkhart, Indiana     |
| 2. *Holland Community Aquatic Center                  | Holland, Michigan    |
| 3. *Pleasant Prairie Rec Plex Aquatic Center          | Pleasant Prairie, WI |
| 4. Triangle Aquatic Center                            | Cary, North Carolina |
| 5. SwimRVA  | Richmond, Virginia   |
| 6. Tupelo Aquatic Center                              | Tupelo, Mississippi  |
| 7. Lenexa Rec Center & Shawnee Mission Aquatic Center | Lenexa, Kansas       |

**\*NOTE:** Denotes the Top Three

Best in Class facilities reflect facilities that represent excellence one or more of the following categories:

- Programming: Comprehensive Community Programming for All
- Community Connection
- Design Elements: Breadth of Aquatic Facility elements
- Competition Venue: Regional Scale
- Management & Ownership: Variety of Models and Structures
- Operational Efficiency & Sustainability
- Funding: Capital cost, annual funding, long term maintenance
- Partnerships
- Economic Impact

These facilities all have several key elements in common:

- Combination of community programming, wellness, training & competition capabilities
- Ability to host large local, state and regional competition in aquatic sports
- Facility design and features to support concurrent and diverse programming, especially allowing ongoing community programs during aquatic competition events
- Significant event calendar balanced by community programming
- Investment in professional and experienced aquatic management
- Partnership elements that support sustainability: Funding, management, site, programs
- Creative and effective public/private funding models
- Significant program and use revenue that offset operating costs and maximize cost recovery
- Efficient design leading to cost efficient construction and project cost
- Economic Impact

SF/ISG interviewed facility management at these Best in Class facilities and researched their programs, schedules, management, governance, and budgets. SF/ISG representatives have personally visited each of facilities.

In addition to providing valuable information, insight, and guidance during the Feasibility Study these Best in Class facilities will be even more important in the Next Steps in the project development and may eventually be sites that City of Bellevue and Partnership staff and leadership may wish to further research and potentially visit.

***The full SF/ISG Report on Best in Class Aquatic Facilities is included in this Report as Attachment #6. This report was also included in the King County Regional Aquatic Report as Appendix D.***

#### **BEST IN CLASS NEXT STEPS**

- Best in Class Facilities can provide additional information and insight during the Next Steps in project development
- As City of Bellevue planning continues and additional project partners are added to the project these Facilities will be valuable resources for the City and Partners
- These facilities will provide valuable and relevant examples of different ownership, management, governance, and funding models as the City of Bellevue and potential partners explore options.