

October 8, 2007



We build strong kids,  
strong families,  
strong communities.

To Whom It May Concern:

Swimming and aquatics have long been associated with the YMCA. Pool development, group swim lessons, lifesaving and lifeguard instruction all have deep YMCA roots. Tens of millions of people across the country learned to swim at the YMCA and the YMCA is collectively the largest operator of swimming pools in the world. We are proud of our heritage and strive to make even more contributions and advancements in this field

**Bellevue  
Family YMCA**

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It should be no surprise that providing strong aquatics and swim programming is a YMCA priority. We have seen firsthand how swimming benefits people of all ages and abilities. Not only does it support health and wellness, but also it instills confidence and self-esteem. Not only does it affect the individual, but it also builds community. We also know that it is critical to teach youth how to swim – especially in a region that features so much open water. For these reasons, the YMCA strongly advocates that communities have adequate access to aquatics facilities and quality swimming programs.

It is apparent that pool resources on the Eastside are limited and most of the available pools have reached or exceeded capacity. In light of this, the board and staff of the Bellevue Family YMCA express our strong support for the development of an aquatics center on the Eastside. The youth and families in our community need it. We look forward to serving as an advocate, supporter and/or partner in this important effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terry Pollard'.

Terry Pollard  
Group Executive  
Bellevue Family YMCA