



## Measures L and M Pass!

We are pleased and relieved that Measures L and M passed. Many of the Master Marlins worked very hard to educate our community about the impacts the potential service cuts could have on Joinville Pool. We thank you for your efforts and hard work. The Master Marlins' dedication to the Aquatics program was apparent throughout this process and we appreciate your loyalty and support.

With passage of these measures, the immediate, severe budget and service cuts that would have been required can now be avoided. Among those would have been reducing swimming pool operations to summer only programs. Thanks to passage of Measures L and M we are able to continue to operate Joinville Pool year-round indefinitely.

Although the passage of L and M will provide much needed funding for services, it does not eliminate the City's financial challenges. The continuing recession results in City revenues coming in below anticipated levels, requiring cost reductions in the current fiscal year. The Parks and Recreation Department's required target savings is currently \$457,000, and depending upon the direction of revenues, this number may grow. We will likely still need to make staffing and service decisions that are challenging, though this should not affect the Marlins swim schedule.

And, while the new revenues from Measures L and M provide some breathing room, a structural budget challenge still remains as the growth of on-going costs exceeds the growth of on-going revenues. Addressing this will be among the most important priorities that the City organization will need to accomplish in future budget years. Certainly we can make no open-ended guarantees for any particular cost type or service, but we believe that availability of year-round fitness swimming is a core service, and we envision that the Masters Swim schedule will continue indefinitely.

While we still have financial challenges ahead of us, we are grateful to be able to continue basic services as they are, and grateful to have the support of the community and the Master Marlins in providing these critical services.

Sincerely,

Paul Council  
Community Services Division Manager