



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

September 29, 2015

To: Saint Paul City Council

From: Ricardo X. Cervantes, ^{RXC} Director, Department of Safety and Inspections

Subject: Nuisance Swimming Pools

Tragic events earlier this year revealed a gap in the state's regulation of the city's public pools – which it took over in July 2013. In particular, the state indicated it is not be responsible for unused public pools that have not renewed a license to operate.

At the same time, existing city ordinances provide little direction regarding the city's role in regulating unlicensed public pools. To remedy this situation, at the request of Mayor Coleman, the Department of Safety and Inspections has taken the initiative to propose updated ordinances that will ensure property owners take full responsibility for hazards on their property.

Proposal:

The City of Saint Paul proposes that the Legislative Code be amended to make the following changes:

- Clearly define Outdoor Swimming Pools with a more restrictive definition
 - Capacity of 24 or more inches deep and surface area of 150 or more square feet
 - Expand definition outside of Zoning Code
- Explicitly require maintained fencing around all Outdoor Swimming Pools
- Establish maintenance criteria for 'Out of Service Outdoor Swimming Pools'
 - Pools not in use for more than one year must be free of stagnant water, debris and have an appropriate fence
- Establish maintenance criteria for 'Nuisance Pools'
 - Pools with stagnant water, lacking maintenance, out of service for two years or more may be abated
 - Any pool without a fence constitutes a nuisance pool and may be abated

I appreciate your support of this important life safety measure. Please feel free to contact me or Deputy Director Travis Bistodeau should you have any questions whatsoever.