

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY
Follow-up Audit of Parks and Recreation Pool Inspections
Report Issued July 9, 2021

Audit Objective

Determine if recommendations in the most recent Pool Inspections audit have been effectively implemented.

Background

On December 2, 2019, the Office of the City Auditor completed an audit of the Parks and Recreation Department Pool Inspections. The objective of the audit was to determine if pools are regularly inspected and adequately maintained.

In that audit, we determined that Parks management had implemented some controls. However, there were multiple opportunities to strengthen controls associated with the City's pools and splash pads related to regular inspections and water testing, documentation of issues identified, correction of safety issues, and licensing of pool personnel.

Scope & Methodology

The audit scope was limited to the recommendations and corrective action plans made in the original report for the time frame of October 2019 to the current 2021 season.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all pools and splashpads were closed for the 2020 pool season. In November of 2020, with limited capacity and additional safety measures, the SA Natatorium was able to resume operations. During the time of this review, no other pools or splashpads resumed operations. Closures limited testing protocols; however, the available data allowed for satisfactory review of implemented corrective action plans.

We interviewed staff, conducted physical walkthroughs of select pools, and reviewed inspection, training and daily log supporting documentation. Testing criteria included key department policies and procedures and the Texas Administrative Code as it aligns with public interactive water facilities.

Conclusions

We determined that the Parks and Recreation Department has successfully implemented controls to address all five prior audit recommendations. Specifically, the Parks and Recreation department had improved oversight in the completion of Daily Logs, strengthened controls to oversee certifications of the Aquatics Division, and implemented improved security and signage for confined spaces and pump houses. Furthermore, Parks has implemented group trainings and inspections that involve both Trades and Aquatics Division to better identify general maintenance requirements that directly affect personnel and public safety.

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However, improved oversight is required to ensure continuous training requirements are completed by lifeguard personnel.

We made recommendations to address these opportunities. Management agreed with the recommendations and developed positive corrective action plans.