# Project Summary

The Department of City Planning has been asked to locate possible sites for a new public swimming pool. This report, by Sam Hooper, discusses the three most favorable sites.

# Project History

Serina Lopez first approached the Clarenbach City Council in 2010 with a petition from the Citizen Action Board requesting construction of a new public swimming pool. The City Council funded a feasibility study, which was conducted by Porter Feasibility Consultants, LLC. The positive results of the study bolstered the already wide-spread public support for a new pool. A funding referendum passed with an overwhelming majority in the fall, 2012 election. Clara Mellencamp, City Council Member for the 4th Ward, has agreed to chair the City Council Pool Committee. The next stage of the project is selecting a site for the pool.

# Project Personnel

* Serina Lopez, President, Citizen Action Board, originator of Public Pool Petition
* Porter Feasibility Consultants, LLC, authors of the Public Pool Feasibility Study
* Clara Mellencamp, City Council Member, 4th Ward, chair of the City Council Pool Committee
* Leonard Meskin, Project Manager, Department of City Planning

# Project Description

The Department of City Planning reviewed 10 possible sites. Several sites were ultimately rejected because of drainage problems, traffic congestion, and zoning issues. The remaining sites, described in the following sections, all have excellent potential.

## Villas Park

Villas Park, on the west side of Clarenbach, is popular with families with young children. The O’Reilly Petting Zoo, on the west end of the park, draws large crowds on summer afternoons. While the park does not currently have adequate parking for a public swimming pool, a lot could easily be added north of the petting zoo.

## Langbrook Farm

In January of 2007, the Langbrook family deeded their 50-acre farm, with four out buildings and a house, to the city of Clarenbach. Located at 1324 Tandelay Avenue, the property consists of a 50 acre field, with four out buildings and a house. The property has easy access to Morton Boulevard, with an easement to South Crest Road. The flat terrain and excellent drainage make Langbrook Farm the best possible site for a swimming pool. However, the deed includes an encumbrance stipulating that the house be transformed into an educational nature center, and that its surrounding gardens be transformed into a public botanical garden. Thus, a public pool on the site would have to accommodate the nature center and garden on the northwest corner of the property.

## Flora Park

The current pool at Flora Park is centrally located and well-used. However, the current facility is in drastic need of repair. The entire facility could be demolished and replaced with a greatly expanded facility. The site already has more than enough parking, with room for additional lots if they become necessary. The site could accommodate two zero-depth 100-meter pools, a diving well, and a warm water exercise pool, in place of the existing 50-meter pool. If the city council decides to build a new pool on one of the other two suggested sites, we strongly recommend that within the next five years, the Flora Park pool be demolished and expanded as described here.