

Dear Chairs Johnson, Steiner-Hayward, and Rayfield, and members of the Committee:

My name is Lynn Alexanderson. My husband and I have lived in the Toledo district since 1994 and have raised our 2 sons here. We have used the Toledo pool since our sons were old enough for swimming lessons, lap swim for me, and rehab when I broke a leg. We also support the Toledo pool through taxes. I am writing in support of funding for the Greater Toledo Aquatic and Community Center.

It's also important for both the physical and mental health of our community that access to swimming and overall exercise be available to our community locally, not 10 miles away. Ten miles in a rural community creates a significant barrier when public transportation is limited and incomes low.

Seniors, like myself, benefit greatly from the ability to swim and participate in exercise. Not only does it promote better health and decrease social isolation, it also helps to maintain one's independence.

The proposed Greater Toledo Aquatic and Community Center will also add much needed space for meetings and gatherings. Currently, there are very few venues that can provide this—all very old buildings.

Thank you for consideration of this funding request.

Lynn Alexanderson