



Sent on July 19, 2022 in response to concerns and questions regarding the pool closing.

Thank you for taking the time to contact me about Boston Centers for Youth & Families' (BCYF) Clougherty Pool. I realize how special the pool is to the Charlestown neighborhood and am heartened by the outpouring of support for the pool.

I also understand the frustration and the loss of trust some feel due to the long history of neglect to this pool and other infrastructure. While Mayor Wu, my team, and I cannot make change happen overnight, I believe the re-building of trust starts with transparent communication and committing to regular updates for the community. Moving forward, BCYF will send monthly updates as to where the planning and design process is for the Clougherty Pool renovation.

I want to reiterate that the decision to keep the pool closed this summer was made after an engineering assessment in April determined that the filtration system in the pool was no longer working, and that the filtration tanks below the pool deck were severely corroded with a potential for rupture.

In June, we commissioned a second safety assessment to determine whether emergency repairs could be done to enable the city to open the pool this summer. That study concluded that the needed repairs were so extensive that they could not be feasibly completed in time. The June report further recommended that we pursue an additional review of the structural supports beneath the pool deck to determine whether they are safe for use.

At this time, BCYF has requested this additional structural assessment via the Public Facilities Department and are awaiting the findings of this report. In addition to an

assessment of the structural integrity of the pool, it will also provide repair and renovation options along with cost estimates of what can be done to bring the pool back into safe use. We plan to have this report done by September, with a community meeting to follow to share the findings and anticipated next steps with residents.

Beyond the need to assess the pool's infrastructure, we are also in the process of determining the resources that would be immediately available to invest in repairs. There are unspent capital funds available in the amount of \$2.3 million and an additional \$2.0 million in state resources that may soon be on the way. At the same time, the City needs a complete understanding of how best to utilize these funds in a way that leads to a long-term solution at the Clougherty - the forthcoming assessment will support that goal.

Finally, to address questions about the ownership of the Clougherty site, the property is owned by the George White Fund and operated by BCYF through a lease agreement that extends through 2024. Per the lease agreement, any significant capital improvements to the site would need to be done in collaboration with the White Fund. Importantly, there is no intention of selling this property for any private or commercial purpose.

For the remainder of this summer, we encourage Charlestown residents to consider visiting the splash pad that is adjacent to the Clougherty, the BCYF Charlestown Community Center pool, which is free and available for open/lap swim weekdays from 9:30 a.m.-6:45 p.m., and the YMCA pool in Charlestown, which offers subsidized memberships for low-income residents or the Boys and Girls Club pool in Charlestown.