

Major Repair Work Helps Secure Future of Dunlap Swimming Pool

A major repair project completed this week at the Dunlap Community Swimming Pool is helping ensure the longtime community facility remains available for future generations.

Thrasher Foundation Repair was in Dunlap to complete extensive stabilization work along the north side of the pool, where movement and settling of the concrete had become a growing concern.

The project required crews to drill 14 locations through the concrete and install 14 anchors designed to stabilize the area and prevent further movement. The anchoring system provides a much more substantial, long-term solution than previous repair efforts.

Thrasher had previously worked on the area in December, attempting to lift and seal the affected concrete. However, it became apparent that the movement was more significant than initially anticipated and would require a more extensive stabilization system.

Rather than continuing with temporary repairs, the City moved forward with the anchoring project to protect the pool and the investment the community has already made in the facility.

Funding from the Dean J. King Family Foundation helped make the project possible, allowing the City to address the underlying structural issue and make a sustainable improvement to one of Dunlap's most heavily used recreational facilities.

City Council member Mike Gunia said maintaining amenities such as the swimming pool is important not only for current residents, but also for Dunlap's future.

"It's for our future kids and families to come to Dunlap," Gunia said. "We want to keep kids in this town and we need a pool to keep kids in this town."

Gunia said making the investment now was also important because of the potential cost of allowing the problem to continue.

"If we wouldn't have fixed it, it would have been destroyed and we would have had to start over with a new pool," he said. "We're fixing what we have and what we have is very nice. And it's not just kids. There's a lot of adults that go to that pool."

The swimming pool has served generations of Dunlap residents and continues to be an important gathering place each summer, providing swimming lessons, recreation, water aerobics and a place for families and friends to gather.

This week's project represents a significant investment below the surface — one that may not be particularly noticeable to swimmers next summer, but will play an important role in protecting the pool for years to come.

With the stabilization work complete, Dunlap is continuing to invest in what it already has, extending the life of an important community asset while helping ensure future generations can continue making summer memories at the pool.