



Mayor Mark Mallory

City of Cincinnati

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Mayor Mallory & Chesley Join to Keep Pools Open City Pools to stay open until school starts

West End – Mayor Mark Mallory and Stan Chesley announced today that 18 Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) swimming pools will remain open with extended hours into early August. The extended hours are being funded by Stan Chesley, who will donate his entire fee from the settlement in the lawsuit filed by the City of Cincinnati over the styrene leak in the East End in August 2005.

“Thank goodness for Stan Chesley. He has once again come forward to ensure that Cincinnati youth can swim all summer,” Mayor Mallory said. “The city has to stop putting us in this situation. We need to ensure that there is enough funding for the pools to be open all summer long. Keeping the pools open is an absolute priority for the youth in our city.”

“I am very pleased that with the Mayor’s help we are able to extend the pool season,” Stan Chesley said. “20,000 kids a day for an additional 15 days means approximately 300,000 additional pool days. I don’t know anything that is more important for our community than to keep the pools open. Together with the mentors who work at the pools, we are providing a safe environment. My grandchildren get to swim, and I want everyone to be able to swim.”

The city received a \$400,000 settlement in the styrene leak case. Chesley's fee for the lawsuit was 20 percent, or \$80,000. It will cost \$75,000 to keep the pools open the additional two weeks. The funding will be transferred to the Cincinnati Recreation Commission Foundation to fund the extended hours.

CRC has 39 pools. All were scheduled to close the week of August 6. However, the additional funding from Stan Chesley will allow 18 pools to stay open through August 18. The pools were selected based on their attendance and geographic location.

The city's new recreation director, Norman Merrifield, said the generosity of Chesley and others has impressed him. "I think this is outstanding that he has come to the plate and delivered," said Merrifield, who started in his new post July 2. "It is outstanding that Mr. Chesley and our Mayor have partnered up and have been able to allow for the pool extension."

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