



CityNEWS

CALENDAR

Oct. 17 - Nov. 4

Early Voting

M-F, 9am - 6pm

Meridian City Hall

Oct. 22

Shred-It/Drug Take Back

10am - 2pm

St. Luke's Meridian

Oct. 26

Town Hall

6:30pm - 8pm

Compass Public Charter
School: 2511 W. Cherry Ln.

Oct. 27

Trunk or Treat

6pm - 9pm

Meridian City Hall

Oct. 29

Howl-O-Woof Parade

11am

Storey Bark Park

Oct. 29

Reality Party for Parents

Tours from 1pm - 4pm

Forward Movement Training

Nov. 8

Election Day

Nov. 1

Artist's Reception

4:30 - 7:30pm

Initial Point Gallery (City Hall)

‘All In’ FOR MERIDIAN

By Mayor Tammy

This November election is anything but typical. But for Meridian, it is an important one that has the ability to transform our community with the addition of services and amenities our citizens have been requesting.

The Meridian Library District (MLD) will ask voters to approve a \$12 million bond to fund the construction of two new branch libraries in Meridian: one in south Meridian and one in the north. The bond requires a supermajority to pass—emphasizing that every vote is very important.

The main library on Cherry Lane was built in 1996 for a city of 40,000 residents. While the library has done a great job adding spaces in downtown and in south Meridian (at a cost of \$100,000 per year to lease space); these facilities can't effectively handle the more than 92,000 patrons in the City and outlying district. This is just one example of why the Library has identified these projects as necessary in order to serve their rapidly growing district and why I support this bond initiative.

Libraries play a key role when it comes to building a strong community. You may not be aware that today's library isn't just about books and movies – although using my library card for e-books, magazines, and movies saves me major dollars every year! The library also offers patrons an opportunity to check out mobile hot spots (you can take the internet with you on your next camping trip!); graphing calculators; as well as Robotics, computer programming and even American Girl Doll kits. There's free scanning, faxing, and notary services as well as 3D printing and so many innovative and educational community programs. The list is extensive. The library is not only a place where residents can find a book, learn about technology or enrich their education—it's also a community gathering place.

Speaking of a gathering place, also on the ballot will be a \$20 million bond by the Western Ada Recreation District (W.A.R.D) for two indoor, year-round aquatics facilities; one each in south and north Meridian to complement the outdoor Meridian Pool the district operates at Storey Park. Our citizens have rated aquatics as a high priority need - for play, wellness, space for community gatherings, competition, water safety, and swim lessons. Water safety is critical—Idaho ranks in the top five states for the highest drowning rates. Swim lessons save lives, and we need to make sure Meridian families have options locally to learn how to swim.

I've heard many people say we should have more than the one outdoor facility that was built more than 40 years ago to serve 5,000 residents. Currently, many citizens travel to Nampa or Boise to meet their aquatic needs. In fact we are the largest community in Idaho without an indoor aquatic center. Now, we have a rare opportunity - the land for both proposed sites has been committed and an operator has offered to cover the operation and maintenance costs of the facilities, saving taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars in costs annually. The time is now. Voters have an opportunity to support building a community asset that our citizens have been asking for, and one that families and children can utilize in many ways. I support this initiative as well.

While Meridian is the #1 Place to Live in America, with these two bonds we have an opportunity to enrich our community by adding even more resources and services that make Meridian a great place to live, work and raise a family. I am 'all in' and will be supporting these two bonds on the ballot. I urge you to inform yourselves and get out and vote—your voice is important. (*More voting information at www.idahovotes.gov*)



MERIDIAN LIBRARY DISTRICT BOND



- \$12 million bond to fund the construction of two new branch library projects: in south and in north Meridian.
- The bond requires a supermajority to pass (66.7%).
- The cost of the bond for both new library branches would be approximately \$11.05 annually for 20 years per \$100,000 in assessed property value (\$0.92 per month).
- **South Meridian branch library** | Cost: \$7,097,491
 - The MLD is proposing an 18-20,000 square foot branch library as a part of the joint-use facility with the Treasure Valley YMCA, West Ada School District, City of Meridian Parks & Recreation, and St. Luke's Health Care in South Meridian.
 - The branch is guaranteed to have free, public access.
 - Land has been donated for the proposed south Meridian, shared-use facility allowing MLD to reallocate the Silverstone Brand and resources to the new location with vastly improved services to the community.
- **North Meridian branch library** | Cost: \$5,073,750
 - The board of trustees is proposing a 15,000 square foot neighborhood branch library in northwest Meridian to address the need for library services in a growing part of our community.
 - Land has not yet been acquired along Chinden, but the library has received verbal commitments for land donations and is actively in discussions for a site.
 - Currently, the Cherry Lane library is operating far beyond capacity. A branch library will provide greatly improved access for north Meridian residents as well as alleviating some of the pressure on the Cherry Lane library.

WESTERN ADA RECREATION DISTRICT (W.A.R.D) BOND

- \$20 million bond to fund the construction of two new indoor aquatic facilities: one in south Meridian and one in north Meridian.
- The bond requires a supermajority to pass (66.7%).
- The cost for the bond for both facilities would be an estimated \$14.52 annually for 20 years per \$100,000 in assessed property value (\$1.21 per month).
- Both facilities would provide a variety of year round aquatics programming such as: swim lessons; practice for local swim teams; water fitness and rehab; recreational fun; water sports activities; space for community gatherings & more.
- Both facilities would be owned by WARD and through contract, a partner would cover operation and maintenance costs.
- **South Meridian Aquatic Center** | Cost: \$10 million
 - Would be part of the Treasure Valley Family YMCA location near Eagle and Amity Roads, next to Hillside Elementary, with an opening in 2018.
 - A 20,000 square foot facility with a 6-lane, 25 yard lap pool and a leisure pool.
- **North Meridian Aquatic Center** | Cost: \$10 million
 - Land has been pledged for donation near the intersection of Chinden and Black Cat and could open as early as 2022 in conjunction with a YMCA and other potential partners.
 - A 20,000 square foot facility with a 6-lane, 25 yard lap pool and a leisure pool.

CALENDAR

Nov. 11

Veterans Day Ceremony

11am

Rock of Honor, Kleiner Park

Nov. 30 – Dec. 16

Santa's Mailbox at City Hall

Dec. 1

Christmas Bazaar/Bake Sale

9am - 4pm

Meridian City Hall

Dec. 2

Winter Lights Fun Run

Parade And Tree Lighting

6:30pm - 8pm

Downtown Meridian

Dec. 3

Holiday Classic Volleyball

8am - 9pm

Homecourt

Dec. 3

Winterland Festival

10am - 3pm

Meridian Boys & Girls Club

Dec. 13

Coffee with the Mayor

8am - 9:30am

Frankie's Java

Dec. 26 - 30

Unlimited Holiday Collection

Trash Day

#MyMeridian

BINGO

**Attend Events, Experience
Meridian and Win Prizes!**

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www.meridiancity.org