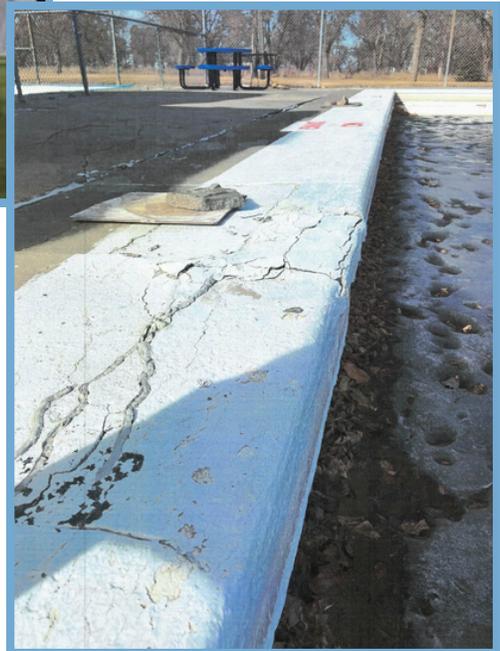


APRIL 2026



Land and Water Conservation Fund



Grant Application For:
City of Tripp
Community Pool Improvements

Tripp Pool - LWCF Application 2026

General Information

Name: Tripp Community Pool Upgrades

Location: Klatt Park

Section: 8 Township: 97N Range: 60W

Applicant Information: City of Tripp, 101 W 1st St, Tripp, SD 57376

UEI: GN8VUTKF4NH1

2020 Census Population: 575

Contact Details:

Kayla Wilson, City Finance Officer

cityoftripp@santel.net

Office: 605-935-6332 (preferred number)

Park Information:

Park Name: Klatt Park

Street Address: 501 N Main St

Acres: 4.75

Deeded to City: August 1962

Project Timeline

Project Begin: April 2027

Project End: November 2027

Culture and History

CCC/WPA Resources? None

Facilities older than 50 years adjacent to or within the project area?

The pool facility was built in 1969, shortly after the park was established.

Who?

Who will benefit from this project?

The Tripp Community Pool serves the City of Tripp (population 575) and a wide surrounding rural area, including families from Menno, Scotland, Kaylor, Delmont, Armour, Parkston, and Avon. The primary beneficiaries are youth and school-age children, who make up most daily users. On average, more than 25 children attend open swim each day, and over 100 individuals participate in private swimming lessons each season. The pool also provides summer employment for local teenagers and adults, supporting workforce development and community engagement.

This project is designed for children, families, teens, and visitors of all ages seeking safe, affordable recreation. With day passes at \$5 or less and a \$60 family season pass, the pool serves low- to moderate-income families and rural residents who may not have access to other aquatic facilities. Its location across from the Tripp ballfields, near Klatt Park camping sites, and by the Hutchinson County Fairgrounds makes it a central recreation hub, benefiting campers, fair attendees, and regional visitors.

The project directly addresses community needs, including safe and functional recreational infrastructure, preservation of aging facilities (57-year-old pool), water conservation and operational efficiency, reliable access to swimming lessons and water safety education, and affordable family recreation in a rural area.

As noted in the 2023 South Dakota SCORP, aging pools across the state are deteriorating due to time and harsh weather. Tripp's pool is experiencing structural cracks, leaks, and failing equipment that threaten its long-term viability. Without major repairs, the community risks losing its only aquatic facility. By replacing the deck, repairing plumbing leaks, upgrading skimmers and filters, rebuilding the pool wall, installing a new fence, and updating the wading pool, this project ensures a safe, efficient, and welcoming space for current residents and future generations.

Community Impact and Geographic Reach

This project will benefit not only the 575 residents of Tripp but also families throughout the surrounding rural region, including Menno, Scotland, Kaylor, Delmont, Armour, Parkston, and the greater Avon area. Because small communities in southeast South Dakota have limited access to public aquatic facilities, the Tripp Community Pool serves as a regional resource. The scale of impact extends well beyond city limits. It draws daily swimmers, more than 100 seasonal lesson participants, visiting campers, families attending ballgames, and the Hutchinson County Fair.

The most directly impacted group is youth. Children rely on the pool for recreation, structured swimming lessons, and water safety education—critical in rural areas where farm ponds, rivers, and open water are common. Local teenagers and adults are also impacted through seasonal employment opportunities that build job skills and leadership experience.

Families across income levels benefit from the pool's affordability. With low daily admission and modest family passes, it provides accessible recreation for low- to moderate-income households that may not have the ability to travel to larger communities for similar amenities. Visitors staying at nearby campsites or attending regional events also contribute to and benefit from the facility.

The broader community impact includes improved public safety, water conservation, and long-term infrastructure stability. Repairs will eliminate leaks, reduce water waste, and prevent further structural deterioration, ensuring the pool remains viable for decades. Without these updates, the facility faces increasing operational costs and potential closure. Completing this project protects a 57-year community asset and preserves a central gathering place that supports recreation, health, youth development, and regional connection.

What?

Describe the Project Scope and Proposed Action

The City of Tripp proposes a comprehensive rehabilitation of its 57-year-old community swimming pool to address significant structural and mechanical deterioration.

Generations have relied on this facility for recreation and summer relief, but cracking concrete, failing systems, and water loss now threaten its long-term viability. Without major repairs, the community risks losing this essential public asset.

The project scope focuses on restoring safety, efficiency, and structural integrity. The severely cracked pool deck will be removed and replaced, including new ladder cups. Plumbing repairs will locate and fix leaks that currently waste water and increase operating costs. Pool skimmers and sand filters will be replaced to improve water quality, reduce strain on equipment, and prevent algae growth and system failure.

Other structural improvements include demolishing and replacing the top of the pool wall with rebar reinforcement to prevent movement and extend the life of the facility and the new skimmers. The pool interior will be sandblasted and recoated with durable epoxy paint to restore a safe, watertight surface. The diving board will be replaced, and the outdated fence will be removed and replaced with a new code-compliant fence to enhance safety. The wading pool will also be improved by installing a new water feature and skimmer.

These improvements will reduce water loss, lower chemical and utility costs, and protect local resources while extending the lifespan of the facility.

Alternatives considered included continuing incremental repairs or closing the pool. Past patchwork fixes have failed and allowed problems to worsen, increasing long-term costs. Closure would eliminate a critical recreational amenity. The proposed action is the most responsible and cost-effective solution to preserve this valued community resource for future generations.

Public Access and Recreation

Klatt Park is a highly accessible and well-suited location for the Tripp Community Pool. As the city's primary public park, it serves as an important gathering place for residents and visitors seeking outdoor recreation. The park provides convenient access, nearby parking, and proximity to other recreational amenities. Families can easily combine swimming with other park activities, reinforcing the park's role as a key destination for outdoor recreation.

The Tripp Community Pool will remain open and accessible to the public for seasonal outdoor recreation, serving residents and visitors throughout the region. As a city-owned facility within Klatt Park, the pool offers open swim hours, scheduled lessons, and affordable daily and seasonal passes to ensure broad public access for families of all income levels. Parking and entrance to the park remain free.

Key improvements will enhance safety and functionality. A new pool deck will provide a stable, slip-resistant surface. New ladder cups and a secure diving board will improve entry and exit, while plumbing repairs, new skimmers, and updated sand filters will improve water quality and reliability. Replacing and reinforcing the pool wall will strengthen structural integrity and extend the facility's lifespan.

Additional improvements will enhance the overall park experience. A new perimeter fence will improve security while maintaining clear and controlled public access points. Updates to the wading pool will create a safer, age-appropriate area for young children, and a new water fountain will provide convenient hydration during hot summer days.

Located across from the ballfields and near camping areas and the county fairgrounds, the pool remains highly visible, easy to reach, and well-integrated into the park's broader recreation network—ensuring it continues to serve as a safe and welcoming destination for outdoor recreation in Tripp.

Accessibility Compliance

This project advances ADA accessibility by improving safety, mobility, and equitable access throughout the facility. Replacing the deteriorated pool deck with a stable, slip-resistant

surface creates a smoother travel path for individuals using wheelchairs, walkers, strollers, or other mobility devices. Eliminating cracks and uneven concrete reduces tripping hazards.

Environmental Sustainability and Longevity

This project strengthens both environmental sustainability and long-term facility longevity by addressing water loss, structural failure, and outdated mechanical systems that currently waste resources and increase operating costs.

A primary sustainability benefit comes from repairing plumbing leaks and replacing failing skimmers and sand filters. The existing system is losing an undetermined amount of water, requiring constant refilling. By diagnosing and repairing leaks and installing efficient filtration components, the city will significantly reduce water waste, conserve treated municipal water, and lower energy demands associated with pumping and reheating replacement water.

Replacing the cracked pool deck and reconstructing the top of the pool wall with rebar reinforcement will stabilize the structure and prevent shifting, separation, and future cracking. This design element protects the integrity of the entire basin, reduces the likelihood of additional leaks, and prevents costly emergency repairs. A new epoxy coating will seal and protect the pool surface from weather damage, chemical wear, and freeze-thaw cycles common in South Dakota, extending the life of the structure.

By prioritizing durable materials, structural reinforcement, water conservation, and efficient mechanical systems, the project reduces long-term operational expenses while protecting natural resources. These improvements ensure the 57-year-old facility remains functional, safe, and environmentally responsible for decades to come—preserving a vital community asset while minimizing its environmental footprint.

Where?

Site Characteristics and Desirability

The Tripp Community Pool is an ideal and appealing site for public outdoor recreation because it sits at the heart of Klatt Park, a place where families already gather for ballgames, camping, and community events. Its central location, free parking, and easy visibility make it a natural destination for residents and visitors. The pool serves not only the 575 people who live in Tripp but families from Menno, Scotland, Kaylor, Delmont, Armour, Parkston, and Avon, creating a regional recreation hub.

Being across from the ballfields and near camping areas and the county fairgrounds allows families to combine activities and spend full days outdoors. The pool's role in youth

development, water safety education, and seasonal employment further enhances its community value.

However, the facility's age presents challenges that currently detract from the experience. Structural cracks, leaks, and failing mechanical systems threaten long-term viability and diminish water quality and safety. The deteriorated deck, outdated fence, and worn wading pool create accessibility issues and reduce overall comfort for visitors. These conditions risk the loss of the community's only public pool facility if left unaddressed.

The planned rehabilitation resolves these concerns by restoring structural integrity, improving water efficiency, and modernizing safety features. With these upgrades, the pool will continue to anchor outdoor recreation in Tripp, offering a safe, welcoming, and vibrant space that supports families, youth, and regional visitors for decades to come.

Relationships to other projects and community planning

The City of Tripp has recognized the need for major pool upgrades for many years, applying for LWCF funding in both 2012 and 2025. Although those applications were not funded, the city continued making smaller repairs to keep the 57-year-old facility operational.

Community leaders and residents now agree that comprehensive upgrades are critical to ensure the pool can continue operating safely, efficiently, and sustainably. The planned improvements—replacing the cracked deck, repairing leaks, upgrading filtration systems, reinforcing the pool wall, installing a new fence, and enhancing the wading pool—address long-standing issues that can no longer be managed through temporary fixes.

This investment reflects the community's resilience and commitment to its shared spaces. Completing these long-awaited improvements will be a point of pride for Tripp, demonstrating stewardship, determination, and a belief in the value of places where families gather, children learn, and neighbors connect. The project is more than a renovation; it is a forward-looking investment that strengthens the town's identity and ensures that Klatt Park remains a vibrant, welcoming recreation asset for decades to come.

Existing and Planned Uses

All uses within Klatt Park are public and recreational, and no non-recreational or private activities occur within the pool area. No future non-recreational uses are planned that would interfere with public access or diminish recreation quality.

Why?

Project Needs and Goals

The Tripp Community Pool project is needed because the community is at real risk of losing its only aquatic facility. Years of aging, failed repairs, and worsening structural issues have created a gap that small, temporary fixes can no longer address. The pool is leaking an unknown amount of water, the concrete wall sections are separating, and sand is entering the system—problems that compromise safety, increase operating costs, and threaten the pool's ability to remain open. Without meaningful intervention, the facility will eventually become unsafe or too costly to operate, leaving Tripp and the surrounding rural communities without accessible aquatic recreation or swimming lessons.

The overarching goal of this project is to ensure that Tripp can continue providing a safe, reliable, and affordable pool for families, youth, and visitors. The community values the pool not only as a place to swim, but as a space where children learn water safety, teens gain summer employment, and neighbors gather during a South Dakota summer.

Preserving this resource supports health, recreation, youth development, and community connection.

This project is a priority because the pool is central to the identity and quality of life in Tripp. Residents have voiced strong support for keeping it open, and the city has pursued funding for more than a decade—including LWCF applications in 2012 and 2025—demonstrating long-standing commitment. The repairs are essential to protect a 57-year-old community asset, reduce water waste, lower operational costs, and ensure the pool remains viable for future generations. By addressing these critical needs now, the city is safeguarding an important public space that serves Tripp and its neighboring communities every summer.

Outdoor Recreation Benefits

This project provides immediate and long-term benefits for outdoor recreation by ensuring the Tripp Community Pool remains safe, reliable, and accessible. In the short term, repairing the failing infrastructure prevents the loss of the community's only aquatic facility. It improves the experience by providing better water quality, safer surfaces, and more reliable operations. These upgrades allow families, youth, and visitors to continue enjoying swimming, lessons, and summer recreation without interruption.

Over the long term, the project protects a vital recreation asset for Tripp and the surrounding rural region. By stabilizing the pool's structure and reducing water waste and operating costs, the community secures continued access to affordable recreation, water safety education, and youth development opportunities. These benefits are especially

significant in an area with limited alternatives, where the pool serves as a central gathering place and one of the few accessible outdoor recreation options.

By preserving and strengthening this essential facility, the project expands recreation opportunities, enhances public access, and ensures that the pool remains a vibrant, welcoming resource for generations to come.

How?

Describe the planning process that led to the development of this proposal.

This project has been a topic of discussion in Tripp for more than a decade, with residents and city staff consistently recognizing the need for significant pool repairs. Ongoing conversations at city council meetings, community gatherings, and informal discussions helped the City understand both the urgency of the issues and the scale of the project the community could reasonably support.

Using this input, the city sought quotes that focused on the most pressing and necessary repairs rather than unnecessary additions. While the need is clear, local funding is limited due to resource constraints and other municipal obligations. Pursuing this grant became the most practical and responsible way to move the project forward while minimizing financial impacts on the City and its residents. The City of Tripp and its residents are anxious and excited for a new pool, so construction would begin as soon as possible.

Cost Estimates

These renovations are intentionally responsible and right-sized. They do not overbuild or add unnecessary features; instead, they focus on the essential repairs needed to protect public safety, improve water quality, and ensure the pool remains functional for Tripp and neighboring communities. By addressing the basic needs of the facility, the project delivers a better, more reliable final product without exceeding what the community requires or can sustain.

The cost estimates were provided by a Sioux Falls contractor who has previous experience with projects like this.

Management and Operations

The City of Tripp has managed and operated the pool and Klatt Park for nearly 60 years. This would continue after the pool updates. Each year, they utilize full-time and part-time staff to run the pool and offer swimming lessons.

Budget and Funding

Estimated Project Budget (detailed items):

Budget Description Item	Amount
Pool Deck Replacement	\$115,000
Plumbing Repairs	\$11,500
Skimmer Replacement	\$10,800
Diving Board	\$20,000
New Ladder Cups in Deck	\$2,000
Paint Pool	\$28,000
Paint Removal / Chipping Pool	\$40,000
Replace Sand Filters	\$22,500
Pool Wall Demo	\$15,000
Replace Top of Pool Wall	\$20,000
Pool Fence	\$5,500
Wader Pool	\$10,000
Archeological Survey (if required by GF&P)	\$3,000
TOTAL PROJECT:	\$303,300
FUNDS REQUESTED FROM GRANT:	\$150,000
Local funds	\$153,300

Need for Grant Funding: Describe the applicant's need for grant funding and explain what would happen to the project if an award is not made.

The City of Tripp has a significant need for grant funding because the scale of the required pool repairs exceeds what the community can reasonably afford on its own. Despite recognizing the need for major upgrades for more than a decade, the City's limited budget, small tax base, and competing municipal obligations have made it impossible to fund these repairs without outside assistance. That is why the project was not moved forward last year when the grant funding was not awarded.

If this grant is not awarded, the project will likely be delayed indefinitely, and the long-standing problems with the pool will continue to worsen. The facility is already experiencing structural separation, water loss, and operational inefficiencies that threaten its ability to remain open. Without funding, the City would be unable to address these critical issues, putting the future of the pool—and the community's only aquatic recreation resource—at serious risk. Over time, the pool may become unsafe or too costly to operate,

forcing closure and leaving Tripp and the surrounding rural communities without accessible swimming, lessons, or summer recreation.

Also, the cost of this project will only increase with time. For example, the quote from 2025 was \$25,000 less than the 2026 quote. Each year that goes by only increases the cost to the city and its residents.

CONDITION OF CURRENT POOL



**Cracked pool deck
and skimmers that
need to be replaced**



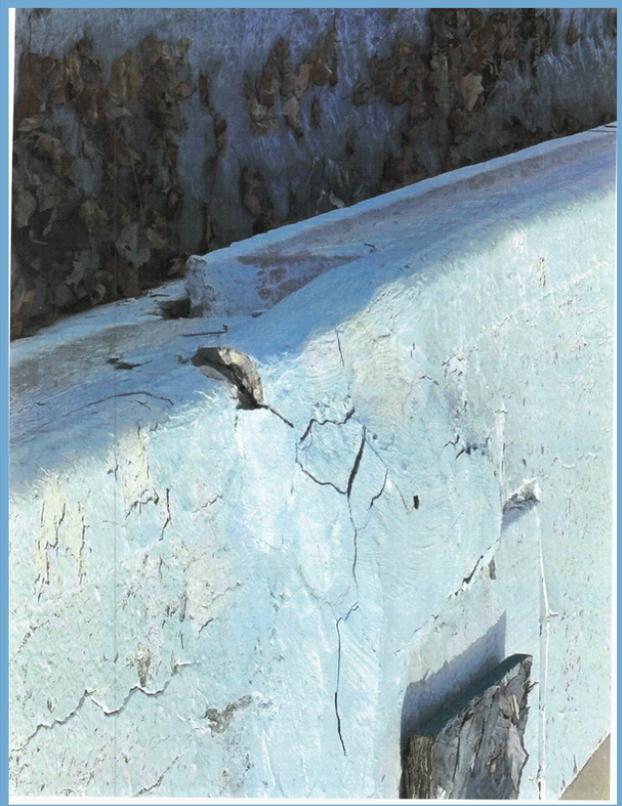
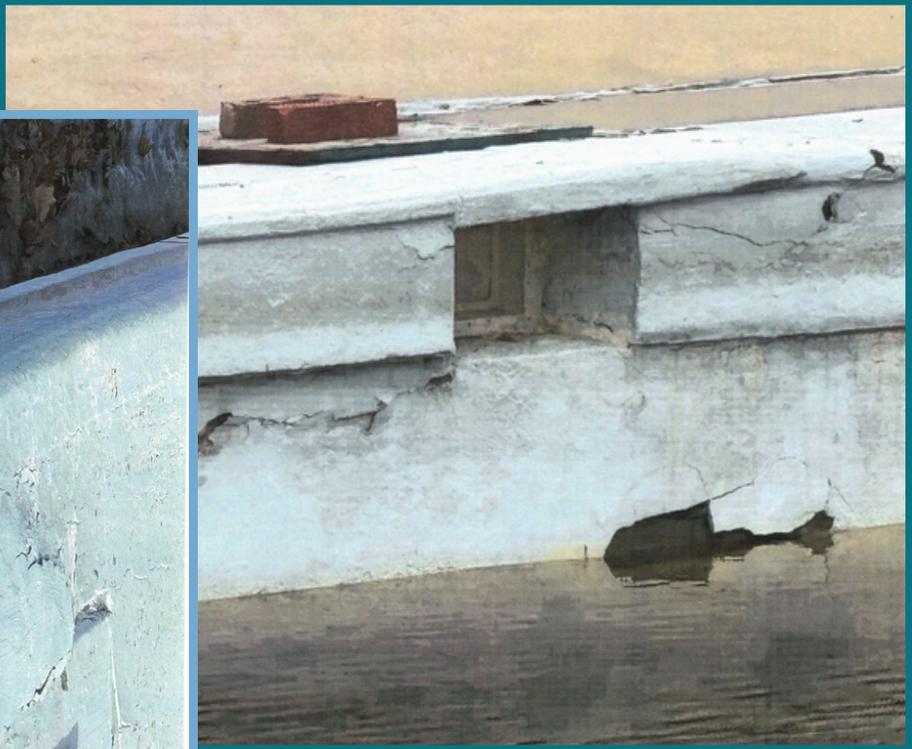
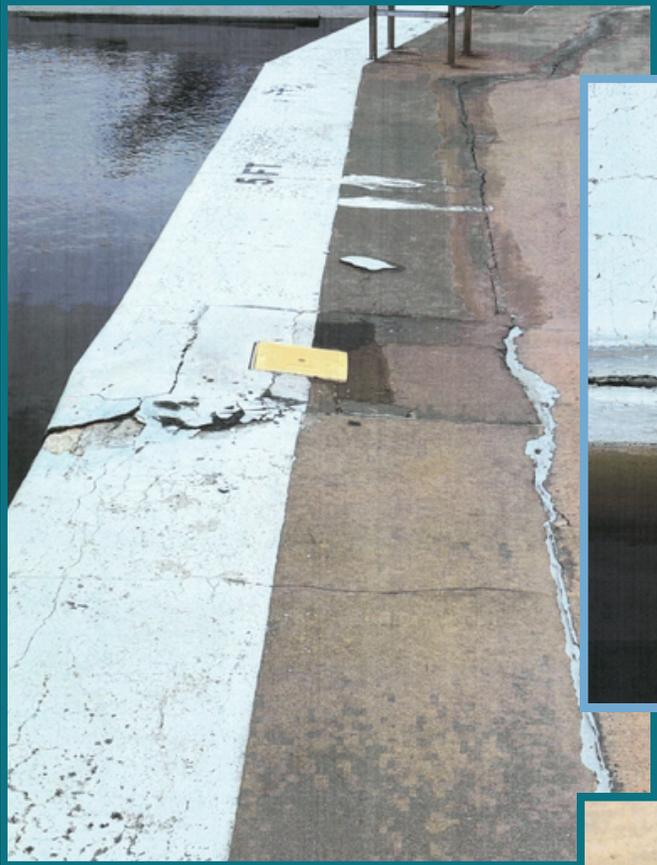
CONDITION OF CURRENT POOL



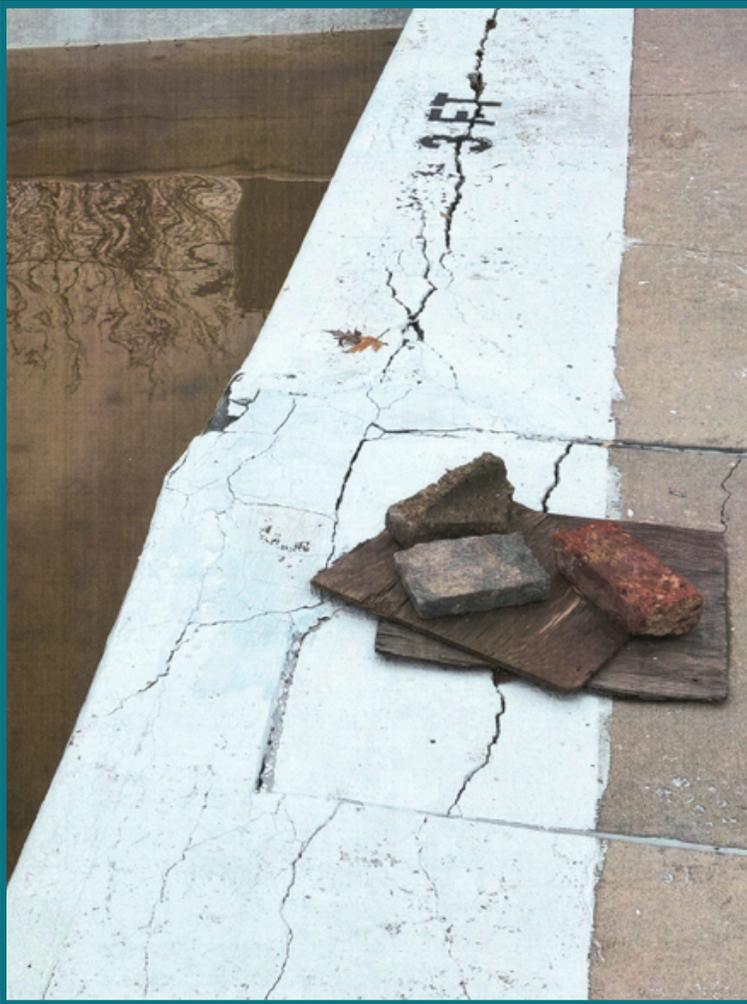
**Cracked pool deck
and walls that
need repair**



CONDITION OF CURRENT POOL



CONDITION OF CURRENT POOL



CONDITION OF POOL WALL





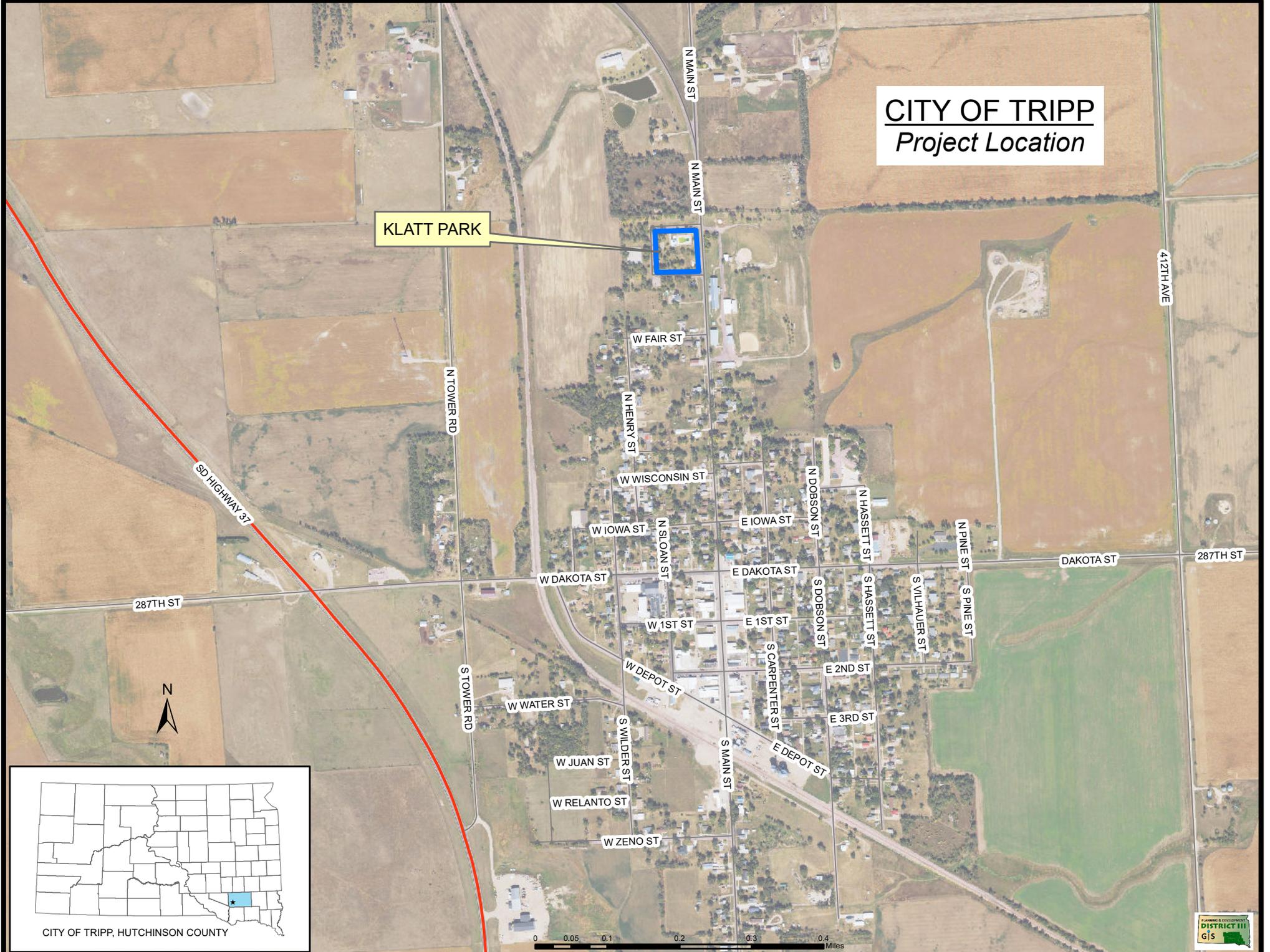
COLOR MAPS

- Vicinity Map
- Site Location Map

CITY OF TRIPP

Project Location

KLATT PARK



CITY OF TRIPP, HUTCHINSON COUNTY



CITY OF TRIPP

POOL RENOVATIONS IN KLATT PARK

Contractor Staging Area

Wading Pool

Main Pool

New Fence around the perimeter

HIGH ST
300 Feet

PARK DR
300 Feet

300 Feet

300 Feet
KLATT ST

Camping Spots

Ball Field

N MAIN ST

County Fairgrounds

Football Field

W FAIR ST

Ball Field

N HENRY ST

0 50 100 200 300 400 Feet



This map is intended for general planning purposes only. This map may or may not accurately represent the actual conditions as they exist today. Any decisions made using this map should be field verified.





PARK BOUNDARY MAP

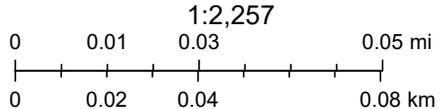
- The park is all City-owned

PARK BOUNDARY MAP



3/16/2026, 1:25:19 PM

-  PARCELS
-  TOWNSHIPS
-  SECTIONS
-  CITY LIMITS



Microsoft, Vantor

ArcGIS Web AppBuilder

This map is intended for general planning purposes only. District III and Hutchinson County makes no claims, representations, and warranties regarding the accuracy of the data.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Letters of Support for Project

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in strong support of the grant application to update and repair our community swimming pool. As someone who has personally taught swimming lessons at this facility and worked alongside the lifeguards, I have seen firsthand how vital this pool is to our community.

The pool is more than just a recreational space-it is a place where children gain life-saving water safety skills, families gather, and community connections are strengthened. During my time teaching lessons, I watched young swimmers build confidence, overcome fears, and develop essential skills that could one day save their lives. The lifeguards work diligently to maintain a safe environment, but aging infrastructure and needed repairs make their jobs more challenging than it should be.

Updating and repairing the pool would greatly improve safety, accessibility, and overall functionality. It would allow us to continue offering quality swimming lessons, support our hardworking lifeguards, and provide a safe, welcoming environment for families. Investing in this facility is an investment in the health, safety, and well-being of our entire community.

This pool serves residents of all ages and plays an especially important role during the summer months when it provides a safe, supervised place for children and teens to gather. Modernizing this facility will ensure it remains a valuable community asset for years to come.

Thank you for considering this application and for your commitment to supporting communities like ours. I strongly encourage you to approve funding for these much-needed improvements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Gemar". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jennifer Gemar



Tripp Action Group

Dr. Shawn Bietz

Board Member

28443 415th Ave

Tripp, SD 57376

605-464-4179

trippactiongroup@gmail.com

2/23/26

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing on behalf of the Tripp Action Group to express our strong support for the City of Tripp's application for grant funding to improve the community swimming pool.

As a small rural community, Tripp relies heavily on shared public spaces that promote health, connection, and quality of life for our residents. The city pool is one of the most valuable recreational assets in our town. It provides a safe and welcoming place for children to learn essential swimming and water-safety skills, remain physically active during the summer months, and build social connections that strengthen our community.

The pool also serves residents of all ages by offering opportunities for exercise, family recreation, and community engagement. In a community with limited recreational options, the pool plays a vital role in supporting both physical and mental well-being while helping make Tripp an attractive place to live and raise a family.

Investing in improvements to the city pool is an investment in the long-term health and vitality of our community. Updated facilities will enhance safety, accessibility, and sustainability, ensuring this important resource can continue to serve current and future generations.

The Tripp Action Group fully supports this grant application and appreciates your consideration of a project that will have a lasting, positive impact on our children, families, and community as a whole.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shawn Bietz, DVM

Board Member

Tripp Action Group, Inc.





Tripp-Delmont School District 33-5

105 S. Sloan Street
Tripp, SD 57376-0430
Phone (605) 935-6766
FAX (605) 935-6507

Jane Mehlhaff, President
Bryan Bietz, Vice President
Jessica Johnston, Member
Christian Jensen, Member
Seth Bietz, Member
Daniel Hoey, Superintendent

February 25, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Tripp-Delmont School District Administrative Team, we are writing to express our full support for the City of Tripp's efforts to secure funding to update our community pool. This project is not just about improving a facility, it is about investing in the well-being, health, and future of our children and families.

For our students, the community pool is more than just a place to swim. It is a safe, engaging, and essential space where they can stay active, build friendships, and develop lifelong skills. During the summer months, when school is not in session, the pool serves as a critical resource for structured recreation, providing an opportunity for physical activity in a supervised and healthy environment. In a time when communities are working harder than ever to keep kids engaged in positive activities, this pool remains one of our most valuable assets.

An updated, well-maintained pool would ensure that generations of Tripp-Delmont students and families continue to benefit from this vital resource. It would not only provide a safe space for children to learn water safety but also strengthen our sense of community and enhance the overall quality of life for our residents.

We strongly urge full consideration and support for this grant request, as it aligns directly with our district's mission of promoting student success, well-being, and community engagement. The investment in this project would have a lasting impact, reinforcing our shared commitment to the health and safety of our children.

Please know that the Tripp-Delmont School District stands firmly behind this initiative and is grateful for any opportunity to support the enhancement of our community. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Sarah Leibel
Principal
Tripp-Delmont School District 33-5
Sarah.leibel@k12.sd.us
(605) 935-6766
(On behalf of the Tripp-Delmont Administrative Team)

To Whom this may Concern,

I am writing this letter in regard to the need for a new swimming pool in Tripp, SD.

We have lived in Tripp most of our lives and take great pride in the community pool. Our pool is very old and needs to be replaced.

We have many children, teens, and adults that would utilize our pool. Our community also has several children with handicapped needs that could be met by having a zero-depth pool.

A city with a swimming pool is an attraction when families are looking for a place to live. Our children lived at the pool all summer long. What great exercise and a way for children and adults to hang out with friends. A new swimming pool would also attract people from other communities that don't have a pool.

Please consider any financial help you could give to the community of Tripp, SD and help us to keep a good recreation going by making it better. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Sincerely,

Francis + Karen Froehlich

The City of Tripp's pool is a vital community asset in our rural town and serves as one of the few recreational amenities available to residents during the summer months. In a small community where resources and entertainment options are limited, the pool provides an important gathering place that promotes health, safety, and social connection for residents of all ages. It is especially valuable for children and families, offering a safe and affordable location for recreation, swimming lessons, and water safety education.

The pool plays a significant role in supporting the quality of life in our rural community. For many families, it is the primary location for summer activities and a place where friendships are formed and community ties are strengthened. Community members often travel long distances for basic services, making the availability of a local pool even more important. The facility helps keep families engaged locally and contributes to a sense of pride in our town.

Due to the age of the facility and years of regular use, remodeling and improvements are necessary to maintain safety, accessibility, and functionality. Exposure to the elements and limited maintenance resources common in rural communities have increased the need for updates. Without these improvements, continued operation and long-term sustainability of the pool could be at risk.

Grant funding would allow the City of Tripp to make critical improvements that will preserve this essential facility and ensure it remains open and accessible for future generations. Investing in the city pool is an investment in rural quality of life, youth development, and the long-term vitality of our community.

Thanks for your consideration.

Katie Heisinger

Citizen of Tripp

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in strong support of Tripp's application for funding through Game, Fish and Parks to update and improve our community swimming pool. As a lifelong resident and active member of our small town, I have personally seen how important this pool is to our community and the role it plays in promoting outdoor recreation, safety, and healthy lifestyles.

In a rural community like ours, access to safe and affordable recreational opportunities is limited. Our community pool is one of the few places where children, families, and seniors can gather during the summer months to enjoy the outdoors, stay active, and build lasting connections. For many of our children, this pool is where they are first introduced to swimming, water safety, and respect for aquatic environments—skills that align directly with the mission of Game, Fish and Parks.

The pool is especially important for teaching water safety. Many of our youth do not have regular access to lakes, rivers, or formal swim instruction outside of this facility. Updating the pool would allow our community to continue offering swim lessons and safety programming in a safe, accessible, and well-maintained environment. These experiences help build confidence in and around water, encouraging lifelong enjoyment of outdoor recreation while reducing the risk of water-related accidents.

Over time, aging infrastructure has made it challenging to fully meet the needs of our community. Improvements to the pool would enhance safety, accessibility, and overall use, ensuring that residents of all ages and abilities can continue to benefit from this vital resource. An updated facility would also strengthen community pride and encourage families to remain active and engaged close to home.

An investment in our community pool is an investment in the health, safety, and future of our town. With support from Game, Fish and Parks, this project would help preserve a meaningful space that introduces young people to water safety and outdoor recreation while continuing to serve as a gathering place for our entire community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of outdoor recreation and community well-being across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Mogck". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Denise Mogck

To whom it may concern:

Exercising in a swimming pool is important for senior citizens. Water supports body weight which eases arthritis pain, improving balance and reduces fall risks.

It also improves mental health, sleep and is a good full-body workout. It helps strengthen muscles. Even just walking in the water is beneficial. It is a natural and inexpensive way to keep older people out of the Doctor's office.

It is one way for people to take health care into their own hands.

Socialization and community foster camaraderie and connection with peers and maintain a higher quality of life. I have made new friends at aerobic classes at the pool.

Last year, the city installed a portable, temporary set of steps so older people could just get into the pool instead of unsafe ladders! To our surprise; young parents and children loved them. So much safer!!!

By investing in an upgrade to our city pool; helps create a connection where everyone can thrive.

Sincerely,

Sharon Tollin

Sharon Tollin

Samantha Ziegler
208 N Main St
Tripp, SD 57376

6 February 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

The Tripp City Pool is a centerpiece of summer activities for the community. As a resident of Tripp for thirty-four years, the pool has been part of my memories and development from childhood to adulthood. In a small town, there are many struggles we face financially and in community development. Community leaders aim to create facilities and opportunities for citizens of all ages, which can prove to be a difficult task. The pool is one entity that we can improve for various age groups, especially our youth. Our goal is to develop our youth, and the Tripp City Pool is an instrumental staple of our community's goal to achieve that.

Growing up, the pool was an opportunity for me to learn and explore. It sounds frivolous to credit a place for mental and emotional development; however, the pool appears in many of my summer learning experiences. As a child, it was a place where I could play and explore—I learned independence, problem-solving, and safety. As a teenager, I was an employee who learned responsibility, decision making, and medical and emergency skills. All of these learning opportunities ultimately contributed to lifelong abilities applied to school and career settings. As a community, it's our duty to continue to provide our youth with transferable skills, which the pool offers. Without the pool, our kids lose an employment and socialization venue.

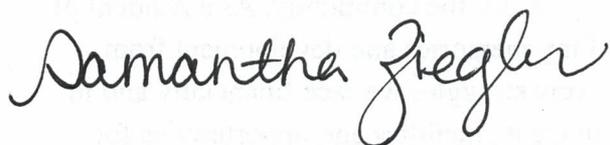
As an adult who returned to my home community, I still see the value in our facility. I was approached four years ago about teaching swimming lessons. After recertifying, I revamped our swimming lessons program for Tripp and surrounding communities. It has led to certification of an additional three instructors, and between the five of us, we have taught over 400 students from thirteen different communities in the past four years. We teach kids life-saving skills that will last them a lifetime, and not only are we servicing the kids in our community, our program is far-reaching. Some of these students are coming to Tripp because their local program is full or nonexistent. We also have started to move beyond youth. Most recently, an instructor has also kickstarted a water aerobics class that promotes exercise for the adults in our town.

While the numbers show the importance of our pool facility, my major motivator for seeing the pool's improvements are my own children. As aforementioned, our community needs the pool in order to give our kids another summer activity. My kids enjoy going to the pool, and I am thankful for the opportunity for them to learn safety and swimming skills for their lives. Lastly, it

gives them a social setting to develop and grow within. Our youth need this summer activity, and improvements to the facility are essential to keep it functional.

Funds for this project will not be wasted, as it will benefit our youth and adults. In Tripp, the pool is a place for foundational experiences and social settings. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samantha Ziegler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Samantha Ziegler



Tripp Development Company, Inc.

Mission: Drive Tripp's Economic Growth

February 11, 2026

South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks

Division of Parks and Recreation

Attn: LWCF Grant Program Coordinator

523 E. Capitol Ave.

Pierre, SD 57501

**Re: Letter of Support – City of Tripp Community Pool Reconstruction Project
LWCF Grant Application**

Dear LWCF Grant Review Committee,

On behalf of the Tripp Development Company, I am pleased to submit this letter of strong support for the City of Tripp's application for Land and Water Conservation Fund assistance to reconstruct the Tripp Community Swimming Pool.

The Tripp Development Company is a community-driven 501(c)(6) organization whose mission is to promote economic growth, support existing businesses, encourage new business development, and improve overall quality of life in the Tripp area. Over the past several years we have focused heavily on housing initiatives, downtown revitalization, and projects that make Tripp a more attractive place for families and young professionals to live, work, and raise children. A safe, modern, accessible community pool is a cornerstone of that effort.

Our current outdoor pool has served generations of Tripp residents and visitors, but age and wear have created safety and maintenance challenges. Rebuilding the facility will provide:

- A modern, ADA-accessible aquatic space for all ages
- Expanded programming opportunities (swim lessons, water aerobics, family events)
- A key amenity that helps us attract and retain residents in a rural community where recreation options are limited
- A public health and wellness resource that directly supports GFP's goal of increasing outdoor recreation participation across South Dakota

Tripp Development Company, Inc. | PO Box 277, Tripp, SD 57376 | Phone: (605) 933-2042

We view this project as an investment in the long-term economic and social health of Tripp. Quality family recreation facilities are repeatedly cited by prospective residents and businesses as a deciding factor when choosing a small town. By supporting the City on this LWCF application, we strive to demonstrate the broad community commitment required for successful grant projects.

The Tripp Development Company fully endorses this application and stands ready to support the City in any additional way that would strengthen the proposal—whether through volunteer support, or future promotion of the completed facility.

Thank you for considering the City of Tripp's request. We are confident that this project will deliver lasting public benefit and align perfectly with the priorities of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caleb Finck". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Caleb Finck

Board President

Tripp Development Company, Inc.

CalebFinck@Gmail.com

March 16, 2026

Fire Chief Darin Ziegler
Tripp Volunteer Fire Department
PO Box 242
Tripp, SD 57376

Subject: Letter of Support for Pool Grant Application – City of Tripp

Dear Grant Review Committee,

The Tripp Volunteer Fire Department is writing to express our strong support for the City of Tripp's application for funding to re-construct a community pool. As first responders in our town, we understand the importance of safe and accessible recreations spaces for our citizens, and we believe that a pool will significantly enhance the quality of life and the safety within our community.

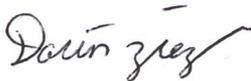
A community pool offers numerous benefits, including

- **Enhanced Public Safety:**
A pool provides a safe and supervised environment for children and families to enjoy recreational activities, reducing the risk of unsupervised water-related incidents.
- **Emergency Preparedness:**
A pool can serve as a crucial resource during emergencies, providing a place for cooling and hydration during heatwaves or other crises.
- **Community Recreation and Well-being:**
A pool fosters community engagement and provides a valuable recreational opportunity for residents of all ages, promoting physical activity and social interaction.
- **Improved Fire Safety:**
A pool can serve as a source of water for fire suppression in the event of a fire, especially in areas where access to water sources is limited.

We commend the City of Tripp for their vision and commitment to improving our community. We are confident that this project will have a positive and lasting impact on the safety, well-being, and quality of life for all residents of Tripp.

We urge you to favorably consider this grant application and provide the necessary funding to make this important project a reality.

Sincerely,



Darin Ziegler
Tripp Volunteer Fire Department