

NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, May 22, 2009 Contact: Jack P. Marschall (440) 885-8181 or (216) 346-9935 (cell)

PARMA'S STATE ROAD POOL TO REMAIN CLOSED FOR THE SUMMER

(**PARMA**) – In an effort to cut costs, the City of Parma will not re-open State Road Pool at Veterans Memorial Park this summer. The city's other three pools will open as scheduled on June 13.

"Our costs go up while our revenues go down every summer to operate the pools and ballparks," said Parma Recreation Director Mickey Vittardi. "This is one way to help offset that trend. In addition, we are trimming our seasonal, part-time workforce to a four day work week."

Parma will continue to operate Nike Pool at James W. Day Park on Pleasant Valley Road, Ridgewood Pool at Ridgewood Lake Park at Ridge Road and Ridgewood Drive and Walters Grove Pool located at Walters Grove Park, west of State Road off Milford Avenue.

"Our long-term goal is to eventually consolidate our city pools," said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. "The economy is keeping our proposed plan for a water park at Veterans Memorial Park on the drawing board. For now, the budget crunch is forcing our hand to take this modest cost-cutting measure in order to keep spending in line with our revenues."

Mayor DePiero also said the decision makes sense because State Road Pool is in need of costly improvements that the city cannot afford at this time.

"None of these decisions are easy," said Mayor DePiero. "My responsibility is like a balancing act – cutting money where I can while trying to keep any negative impact to our residents at a minimum."

The City of Parma will begin selling pool passes and accepting swim lesson registrations on Saturday, May 30. Residents can sign-up at the Parma Recreation Department located inside Parmatown Mall. You can call the Parma Recreation Department at 440-884-8144.