

MEMORANDUM

TO: Park Advisory Commission

FROM: Josh Landefeld, Parks & Recreation Services Manager

DATE: April 15, 2025

SUBJECT: Resolution Recommending Approval of Fiscal Year 2026/27 Fee Adjustments for Parks & Recreation Services

Attached for your consideration and recommendation is a resolution authorizing fee adjustments for FY 2026/27. Each year, in conjunction with the preparation of the budget, Parks & Recreation Services review fees to determine if the costs of the services are appropriate in relation to comparative data, while considering increases in operating costs.

Parks and Recreation Services is proposing fee increases in a several areas including pool admissions, drop-in hockey, day camp fees, various golf fees at Ann Arbor golf courses, and fees related to third party rentals through Ann Arbor Community Education and Recreation for ball field rentals.

The attached proposed fee increases document shares the date the proposed fees were last increased and for many of them it has been several years. While staff review fees annually, the decision to make fee increases recommendations is determined by a few factors, including demand of the program, number of years since last increase, and the expense costs for running program. Each of the FY2026 proposed fee increases address one of those criteria and support the department's current and future operations.

All proposed fee increases have a corresponding comparative data document. These documents compare our proposed fees to those charged in other communities for similar programs or services. The proposed fees, when compared to those charged by other communities, are competitive and typically more affordable than most.

Parks & Recreation Services awards scholarships to income eligible Ann Arbor resident families. Parks staff will also be presenting a new scholarship program in late 2025 which will simplify the process to help more individuals and families. Scholarships are awarded based on need and there is not a limit on the number awarded. The scholarships provide for reduced or free program and admission fees.

Staff are recommending that Council approve these fee changes as part of the FY 2026/27 budget process.

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2026/27 FEE
ADJUSTMENTS FOR PARKS & RECREATION SERVICES

Whereas, Parks & Recreation Services review existing fees annually as part of the budget process;

Whereas, Fees for various programs and services have not been increased for numerous years;

Whereas, The proposed fee increases are in line with what other communities charge for similar services; and

Whereas, Scholarships that provide for reduced or free programs are available to income eligible Ann Arbor residents;

RESOLVED, That fees for Parks and Recreation Services be adjusted according to the attached schedules;

RESOLVED, That the attached fee schedules become effective according to the dates in the attached schedules; and

RESOLVED, That the Parks Advisory Commission recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the proposed fees.