

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Park Advisory Commission

FROM: Josh Landefeld, Parks & Recreation Services Manager

DATE: April 16, 2024

SUBJECT: Resolution Recommending Approval of Fiscal Year 2025 Fee Adjustments for Parks & Recreation Services

Attached for your consideration and recommendation is a resolution authorizing fee adjustments for FY 2025. 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 for adult hockey leagues at City ice arenas, swim team and swim lessons at all City pools and bridge card game at the Senior Center. The hockey league, bridge, and Mack swim fee increases would begin in the fall of 2024, while all other aquatic increases would take place prior to summer 2025.

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 the percentage rate increase is in some cases large, when it is considered over the length of time since the last fee increase most of them are less than 3% annually. Historically, staff have not recommended annual increases to park fees even with rising expenses to ensure that our programming remain affordable to the community.

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. 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 currently reviewing our scholarship program and anticipate updating our process in advance of the FY2026 budget process to better serve the community.

Staff are recommending that Council approve these fee changes as part of the FY 2025 budget process.

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2025 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.