

Bill 15 SAVE OUR DISTRICT PARK PROGRAMS

I would like to take the time to make sure my voice is heard. I may not know how the budget committee works and can't image how hard it must be being in charge of so many peoples lives. I just would like to tell you a little about what I see when I work at a district park and what I hear from the happy participants attending the district park programs.

I see many different age groups using the facilities and many different programs that use the district park facilities. To name a few there is the Police Academy Leagues (Basketball and Volleyball), various Volleyball Leagues with different age groups. At the leagues I see all the players having fun playing the game; I see their family and friends coming out to support them from the side lines. I imagine the players get their physical fitness from playing the sport. The players get well deserved confidence from being good at a sport and having the support from their family and friends cheering them on.

I see people attending ballroom dancing classes at the multi purpose room. They seem so happy and full of life enjoying dancing with each other. And I was amazed to see that there is not just one age group, it's a nice mix of ages in the group.

I see the seniors enjoying their aerobic classes to stay active.

There are youth boxing clubs that use the boxing facilities on a daily basis.

I didn't realize how much people in the community use the outside courts. They play all afternoon till the last minute when the lights go out at night. There are people playing basketball, volleyball and tennis.

There are softball, football, rugby, baseball teams that use the fields during the day and night time.

I hear good things about the free senior daily activities such as senior exercise, holo-holo classes etc.

I am sure I am leaving out a lot of other children/teen and adult actives. I don't even want to know what will happen if the communities loose the district park programs. Where will the kids go during the summer? Not every house hold is able to spend money on private care for their children for the summer while the parents are at work. I hate to think what will happen to the seniors, they are already on a fixed income. Where will seniors be able to go to get the same care and support for free?

I have to say that being at the district park makes me feel a lot closer to my community and makes me feel happy to know that there are nice people in my community. In this day and age everyone is running around between work and home they don't take the time to look at one another let alone interact with their neighbors. The district park programs help each community become closer within the community. And also with the leagues it helps bring different communities together.

I was told a story that someone from another community was uneasy to attend a district park program because she wasn't from the community. She was told just to come and try it out and see how you like it. She was amazed to see that the people are friendly and the program was just what she wanted.

For me I may not be able to actually participate in all the programs offered at the district park. I have a full time job and a part time job. But I am pleased that I am able to attend an adult exercise program at the gym. It sure helps motivate me to be more active. I feel this class makes me a well rounded person. Because the more I am active, the more energy I have and the happier I am about life which keeps me fueled for my personal life and work. What also makes the program more enjoyable is the other members of the group, we help motivate each other to work out and be healthy.

In following I hope I made my point on how much the community uses the District Park Programs and how much people will be affected if you cut our programs. Please find a way to fund the money to keep these programs running for years to come. I would like to be able to enjoy more of the programs throughout the years and especially when I am able to retire.

Thank you for you time and considerations.

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