

Report to Parks and Recreation Committee  
Meeting Date: April 20, 2026  
**Report Title: Youth Recreation and Parks Survey**

Department: Administration  
Author's Name: Leila Stafford  
Position: Recreation and Volunteer Coordinator  
Report # PRC-2026-02



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### RECOMMENDATION:

Be it resolved that the Parks and Recreation Committee (PRC) receive the Township Trails report for information, as presented in PRC report PRC-2026-02.

### STRATEGIC PLAN COMMENTS:

Sector #7: Community Protection - Strategic Initiative #2 – Be proactive in implementing the Community Safety and Well Being Plan.

Sector #8: Governance – Strategic Initiative #4 – Township Council will ensure openness and transparency in its operations.

### UPDATE ON OPERATIONS:

The Township is committed to ensuring that its parks, recreation spaces, and programming reflect the needs and interests of the community, particularly local youth. Engaging youth directly through a targeted survey will provide valuable insight into how existing amenities are being used, as well as identify gaps in services and opportunities for future investment.

Youth are a key demographic in building vibrant, active, and connected communities. However, their perspectives are often underrepresented in traditional engagement processes. This survey creates an accessible and inclusive way for youth to share their ideas on park features, recreational spaces, and programming that would encourage greater participation and community use.

The survey will be promoted through the Township social media channels, in the e-news, and through the elementary and high schools.

The information gathered will help guide decision-making by the Committee, helping to prioritize improvements to parks and guide the development of relevant programs. It will also assist in strengthening future funding applications by demonstrating community need and engagement.

### ATTACHMENTS:

- DRAFT Youth Recreation and Parks Survey

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

e-signed

April 16, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leila Stafford  
Recreation and Volunteer Coordinator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

e-signed

April 16, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shellee Fournier, CAO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **DRAFT Youth Recreation & Park Survey**

*Help shape programs and parks in your community!*

We want to hear from youth about what activities, spaces, and programs you'd like to see more of. Your feedback will help guide future recreation planning.

### **About You**

**1. Age Group**

- Under 10
- 10–12
- 13–15
- 16–18

**2. What community do you live in or near?**

(Short answer)

**3. How often do you currently use local parks or recreation programs?**

- Very often (weekly or more)
- Sometimes (monthly)
- Rarely
- Never

### **Parks & Outdoor Spaces**

**4. What do you currently like about local parks?**

(Short answer)

**5. What would you like to see MORE of in parks? (Select all that apply)**

- Playgrounds
- Sports fields (soccer, baseball, etc.)
- Basketball courts
- Skate parks / pump tracks
- Walking / biking trails
- Beach / swimming areas

- Outdoor fitness equipment
- Picnic / hangout spaces
- Lighting for evening use
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

6. **What would make parks more fun or welcoming for you?**  
(Paragraph)

### **Programs & Activities**

7. **What types of programs would you be interested in?** *(Select all that apply)*

- Sports leagues (organized games)
- Drop-in sports (casual play)
- Fitness classes
- Arts & crafts
- Music / drama
- Outdoor adventure (hiking, paddling, etc.)
- Leadership or volunteer programs
- Technology / gaming programs
- Events (movie nights, festivals, etc.)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

8. **When are you most likely to attend programs?**

- After school
- Evenings
- Weekends
- Summer holidays
- PA Days

9. **What stops you from participating now?** *(Select all that apply)*

- Cost
- Transportation
- Timing doesn't work
- Not interested in current options
- Don't know what's available
- Friends aren't going
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Your Ideas**

**10. If you could create your ideal park or program, what would it include?**

(Paragraph)

**11. Anything else you'd like us to know?**

(Paragraph)

### **Optional (if you want follow-up)**

**12. Would you like to be involved in planning or volunteering?**

- Yes
- No

**13. Email/Phone Number (optional):**

(Short answer)