

# MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

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**Title:** 2025/26 Parks and Recreation Department Fee Schedule Amendments.

**Council Meeting Date:** February 19, 2025

**Prepared by:** Stuart Brown, Parks and Recreation Director  
Katrina Kelly, Recreation Manager  
Douglas Gebhart, Recreation Supervisor  
Andrew McEachron, Recreation Supervisor  
Sydney Schulz, Recreation Supervisor

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Conduct a Public Hearing and approve by resolution the 2025/26 Parks and Recreation Department fee schedule amendments as presented in Exhibit D.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

It is well documented that having access to quality parks and recreation services improves physical and mental health, reduces crime and violence, increases access to healthy foods, builds community and boosts economic activity. The fundamental purpose of the Parks and Recreation Department is to deliver on these community values and provide multi-purpose, year-round, indoor, and outdoor recreation opportunities accessible to all residents and visitors.

Combined with the 2025 Annual Programming Menu and the Department's Draft 2025 Strategic Priorities and Key Objectives Statement, the 2025/26 Fee Schedule completes the administrative framework necessary to deliver high-quality, innovative, and affordable recreation programming for our residents and visitors of Mammoth Lakes.

## **ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION:**

The Parks and Recreation Department annually reviews and recommends appropriate fees for the many adult and youth camps programs, including the establishment of fees for facility reservations. These fees are presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission, whose powers and duties as stated in section 2.36.050 (Powers and Duties) of the Municipal Code, empower this advisory body to *"advise the Town Council and the Town Manager in all matters pertaining to all Town-owned or managed parks, recreation, facilities, trails, special events and all other associated activities as prescribed by ordinances or by town council action."*

Municipal Code Section 3.40.040 (Schedule of fees and service charges) requires an annual review by the Town Council of Town fees and service charges. In addition, Ordinance No. 08-11 states that Town Council by resolution may annually set a subsidy for certain fees or charges, thereby not requiring that one hundred percent of costs reasonably borne are recovered by that certain fee or charge. Based on historical Town Council adopted subsidies (Ord. 91-08 & Ord. 95-07) for recreation programs, and the philosophy of the Parks and Recreation Department to provide broad and considerable community benefit and enhanced quality of life, the Department applies a high subsidy (approx. 70-80%) for youth programs and facility operations and a lower subsidy (approx. 10-20%) for adult programming.

The Parks and Recreation Department has conducted an extensive and exhaustive analysis of its services, the costs reasonably borne of providing those services, the beneficiaries of those services, and the revenues produced by those paying fees and charges for these services. In accordance with the Municipal Code, staff presented the 2025/26 Parks and Recreation Department Fee Schedule (Exhibit D) amendments to the Parks and Recreation Commission that was unanimously approved (3-0) at the regular meeting on February 4, 2025.

**Proposed 2025/26 Fee Amendments**

An overview of the proposed 2025/26 fee schedule amendments is listed below. The Department typically reviews and amends facility rental fees and admission fees every two years and adjusts recreation/instructional program fees annually. Reasonable fee recovery is based on a number of factors including the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) which was approximately 3.3% for 2024, along with direct costs reasonably borne of providing parks and recreation services. Direct costs include seasonal staff wages, cost of contract or skilled instructor(s), excursion/overnight costs, and equipment/supply/food and transportation expenses. Many of these expenses have increased significantly over the past two years from inflationary pressure. Indirect costs, such as Department full-time employee salaries, healthcare, and workers compensation expenses, are not included in the cost recovery evaluation.

The Parks and Recreation Department Master Fee Schedule is attached for Town Council’s consideration (Exhibit D). A summary of the fee amendments is listed below.

**Summary of 2025/26 Fee Amendments:**

**Revised Age Categories**

In an effort to consolidate age categories across all facilities and to better define ages for program, camp and lesson products, staff revised age categories as listed below. In addition, the Department introduced a Seniors (80+) age category who will receive complimentary admission to facilities. First Responders (Police, Fire and EMS) will receive discounts in the same category as active military and veterans along with college students.

PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAM AGE GROUPS	
Toddler	<u>2 years</u>
Preschool	<u>3-4 years</u>
Grade TK-K	<u>4-5 years</u>
Grades 1-2	<u>6-7 years</u>
Grade 3-5	<u>8-11 years</u>
Middle School	<u>12-14 years</u>
High School	<u>15-17 years</u>
Adult	<u>18-64 years</u>
Senior	<u>65-79 years</u>
Senior 80+	<u>80+ years</u>

## New Annual Membership Program

The NEW Mammoth Lakes Parks and Recreation Annual Membership Program will provide our community with an opportunity to purchase annual or monthly individual or family memberships to select parks and recreation facilities with value-added membership benefits.

The purpose of the membership program is to build community by supporting families and enhancing quality of life by providing greater access and increased availability to Town-owned and managed facilities at an affordable rate to all residents and visitors of Mammoth Lakes.

### Talking Points

- Skate at LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes, Swim at the Whitmore Pool and Play at the Mammoth RecZone on **ONE annual Parks and Recreation Membership**
- Children 17 years and younger **skate, swim and play for FREE** with 2 paid adult memberships
- **Save 50%** on the annual membership when purchased in-person during the months of October and May
- Flexibility to pay at **one-time, over 4 installments or each month**
- Membership includes valued facility, event and program **added benefits**
- Memberships are eligible for the **Tony Colasardo Scholarship Fund**
- Local Inyo/Mono K-12 students can play year-round for only **\$10 per month!**

Following is the list of facility admission details, fees and benefits provided by this product.

### Facility Admission

- Admission to public skate sessions at LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes
- Admission to lap swim and public swimming sessions at the Whitmore Pool
- Admission to open play sessions at the Mammoth RecZone

### Proposed Membership Fees

Membership Type	Regular Fee	50% Discounted In-Person Fee (May & October)	Monthly Fee
Family (2 Adults + All Children FREE)	\$600	\$300	\$60
Adult (18 – 64 yrs.)	\$300	\$150	\$30
Senior (65-79 yrs.) / Military (Active & Veterans) / College Students / First Responders	\$260	\$130	\$26
Senior (80 +)	FREE	FREE	FREE
Youth (5-17 yrs.)	\$230	\$115	\$23
Infant (4 yrs. and under)	FREE	FREE	FREE
Inyo/Mono K-12 Student	\$100	\$50	\$10

## Membership Benefits

Annual Membership	Monthly Membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family Membership: Buy 2 adult memberships, and all children swim, skate, and play for FREE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family Membership: Buy 2 adult memberships, and all children swim, skate, and play for FREE</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complimentary admission to select Parks and Recreation Department special events (Haunted Rink, Tree Lighting Ceremony, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complimentary admission to select Parks and Recreation Department special events (Haunted Rink, Tree Lighting Ceremony, etc.)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20% off facility and birthday party rentals at all Town-owned or managed facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20% off facility and birthday party rentals at all Town-owned or managed facilities</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20% off skate rentals, skate sharpening, and skating aids at LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20% off skate rentals, skate sharpening, and skating aids at LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20% off lesson products for all ages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Youth and Inyo/Mono K-12 Student Memberships receive 3 FREE skate aid rentals</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exclusive Special events for members only (Holiday Pancake Breakfast, Pool BBQ, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exclusive Special events for members only (Holiday Pancake Breakfast, Pool BBQ, etc.)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early access to select public skating, swimming and open play sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early access to select public skating, swimming and open play sessions</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One FREE Ice-Skating Lesson</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Winter Play Pass – 10 programmed activities for \$100 (Retail \$200)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Winter Play Pass – 10 programmed activities for \$100 (Retail \$200)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two (2) complimentary facility passes for guests of members</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Youth and Inyo/Mono K-12 Student Memberships receive 3 FREE skate aid rentals</li> </ul>	

## Program Details

Memberships provide access to Town-owned or managed facilities. They **do not** provide access to scheduled programs, drop-in sessions, pick-up games, or instructional classes. Separate Play Passes or individual recreational or instructional products need to be purchased by the individual for use.

Membership products will be created on the DaySmart Recreation software platform based on predetermined age groups (listed above) and will require individuals or families to create a DaySmart profile. Memberships can be purchased individually, or families (two adults from the same household & children) can purchase the Family membership that includes two adults and an unlimited number of children.

Each membership will be made available on an annual or monthly basis with a premium charge of 20% added to the monthly rate. Annual memberships may be purchased at a 50% discount, in-person ONLY during the months of May and October each year. For the remaining months, Memberships will be available for sale at the regular rate.

Payment plans of four (4) installments are available at time of in-person registration (May/October) or by contacting the Parks and Recreation Department. The monthly membership will auto-renew each month unless changed or cancelled by the individual or family.

### **Punch Passes (Facility Admission)**

The public will still be able to purchase a 5-visit punch pass for use at the Whitmore Pool and Mammoth RecZone (combined pass). Pricing is based on predetermined age groups with the 5<sup>th</sup> visit FREE. Punch passes sold in previous years will be honored.

### **Play Passes (Programs ONLY)**

Play passes will be available for scheduled programs at LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes that are not available under the Membership products. The Winter Play Pass includes 10 drop-in sessions for \$120 (\$200 value) - \$100 with Membership, including Pick-Up Hockey, Stick Time, Skills & Drills, Drop-In Curling, Learn to Play and Learn to Curl. The Play Passes can be purchased online or in-person.

### **Tony Colasardo Scholarship Fund**

The Parks and Recreation Department will continue to expand access for local youth through the Tony Colasardo Scholarship Fund. The robust scholarship fund provides 50%, 75% and 90% scholarships, based on availability, for the many popular camps, recreation programs and NEW Membership/pass products. These scholarships are intended to remove financial barriers facing a family when deciding to participate in many of our camps and programs or play at our many facilities. Scholarship information for 2025 will be made available in Spanish to improve applications and redemption.

### ***Special Event Administrative Permit***

- No changes

### ***Leisure and Cultural Fees***

- The amenities enhancement program fee increased to \$2,500 (includes bench, plaque & installation)

### ***Facility Rental Fees***

- No changes to park and facility rental fees
- New \$5 Programming Fee for individuals/organizations to utilize Town-owned or managed parks and facilities for multi-day recreational programs and activities. Liability insurance required.

### ***Whitmore Pool***

- Admission fees increased by \$1.00 and are as follows:
  - Adults (18-64 yrs.) - \$7.00
  - Senior (65-79 yrs.)/Military/College students/First Responders - \$6.00
  - Senior (80+ yrs./ID) - FREE
  - Infant (4 and under) - FREE
  - Youth (5-17 yrs.) - \$5.00
  - Inyo/Mono K-12 Student w/School ID - \$4.00
  - Community Special - \$5.00
  - Shower - \$3.00 (no change)

- Punch Pass (5<sup>th</sup> Visit FREE)
  - Adult Five Fun Pass - \$28.00
  - Senior (65-79 yrs.)/Military/College Student and First Responders Fun Pass - \$24.00
  - Youth Five Fun Pass - \$20
  - Inyo/Mono K-12 Student Fun Pass - \$16.00
- Introduced a single lane pool rental fee for community program (see above)

### ***LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes***

- Eliminated holiday admission fees – one fee for each age category will apply 7-days per week (see below).
- Admission fees increased by \$1.00 and are as follows:
  - Adults (18-64 yrs.) - \$17.00 (excludes \$6 skate rental fee)
  - Youth (5-17 yrs.) - \$13.00 (excludes \$6 skate rental fee)
  - Senior (65-79 yrs.), Military, College students & First Responders - \$14.00 (excludes \$6 skate rental fee)
  - Senior (80+ yrs.) – FREE (excludes \$6 skate rental fee)
  - Infant (4 and under) – FREE (excludes \$6 skate rental fee)
  - Community Special – \$10.00 (includes \$6 skate rental fee)
  - Organized Group Rate (Youth+) - min. 10 - \$13.00 (includes \$6 skate rental fee)
  - Inyo/Mono K-12 Student w/School ID - \$6.00 (includes skate rental fee)
- Introduced Curling sheet rental setup fee
- Updated Birthday Party Package fee. Includes rental of the birthday space, with tables, chairs and linens. Admission and rental for children is \$6/child.

### ***Mammoth RecZone***

- Admission fees increased by \$1.00 and are as follows:
  - Adults (18-64 yrs.) - \$7.00
  - Senior (65-79 yrs.), Military, College students & First Responders - \$6.00
  - Infant (4 and under) - FREE
  - Senior (80+ yrs./ID) - FREE
  - Youth (5-17 yrs.) - \$5.00
  - Inyo/Mono K-12 Student w/School ID - \$4.00
  - Community Special - \$5.00
- Punch Pass (5<sup>th</sup> Visit FREE)
  - Adult Five Fun Pass - \$28.00
  - Senior (65-79 yrs.), Military, College Student & First Responders - \$24.00
  - Youth Five Fun Pass - \$20
  - Inyo/Mono K-12 Student Fun Pass - \$16.00
- Updated Birthday Party Package fee. Includes rental of the birthday space, with tables, chairs and linens and one court space. Admission and equipment rental is included.

### ***Edison Theatre***

- No changes were made for 2025/26

- Note – the Town has not executed the purchase and sale agreement with the Mammoth Lakes Foundation (MLF) so all programming is currently managed by the MLF.

### ***Adult Programs***

- No changes were made to league, program or lesson products for 2025/26

### ***Youth Camps/Programs***

- Fees are adjusted annually
- Summer Camp fees increased by 5%
- No changes were made to instructional or recreational lesson products

### **Scholarship Fund**

The Parks and Recreation Department will continue to administer youth scholarships through the *Tony Colasardo Scholarship Fund*. The fund provides 50%, 75% and 90% scholarships, based on availability, for the many popular camps and recreation programs offered by the Parks and Recreation Department. These scholarships can also be used to help with registration costs for local youth sports organizations. These scholarships are intended to remove financial barriers facing a family when deciding to participate in our many camps or programs. The implementation, promotion and management of the scholarship program is incorporated in the workplan and remains a priority for staff.

### **STAFFING CONSIDERATIONS:**

The 2025 annual programming menu and associated fees and service charges were developed from an extensive analysis of 2024 products and services that are aligned with the existing and planned staffing levels within the Parks and Recreation Department.

### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Municipal Code Section 3.40.040 (Schedule of fees and service charges) requires an annual review by Town Council of town fees and service charges. In accordance with the Municipal Code, staff presented the amended 2025/26 Parks and Recreation Department Fee Schedule to the Parks and Recreation Commission on February 4, 2025 that was unanimously approved by motion.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Each year the Town of Mammoth Lakes conducts an extensive and exhaustive analysis of its services, the costs incurred by the Town in providing those services, the beneficiaries of those services, and the revenues produced by those paying fees and charges for special services. Based on historical Town Council adopted subsidies (Ord. 91-08 & Ord. 95-07) for recreation programs, and the philosophy of the Parks and Recreation Department to provide broad and considerable community benefit and enhanced quality of life, the Town applies a high subsidy (approx. 70-80%) for youth programs and facility operations and a lower subsidy (approx. 10-20%) for adult programming. It should be noted that actual subsidies may vary based on several factors including program content, required staff, direct expenses (food, transport, and activities) and participation.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Conduct a Public Hearing and approve by resolution the 2025/26 Parks and Recreation Department proposed fee schedule amendments as presented in Exhibit D.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Resolution of the Town Council of Mammoth Lakes, State of California, amending a schedule of fees and charges for Town services.
- B. NEW Membership Program Presentation
- C. Summer Camp Fee Comparison
- D. Proposed 2025/26 Parks and Recreation Department Master Fee Schedule