



**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Monday, November 28, 2022**

**4:00 PM**

**Location: Manhattan Beach City Hall  
City Council Chambers Hybrid  
Virtual – Instructions within Agenda**

**A G E N D A**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. ROLL CALL**

Commissioner Allen

Commissioner Greenberg

Commissioner Weiner

Commissioner Doran

Commissioner McCarthy

Commissioner Windes

Commissioner Serota

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

October 13, 2022

October 24, 2022

**D. CEREMONIAL – none**

**E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit) -** The public may address the Commission regarding City business not on the agenda.

**F. GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. Presentation of Aquatics Survey Results

2. Presentation of Park Maintenance Priorities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

3. Presentation of Polliwog Pavilion Concept

4. 2022 Work Plan Item Updates

- Sand Dune Park Master Plan (Nature Areas and Trails, Building)
- Dog Parks and Community Parkettes
- Repurposing Pay N Play
- Explore Aquatics Facility
- Donation Policy and Programs

**G. STAFF ITEMS**

City Council Recap and Parks and Recreation Department Updates

**H. COMMISSION ITEMS**

Older Adult Program Update

School District Update

Student Update

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

If unable to attend in person, the Parks and Recreation Commission encourages the public to participate by submitting comments on agenda items or other subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Commission via email to both [lrobb@manhattanbeach.gov](mailto:lrobb@manhattanbeach.gov) and [mleyman@manhattanbeach.gov](mailto:mleyman@manhattanbeach.gov), no later than 3:00 PM, November 28, 2022 (the day of the meeting).

**Zoom Meeting Instructions:** There are multiple ways to join the meeting. Please Note - the Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Staff will be visible via video, members of the public may choose to turn on their video during public comment during their turn.

If you plan to speak during the meeting, join via Zoom at 3:45 p.m. in order to request to be on the speakers list.

1. Join Zoom Meeting via the internet (download app if needed): Direct URL: <https://comb.zoom.us/j/93781041645>, Meeting ID: 937 8104 1645  
Please name yourself to include the item(s) you wish to speak on, and your First & Last name. Example: G.1 – Jane Smith.
2. Join Zoom Meeting via Phone Application (download app if needed): Download Mobile Apps: <https://zoom.us/download>, Enter Meeting ID: 937 8104 1645  
Please name yourself to include the item(s) you wish to speak on, and your First & Last name. Example: G.1 – Jane Smith.
3. Join Zoom Meeting via Phone Conference (Voice Only): Phone Numbers: +1 669-900-6833 or +1 346-248-7799. Meeting ID: 937 8104 1645.  
Find your local number: <https://comb.zoom.us/u/aByWMRmYK>. Upon calling in, you will be “muted” until you are prompted by the Host to state which item you wish to comment on. Your mic will be unmuted when it’s your turn to provide Public Comment.

Please Note - All microphones for non-Commissioners or Staff will be muted during the meeting, except during Public Comment periods for which you have requested to speak.

The City strongly advises you of the following:

1. Download the Zoom app to your respective device well ahead of the meeting time. Visit <https://zoom.us/> for the download link. Please make sure you have downloaded the most recent version available.
2. Familiarize yourself with the Zoom application prior to the meeting.
3. Check the condition of all personal electronic equipment, internet and phone connections, and microphone/speaker functionality. The City is unable to support this equipment.
4. Join the meeting prior to the start time. Due to security or technical limitations, admittance to the meeting may not be possible after the meeting begins.
5. Every effort will be made to “rename” participants on Zoom as quickly as possible, so that phone numbers are hidden, however, phone numbers may be partially visible for a brief time.

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Monday, October 13, 2022

4:00 PM

Location: Virtual – Instructions within Agenda

**MINUTES**

**A. CALL TO ORDER** - Chair McCarthy called the meeting to order via Zoom and in person at the City Council Chambers at 4:06 pm.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Present: Allen, Greenberg, Weiner, Windes, Serota, Vice Chairperson Doran, Chairperson McCarthy

Others Present: Director Leyman, Sr. Management Analyst (SMA) Robb; Public Works Maintenance Manager Sean Roberts, Melissa McCollum, Senior Recreation Manager, Rosemary Lackow, Recording Secretary

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 22, 2022**

It was moved and seconded (Greenberg/Windes) to approve the minutes as submitted; by a show of hands, the motion passed 7-0.

**D. CEREMONIAL – None.**

**E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit) – None**

**F. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Chair McCarthy suggested and, with no objection, the Commission received a report from Sean Roberts, Public Works Maintenance Manager as the first order of business (see page 3, Staff items)

1. 2022 Workplan Item updates

- **El Porto Family Park** – (Greenberg, McCarthy, Allen) Director Leyman reported that an informative memo was placed on the October 6<sup>th</sup> City Council agenda as a consent item; was pulled off consent and, after discussion, was received and filed. This proposed swing set project will now be on the list of unfunded projects and will be taken off the Commission agenda.

- **Sand Dune Park Master Plan, including Nature Areas/Trails and Building** (Greenberg, McCarthy, Windes) Commissioner Greenberg reported: The sub-committee has met, joined by Councilmember Hadley, who is very positive about the celebration/survey. The committee has provided input for a survey to staff. Director Leyman noted that internally staff is discussing how to market the

survey and a meeting has been set up with the ad hoc committee next Tuesday. Commissioner Greenberg will follow up with staff on park signage.

Director Leyman reported that the painting of the restroom building and new sod is done and looks great and the city council is discussing various options, (walls, fencing) in handling access or transition between the park and a sort of “no man’s land” nearby.

- **Dog Parks and Community Parkettes** (Weiner) Commissioner Weiner reported:

**Dog Parks: Live Oak Park and Polliwog:** The shade canopy is still awaited at Live Oak. At Polliwog where the larger dog park is being expanded, the school district is now working with the city. The school container is not needed and can be removed but the city containers need to be re-located. The next step is to make a plan to remove and re-locate containers; the sub-committee will be meeting soon to discuss and there will also be discussion with user groups that may be using the containers. Director Leyman hopes a list of deferred maintenance items can be completed and provided at the next meeting, with the dog park expansion being a high priority. It was clarified that there is a smaller dog park on the Marine Avenue site, however there are no community issues with that park and no action is needed there.

**Parkettes: Larsson Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Street:** new fencing will be needed not only at Polliwog but also at the parkettes, along with new lighting and a gate and some securing screening materials. The next steps involve figuring out what work items can be done in-house by Public Works, measuring fencing and putting together a package for a purchase order which can take advantage of economies of scale.

**Repurposing Pay N Play** – (Windes, Greenberg, Allen) Commissioner Windes reported: they have met twice in September and October and locks have been put on the building to prevent unwanted access. PWD has done a lot of cleanup work and staff is looking at getting confirmation that the roof is ok for up to two years. A tentative re-opening/launch of a three to six-month long pilot program for various community use is anticipated in January, 2023. The idea is to provide a number of programs and record data as to which are the most used. Many possible activities have been suggested that might appeal to a range of ages and degrees of physical activity for the four separate rooms. Also, vendors of some simulator activities (e.g., “tech ball”, soccer) are being looked into. It has been suggested that there could be dedicated activities for seniors (in am) as well as students after school (pm). Materials can be stored at the Manhattan Heights meeting room and perhaps that space, being underutilized, can be brought into this trial repurposing program; Director Leyman will coordinate with Sean Roberts, Jan Buike and Archie. Before reopening, the facility will need to be renamed. Publicity be done by staff; Director Leyman will schedule a meeting with staff and the committee to discuss all matters (naming, marketing, programming). Commissioner Greenberg suggested that since it recently rained, the roof be checked now for leaks.



- **Explore Aquatics Facility** – (McCarthy, Weiner, Doran) - Commissioner McCarthy reported: 1) She and Ken talked with Amy Howarth who, post-election will put them in touch with the school to discuss Begg; 2) she has scheduled a meeting with Gary Wayland (MBX founder) to learn how to set up a 501c3 which also has implications for the aquatics facility project; and 3) She and the sub-committee will reschedule a meeting with the Redondo Beach group to discuss (very noncommittal still) the due diligence done so far regarding the Aviation site, as well as a possible partnership between one or more beach cities and Beach Cities Health District. Regarding the lower Manhattan Village parking lot site, she is hoping to find out more about the lease the City has with the Country Club, particularly as most recently renegotiated; she is also looking for information as to subsurface conditions for Manhattan Village which may be relevant since at some time in the past these areas were under common ownership. Regarding the aquatics survey—171 responses have been received (400 desired for statistical validity). She will be getting a copy of the final survey now that it is a public document.

- **Donation Policy and Programs** (Weiner, McCarthy, Allen) – Commissioner Weiner reported the committee is progressing methodically. He and SMA Robb sat in a presentation by the California Parks Alliance regarding 501c3 organizations. A meeting is scheduled next week with Gary Wayland. The next step is to bring someone on board who can create a “storyboard” describing steps to create a Manhattan Beach 501c3.

## **G. STAFF ITEMS**

Public Works Maintenance Manager Roberts reported:

**Sand Dune Park improvements:** Hydroseeding for erosion control is still on order; restroom painted and new sod placed; PWD tasks should be done in time for early November celebration; maintenance on metal mirrors in bathrooms very intensive—Commission approved removing altogether; on-site signage will be cleaned up but not necessarily replaced in time for November event; additional tree planting will be accomplished within the next 6 months.

**Polliwog Park:** An RFP is out for lighting (65 lights); Dog park: he is looking into replacing wood chips with decomposed granite (DG). Commissioner Windes will give a contact for dog user issues; Manager Roberts will look into report from Commissioner Windes regarding recent locked access to the dune during park hours.

Director Leyman reported:

**City Council:** On October 6, council approved three amendments to the Senior Advisory Committee Guidelines and Bylaws, including: 1) all 9 voting members to be at-large; 2) all members to have a 2-year term (July 1 - June 30) and 3) MBUSD

may appoint a student representative who would be non-voting and serve as a liaison to the SAC. Chair McCarthy, a non-voting member, stated that she believes that, with these changes, especially going to at-large membership, the community representation will be better and the council will have better flexibility.

**Projects:**

Public Works CIP projects: The engineering division has launched a “Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project Updates” page on the city website on the Public Works page. One can quickly find out information on any CIP project on a map integrated into the city’s GIS (>Departments/Public Works/Engineering Division/Capital Improvement Program Updates/Current Construction Map). This shows only projects on the CIP list, not deferred maintenance projects.

The Polliwog playground project has had significant delay due to issues with a sewer main; this is now resolved and completion is estimated for February, 2023. It was noted that the sign on the fence needs to be updated.

**Upcoming events:**

October 21, 6 pm: opening for MBAC exhibit “Fly High Dive Deep” (Lynn Aldrich)

October 22, 1 pm: Family Carnivale Halloween (34<sup>th</sup> annual)

October 29, 10 am: Polliwog Park “Rainbow Gazebo” ribbon-cutting

October 30, 4 pm: pumpkin race.

November 4, 4 pm: MBMS Pickleball court reopening (tentative). Resurfacing started, hope to have completed by October 21.

November 11, 11 am: Veterans Ceremony Day

November 16, 6 pm: Pier Lighting and Holiday Open House

December 11, 3 pm: Fireworks Festival

December 14: Older Adults Holiday Party

There was brief discussion regarding the condition of the rainbow crosswalk near the pier; Director Leyman will discuss offline with Commissioner Windes.

Commissioner Windes will lead organizing a Parks and Recreation Commission entry in the Halloween pumpkin race and requested volunteers to assist.

Regarding the Polliwog Park permanent stage project, Commissioner Weiner inquired as to whether there was merit, in terms of progressing, to the idea of working with the Cultural Arts Commission on the Polliwog Park permanent stage project. Director Leyman stated he will look into this and report back.

**H. COMMISSION ITEMS**

**Older Adult Program update** - Commissioner McCarthy reported that, other than the successful revision of the bylaws, there is nothing new to report. She noted that the group is becoming more active in terms of community participation and discussions; staffing issues seem to persist.

**School District update** – Commissioner Greenberg noted he had no report and,

actually hasn't had any contact with the district since the pandemic. Commissioner Windes noted that the district has moved back the start time at Mira Costa from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. which seems to be a trend at schools.

Commissioner Greenberg suggested that after the school board election is over, it would be a good time to reach out to the new leadership. Commissioner Greenberg explained that any at-large Parks and Recreation commissioner can submit an application to the school board to be a liaison; after a review/vetting process the school board nominates an applicant to the city council which ratifies the nomination. He is in his final year of his second term, so there will be a new liaison next July.

**Student update** - Commissioner Serota noted Mira Costa Homecoming is this weekend.

**Next meeting date:** After considering various options, although a shortened time frame, it was agreed for consistency and continuity, to keep the standing time of Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Following the regular schedule, the meeting after that would be November 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### **I. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded (Greenberg/Weiner) to adjourn. The motion passed, 7-0 with a hand vote. The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m. to October 24<sup>th</sup>.

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Monday, October 24, 2022

**4:00 PM**

**Location: Hybrid format (1400 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach  
and virtual via zoom)**

**MINUTES**

**A. CALL TO ORDER** - Chair McCarthy called the meeting to order at 4:19 pm.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Present: Allen, Greenberg, Weiner, Windes, Serota, Vice Chairperson Doran, Chairperson McCarthy

Others Present: Director Leyman, Sr. Management Analyst (SMA) Robb; Melissa McCollum, Sr. Recreation Manager, Rosemary Lackow, Recording Secretary

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – none

**D. CEREMONIAL** – None.

**E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)** – None

**F. GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. 2022 Workplan Item updates

- **El Porto Family Park** –Commissioner Greenberg confirmed this item is no longer a work plan item and may be taken off the agenda.
- **Sand Dune Park Master Plan, including Nature Areas/Trails and Building** (Greenberg, McCarthy, Windes) Commissioner Greenberg reported the committee met October 18 and provided updates on progress made in planning the park event: the “Sand Dune Park Revitalization Open House” will be November 12, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.; a simple survey on long term desired uses and programming has been drafted and given to staff; the mayor is lined up to participate. Attendees will be informed about the survey and encouraged to fill out.
- **Dog Parks and Community Parkettes** (Weiner) Commissioner Weiner reported:

**Dog Parks:** Live Oak Park and Polliwog: He has visited all parks; at Live Oak the shade canopy is not yet installed; Director Leyman will look into that issue. Commissioner Weiner has talked to people at the dog parks about replacing wood chips with decomposed granite commonly referred to as “d.g”. He found most people did not understand what d.g is. He has done some research and found

that it is fairly expensive (\$40 - \$50/cubic foot) compared to wood chips; has found some concerns about d.g. such as that it retains odors and, although drains water, can get soggy. He will discuss with Maintenance Manager Sean Roberts.

The Commission discussed briefly. Chair McCarthy suggested that the busiest times at dog parks (for obtaining input from users) are on Saturdays either 8:30 to 10:00 am or 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

**Parkettes: Larsson Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Street:** Commissioner Weiner intends to consult with Maintenance Manager Roberts on the various tasks to be done and materials that are needed so that scheduling work and purchasing materials can be done/ordered in an efficient manner.

- **Repurposing Pay N Play** – (Windes, Greenberg, Allen) Commissioner Windes does not have an update at this time. Commissioner Weiner reported that about one week ago he noted that the lock has been removed from court number two; Director Leyman noted and will investigate.

- **Explore Aquatics Facility** – (McCarthy, Weiner, Doran) - Commissioner McCarthy reported this item is essentially tabled until after the city election. She and others from Manhattan Beach plan to meet again with Councilmember Lowenstein and others from Redondo Beach. She is working with Jessica Vincent on the True North survey (about 500 respondents) and was informed that a True North representative will attend a future Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to present about the survey.

- **Donation Policy and Programs** (Weiner, McCarthy, Allen) – Commissioner Weiner reported that the committee has a meeting tomorrow with Gary Wayland and Gary will walk them through the process of setting up a 501c3 organization.

## **G. STAFF ITEMS**

Director Leyman reported/announced on the following events:

October 21 - the MBAC had the opening for the new “Fly High Dive Deep” Lynn Aldrich exhibit, was a great success with approximately 250 attendees.

October 22 - Family Halloween Carnival was tremendous success, at least 300 attendees. Staff did a great job.

October 29 - 10 am: Polliwog Park “Rainbow Gazebo” ribbon-cutting.

October 30 - 4 pm: pumpkin race. Commissioners Windes will decorate a pumpkin for Parks and Recreation Commission and encouraged other Commissioners to join in at the event.

November 4 - 4 pm: MBMS Pickleball courts reopening event. Going forward, the courts will be open to the public on weekends only, for now unstaffed.

November 11 - 11 am: Veterans Ceremony Day

The Commission discussed the upcoming joint city council/commission work plan meeting in January. Director Leyman reported the date is January 9<sup>th</sup>; he will check into the agenda and order of presentations.

Director Leyman informed he believes that each committee chair will make a brief presentation (2-3 slides each) for his/her project. The Commission will have a total of one hour to present/discuss with Council. As homework, each commissioner should put together slides to cover: the project description, what has been done to date, and what remains to be done for each of the current work plan items. Each Commissioner was asked to also look at the master park plan and choose three projects that he or she would like see treated as a priority and possible consideration as a new work plan item. These will be compiled for discussion at the next meeting.

SMA Robb informed that the department staff report for the council/commission work plan meeting will need to be finalized around mid-December; all information going into the presentation will need to be received by staff before that date.

Commissioner Greenberg will share background information that he may have regarding the Pay and Play repurposing project with Commissioner Windes.

Director Leyman emphasized that the work plan summaries that will be prepared by the committees should be more general to be used as talking points to guide discussion. Summaries should include a background, a description of what has been accomplished and what the Commission is asking for the next work plan.

Director Leyman suggested that guidance will also be available at the next meeting from the deferred maintenance list as well as the CIP project list.

After a brief discussion, it was determined that the Commission would meet on Wednesday December 21<sup>st</sup> in person, at 4:00 p.m. (as opposed to December 26).

## **H. COMMISSION ITEMS**

**Older Adult Program update** - Commissioner McCarthy reported that she attended a council forum where concern was expressed regarding school vandalism in the form of antisemitic or racist graffiti. She found it disturbing and shocking to see as she was vetting speaker requests at the forum that about 5 or 6 speaker cards submitted by senior residents at the forum contained statements that she believed were antisemitic or racist.

**School District update** – Commissioner Greenberg reported on a few exciting high school sport events including the girls' volleyball CIF round 2 competition and the upcoming football game with Redondo Union.

**Student update** - Commissioner Serota updated on e-bike enforcement at Mira Costa. He believes that relying on fines may not be effective and that perhaps a license should be required. The Commission briefly discussed e-bike

enforcement.

## **I. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded (Greenberg/Windes) to adjourn. The motion passed, 7-0 with a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m. to November 21st.

DRAFT

**TO:**

Parks & Recreation Commission

**THROUGH:**

Mark Leyman, Parks & Recreation Director

**FROM:**

Melissa McCollum, Senior Recreation Manager

Jessica Vincent, Communications and Civic Engagement Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Consideration of Aquatics Center Survey Summary Report

**DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Parks & Recreation Commission receive the 2022 Aquatics Center Survey Summary Report presented by True North, discuss the results, and formulate a recommendation that will be presented to City Council.

**BACKGROUND:**

The idea of conducting a statistically valid Aquatics Center Survey was first introduced during the Joint City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting on January 11, 2022.

The City contracted with True North Research to conduct the survey. True North has an extensive background in conducting municipal surveys and studies. Additionally, the company conducted the City's Community Opinion Survey in 2021.

Between October 8 and October 16, 2022, True North conducted a statistically valid survey of 574 adult residents of Manhattan Beach. In addition to their own interests and activities, respondents were asked to describe the experiences and interests of others in their household, including children.

**DISCUSSION:**

The survey data was collected by phone and online. Residents were recruited to participate in the survey through email, text, and phone. The sample size of 574 exceeds the typical sample size of 400 surveys collected for a city of this population.

The survey was designed to have a margin of error of  $\pm 4.1\%$  at a 95% confidence interval. The average interview lasted 15 minutes.

Key conclusions, described in detail in the attached report include:

- Use of a swimming pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports is fairly common among Manhattan Beach households. More than half of Manhattan Beach households reported that one or more members use a swimming pool for these activities at least occasionally.



- The survey found that length of residence was inversely related to frequency of using a pool on a weekly basis, while using a pool weekly was more common among households with a child (especially those under 13).
- Most respondents indicated they were either very interested or somewhat interested in a new Aquatics Center. Approximately one-quarter of respondents professed no interest in a new Aquatics Center, whereas the remainder were either unsure or unwilling to answer the question.
- When compared to their respective counterparts, interest in a new Aquatics Center was greatest among households with children or teenagers, those who use a public pool, households that use a pool (public or private) on a weekly basis, and those who had visited Begg Pool in the past two years.
- Among the features and amenities that could be included in a new Aquatics Center, Manhattan Beach residents indicated that a 35 meter pool for swimming laps, swim competitions, and water sports was the highest priority, followed by a shallow pool for swim lessons, water aerobics, water therapy, and children's programming and a wet classroom for teaching CPR, water safety, junior lifeguards, and swim lessons.
- Assuming a new Aquatics Center is built in Manhattan Beach, the majority of respondents indicated that they or other members of their household would use the facility to swim for exercise while just under half of the respondents anticipated participating in recreational water play. Approximately one-third expected to use the facility for therapy, senior classes, water aerobics, swim lessons, summer camp programs, or swim team.

Although interest in a new Aquatics Center in Manhattan Beach was found to be widespread, this interest did not translate into widespread support for various strategies for funding a new Aquatics Center. By far the most palatable strategy was increasing fees paid by those who use City aquatics and recreational facilities and programs to raise funds for a new Aquatics Center. There was little support for increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year or increasing the local sales tax rate by 1/4 cent. It should be noted that even among pool users, support for increasing local property taxes or the local sales tax rate fell well short of the two-thirds threshold that would be required to pass a special tax of this nature.

This report serves as a high-level summary. An in-depth presentation by True North will be provided at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on November 28, 2022.

#### **PUBLIC OUTREACH:**

True North ensured a statistically significant sample of the Manhattan Beach community was included in the survey.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Aquatics Center Survey Summary Report
2. PowerPoint Presentation (True North Research)



**AQUATICS CENTER SURVEY**  
SUMMARY REPORT

PREPARED FOR THE  
**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH**



NOVEMBER 2, 2022



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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Table of Contents</b> .....	<b>i</b>
<b>List of Tables</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>List of Figures</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
Motivation for Research .....	1
Overview of Methodology.....	1
Organization of Report.....	2
Acknowledgements .....	2
Disclaimer .....	2
About True North.....	2
<b>Key Findings</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Recreation Activities &amp; Swimming</b> .....	<b>6</b>
Adult Recreation Visits & Activities .....	6
Question 3 .....	6
Youth Recreation Visits & Activities .....	7
Question 4 .....	8
Household Recreation Visits & Activities.....	9
Private or Public Pool? .....	10
Question 5 .....	11
Which Public Pools Do You Use? .....	12
Question 6 .....	12
Why Does Your Household Not Use a Pool?.....	13
Question 7 .....	14
<b>Begg Pool</b> .....	<b>15</b>
Visits to Begg Pool .....	15
Question 8 .....	15
Activities at Begg Pool .....	16
Question 9 .....	16
Rating Begg Pool .....	17
Question 10 .....	18
Why Did You Rate the Overall Begg Pool Experience as...?.....	19
Question 11 .....	20
Why Not Use Begg Pool? .....	20
Question 12 .....	21
<b>New Aquatics Facility</b> .....	<b>22</b>
Interest in New Aquatics Center .....	22
Question 13 .....	22
Features & Amenities .....	23
Question 14 .....	24
Additional Amenities of Interest .....	25
Question 15 .....	26
Programming at New Aquatics Center .....	26
Question 16 .....	26
Funding a New Aquatics Center .....	28
Question 17 .....	28
<b>Background &amp; Demographics</b> .....	<b>30</b>
<b>Methodology</b> .....	<b>31</b>
Questionnaire Development .....	31
Programming & Pre-Test.....	31
Sample, Recruiting & Data Collection .....	31
Margin of Error due to Sampling.....	32
Data Processing & Weighting .....	33

Rounding ..... 33  
**Questionnaire & Toplines..... 34**



# LIST OF TABLES

Table 1	Frequency of Hsld Adult Visits/Activities by Years in Manhattan Beach & Home Ownership Status (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week) . . . . .	7
Table 2	Frequency of Hsld Adult Visits/Activities by Ages of Hsld Members (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	7
Table 3	Frequency of Hsld Adult Visits/Activities by Ethnicity & Gender (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	7
Table 4	Frequency of Hsld Adult Visits/Activities by Child in Hsld & Senior in Hsld (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	7
Table 5	Frequency of Hsld Child Visits/Activities by Years in Manhattan Beach & Home Ownership Status (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	8
Table 6	Frequency of Hsld Child Visits/Activities by Ages of Hsld Members (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	9
Table 7	Frequency of Hsld Child Visits/Activities by Ethnicity, Gender & Senior in Hsld (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	9
Table 8	Frequency of Hsld Member Visits/Activities by Years in Manhattan Beach & Home Ownership Status (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	10
Table 9	Frequency of Hsld Member Visits/Activities by Ages of Hsld Members (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	10
Table 10	Frequency of Hsld Member Visits/Activities by Ethnicity & Gender (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	10
Table 11	Frequency of Hsld Member Visits/Activities by Child in Hsld & Senior in Hsld (Showing % At Least 1 Time Per Week). . . . .	10
Table 12	Hsld Activities at Begg Pool by Years in Manhattan Beach & Home Ownership Status (Showing % Yes, Engaged Activity) . . . . .	17
Table 13	Hsld Activities at Begg Pool by Ages of Hsld Members (Showing % Yes, Engaged Activity) . . . . .	17
Table 14	Hsld Activities at Begg Pool by Child in Hsld & Senior in Hsld (Showing % Yes, Engaged Activity) . . . . .	17
Table 15	Rating Begg Pool by Years in Manhattan Beach & Home Ownership Status (Showing % Excellent & Good) . . . . .	19
Table 16	Rating Begg Pool by Ages of Hsld Members (Showing % Excellent & Good) . . . . .	19
Table 17	Rating Begg Pool by Hsld Begg Pool Visit in Past 2 Years, Child in Hsld & Senior in Hsld (Showing % Excellent & Good) . . . . .	19
Table 18	Priority of Aquatics Center Amenities by Years in Manhattan Beach & Home Ownership Status (Showing % of High Priority) . . . . .	24
Table 19	Priority of Aquatics Center Amenities by Ages of Hsld Members (Showing % of High Priority) . . . . .	25
Table 20	Priority of Aquatics Center Amenities by Ethnicity & Gender (Showing % of High Priority) . . . . .	25
Table 21	Priority of Aquatics Center Amenities by Hsld Pool Use, Child in Hsld & Senior in Hsld (Showing % of High Priority) . . . . .	25
Table 22	Priority of Aquatics Center Amenities by Hsld Pool Type Use & Hsld Begg Pool Visit in Past 2 Years (Showing % of High Priority) . . . . .	25
Table 23	Hsld Participation in Aquatic Center Activities by Years in Manhattan Beach & Home Ownership Status (Showing % Yes, Will Participate) . . . . .	27
Table 24	Hsld Participation in Aquatic Center Activities by Ages of Hsld Members (Showing % Yes, Will Participate) . . . . .	27
Table 25	Hsld Participation in Aquatic Center Activities by Ethnicity & Gender (Showing % Yes, Will Participate) . . . . .	27
Table 26	Hsld Participation in Aquatic Center Activities by Hsld Pool Use, Child in Hsld & Senior in Hsld (Showing % Yes, Will Participate) . . . . .	27

Table 27 Hsld Participation in Aquatic Center Activities by Hsld Type Pool Use & Hsld Begg Pool Visit in Past 2 Years (Showing % Yes, Will Participate . . . . . 28

Table 28 Support for Aquatics Center Funding Options by Years in Manhattan Beach & Home Ownership Status (Showing % Support) . . . . . 29

Table 29 Support for Aquatics Center Funding Options by Ages of Hsld Members (Showing % Support) . . . . . 29

Table 30 Support for Aquatics Center Funding Options by Ethnicity & Gender (Showing % Support) . . . . . 29

Table 31 Support for Aquatics Center Funding Options by Hsld Pool Use, Child in Hsld & Senior in Hsld (Showing % Support) . . . . . 29

Table 32 Support for Aquatics Center Funding Options by Hsld Rec Facility, Community Center Visit & Hsld Begg Pool Visit in Past 2 Years (Showing % Support) . . . . . 29

Table 33 Support for Aquatics Center Funding Options by Interest in Aquatic Center & Hsld Pool Type Use (Showing % Support) . . . . . 29

Table 34 Demographics of Sample . . . . . 30



# LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1	Frequency of Hsld Adult Visits/Activities . . . . .	6
Figure 2	Frequency of Hsld Child Visits/Activities . . . . .	8
Figure 3	Frequency of Hsld Member Visits/Activities . . . . .	9
Figure 4	Hsld Use of Private or Public Pool . . . . .	11
Figure 5	Hsld Use of Private or Public Pool by Years in Manhattan Beach & Ages of Hsld Members. . . . .	11
Figure 6	Hsld Use of Private or Public Pool by Child in Hsld, Senior in Hsld, Home Ownership Status & Ethnicity . . . . .	12
Figure 7	Pools Used by Hsld . . . . .	12
Figure 8	Used Begg Pool by Overall, Years in Manhattan Beach & Ages of Hsld Members. . . . .	13
Figure 9	Used Begg Pool by Hsld by Child in Hsld, Senior in Hsld, Home Ownership Status & Ethnicity . . . . .	13
Figure 10	Reasons for Not Using a Pool . . . . .	14
Figure 11	Hsld Visited Begg Pool in Past 2 Years. . . . .	15
Figure 12	Hsld Visited Begg Pool in Past 2 Years by Years in Manhattan Beach & Ages of Hsld Members. . . . .	15
Figure 13	Hsld Visited Begg Pool in Past 2 Years by Child in Hsld, Senior in Hsld, Home Ownership Status & Ethnicity . . . . .	16
Figure 14	Hsld Activities at Begg Pool. . . . .	16
Figure 15	Rating Begg Pool. . . . .	18
Figure 16	Rating Begg Pool by Begg Pool Users. . . . .	18
Figure 17	Rating Begg Pool by Begg Pool Non-Users . . . . .	19
Figure 18	Reasons for Opinion of Begg Pool Experience . . . . .	20
Figure 19	Reasons For Not Using Begg Pool . . . . .	21
Figure 20	Interest in New Aquatics Center . . . . .	22
Figure 21	Interest in New Aquatics Center by Years in Manhattan Beach, Child in Hsld, Senior in Hsld & Hsld Pool Type Use . . . . .	22
Figure 22	Interest in New Aquatics Center by Ages of Hsld Members & Hsld Pool Use. . . . .	23
Figure 23	Interest in New Aquatics Center by Home Ownership Status, Ethnicity & Hsld Begg Pool Visit in Past 2 Years . . . . .	23
Figure 24	Priority of Aquatics Center Amenities . . . . .	24
Figure 25	Aquatics Center Feature, Amenity Not Mentioned . . . . .	26
Figure 26	Hsld Participation in Aquatic Center Activities . . . . .	26
Figure 27	Support for Aquatics Center Funding Options . . . . .	28
Figure 28	Maximum Margin of Error . . . . .	32





## INTRODUCTION

Located along the coast in Los Angeles County's South Bay and currently home to an estimated 34,902 residents,<sup>1</sup> the City of Manhattan Beach offers a wide variety of active and passive recreation facilities and amenities—including 11 parks, 69 acres of open space, six community centers, and dozens of sports courts, sports fields, and other recreation assets. By providing much-needed spaces to recreate, relax, and play, Manhattan Beach's parks and recreation facilities help to promote a strong sense of community in the City, improve property values, enhance the business climate and local economy, and generally contribute to a higher quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

One of these recreation facilities, Begg Pool, is the City's only municipal pool. Twenty five yards long, six lanes wide, and approximately four feet deep, the pool hosts a variety of recreation programs and classes including swim lessons, lap swim, swim team, water aerobics, water therapy, senior and summer camp programs, CPR/water safety classes, recreational water play, and swim classes required by Manhattan Beach Middle School. Originally built in the 1940's, the pool as served the community for approximately 80 years. Although it has been renovated multiple times, the pool has reached an age where it may be more cost-effective to replace the pool with a new Aquatics Center.

**MOTIVATION FOR RESEARCH** To help inform the City's decisions related to Begg Pool, including whether to repair or replace the facility, the City was interested in hearing from residents on this topic. How often are Manhattan Beach households using a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports? Do they have access to private pools? What is their experience with Begg Pool, and how do they assess its condition? What is the level of interest in a new Aquatics Center, and which amenities are most desired? And, importantly, how should a new Aquatics Center be funded? Answers to these and related questions will help the City make sound, strategic decisions regarding the future of Begg Pool.

To assist in this effort, the City selected True North Research to design the research plan and conduct the study. The survey described in this report provides an objective, *statistically reliable* profile of Manhattan Beach residents' experiences, opinions, and priorities as they pertain to aquatics, Begg Pool, and a potential new Aquatics Center.

**OVERVIEW OF METHODOLOGY** A full description of the methodology used for this study is included later in this report (see *Methodology* on page 31). In brief, the survey was administered to a random sample of 574 adult residents of Manhattan Beach. In addition to their own interests and activities, respondents were asked to describe the experiences and interests of others in their household, including children. The survey followed a mixed-method design that employed multiple recruiting methods (email, text, and phone) and multiple data collection methods (phone and online). Administered between October 8 and October 16, 2022, the average interview lasted 15 minutes.

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1. Source: California Department of Finance estimate for January 1, 2022.

**ORGANIZATION OF REPORT** This report is designed to meet the needs of readers who prefer a summary of the findings as well as those who are interested in the details of the results. For those who seek an overview of the findings, the section titled *Key Findings* is for you. It provides a summary of the most important factual findings of the survey in a Question & Answer format. For the interested reader, this section is followed by a more detailed question-by-question discussion of the results from the survey by topic area (see *Table of Contents*), as well as a description of the methodology employed for collecting and analyzing the data. And, for the truly ambitious reader, the questionnaire used for the interviews is contained at the back of this report (see *Questionnaire & Toplines* on page 34), and a complete set of crosstabulations for the survey results is contained in Appendix A.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** True North thanks the City of Manhattan Beach for the opportunity to conduct the study and for contributing valuable input during the design stage of this study. The collective experience, insight, and local knowledge provided by city representatives and staff improved the overall quality of the research presented here.

**DISCLAIMER** The statements and conclusions in this report are those of the authors (Dr. Timothy McLarney and Richard Sarles) at True North and not necessarily those of the City of Manhattan Beach. Any errors and omissions are the responsibility of the authors.

**ABOUT TRUE NORTH** True North is a full-service survey research firm that is dedicated to providing public agencies with a clear understanding of the values, perceptions, priorities, and concerns of their residents and customers. Through designing and implementing scientific surveys, focus groups, and one-on-one interviews, as well as expert interpretation of the findings, True North helps its clients to move with confidence when making strategic decisions in a variety of areas—such as planning, policy evaluation, performance management, establishing fiscal priorities, passing revenue measures, and developing effective public information campaigns.

During their careers, Dr. McLarney (President) and Mr. Sarles (Principal Researcher) have designed and conducted over 1,200 survey research studies for public agencies—including more than 400 studies for California municipalities and special districts.



## KEY FINDINGS

As noted in the *Introduction*, this study was designed to provide the City of Manhattan Beach with a statistically reliable understanding of residents' use of swimming pools, their experiences with and opinions of Begg Pool, as well as their interests related to a potential new Aquatics Center. Whereas subsequent sections of this report are devoted to conveying the detailed results of the survey, in this section we attempt to 'see the forest through the trees' and note how the collective results of the survey answer some of the key questions that motivated the research.

*To what extent are residents using pools for swimming and related activities?*

Use of a swimming pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports is fairly common among Manhattan Beach households. More than half (58%) of Manhattan Beach households reported that one or more members use a swimming pool for these activities at least occasionally, with 22% using a pool less often than once per month, 12% doing so one to three times per month, and one-quarter (25%) using a pool at least once per week. The survey found that length of residence was inversely related to frequency of using a pool on a weekly basis,<sup>2</sup> while using a pool weekly was more common among households with a child (especially those under 13), children and teens, Asian Americans, and Caucasians.

*Which pools are residents using?*

Among all households surveyed, 23% use a public pool exclusively, 16% use a private pool exclusively, 13% use both public and private pools, while the remainder were either unsure (4%), unwilling to answer the question (1%), or their household does not use a swimming pool (43%). For most demographic subgroups, exclusive use of a public pool was more common than exclusive use of a private pool.

When public pool users were asked to identify the pools their household uses, the most common response was Begg Pool, mentioned by 41% of respondents, followed by the Bay Club Pool (25%), El Segundo/Wiseburn Aquatics Center (21%), the Club Pool/Manhattan Country Club Pool (20%), MiraCosta High School Pool (14%), and Hawthorne Pool (10%).

*What are residents' Begg Pool experiences and assessments?*

Overall, one-quarter (26%) of respondents indicated that their household had visited Begg Pool during the two years preceding the interview, although the percentage that visited was substantially higher among those who had lived in Manhattan Beach between 5 and 14 years and households with children or teens. Recreational water play was the most common activity at Begg Pool, followed by lap swim, swim lessons, swim classes required by Manhattan Beach Middle School, summer camp programs, and swim team.

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2. The longer residents had lived in the City of Manhattan Beach, the less likely it was that a member of their household uses a pool weekly.

Regardless of whether they had visited Begg Pool in the past two years, all respondents were asked to rate various aspects of Begg Pool based on their own experiences and what they may have heard from others. The majority of respondents indicated they were not sure or preferred to not answer the question for each aspect tested, suggesting they had no experience or insight upon which to form an opinion. Among those with an opinion, the ratings were decidedly mixed. Begg Pool received the most positive ratings for the availability of parking (33% excellent or good), overall experience when visiting (20%), condition of the pool (18%) and availability of classes and programs (14%). Approximately one-in-ten respondents rated the ability to get a swimming lane (10%) and the condition of facilities, changing rooms, lockers, and bathrooms (9%) as excellent or good. For all but one dimension (availability of parking), the percentage who rated the aspect as excellent or good was *smaller* than the percentage that provided a fair, poor, or very poor rating.

The most common reasons offered for providing a negative rating for the overall experience when visiting Begg Pool were that the facilities are old and need updating, the pool is too small and/or shallow, the pool water and pool area are in poor condition, and there is limited availability of classes and free swim time. Among the explanations for positive ratings, respondents made positive comments in general, mentioned that using the pool is affordable/inexpensive, the pool water was clean/warm, and they praised the staff and trainers.

*Are residents interested in a new Aquatics Center, and which amenities are most desired?*

Begg Pool was built in 1940, about 82 years ago. Although it has been renovated multiple times, the pool has reached an age where it may be more cost-effective to replace the pool with a new Aquatics Center. After providing respondents with this brief background, the survey asked them to describe their interest in a new Aquatics Center, if it were to be built by the City of Manhattan Beach.

Most respondents indicated they were either very interested (35%) or somewhat interested (21%) in a new Aquatics Center, whereas 11% indicated they were slightly interested. Approximately one-quarter (25%) of respondents professed no interest in a new Aquatics Center, whereas the remainder were either unsure (6%) or unwilling to answer the question. When compared to their respective counterparts, interest in a new Aquatics Center was greatest among households with children or teenagers, those who use a public pool, households that use a pool (public or private) on a weekly basis, and those who had visited Begg Pool in the past two years.

Among the features and amenities that could be included in a new Aquatics Center, Manhattan Beach residents indicated that a 35 meter pool for swimming laps, swim competitions, and water sports was the highest priority (81% high or medium priority), followed by a shallow

pool for swim lessons, water aerobics, water therapy, and children’s programming (73%), and a wet classroom for teaching CPR, water safety, junior lifeguards, and swim lessons (67%). Approximately half of respondents rated a grassy area for picnics and functions (55%) and a small, very shallow pool for use by adults with infants and toddlers (53%) as a high or medium priority. When compared to the other amenities tested, fewer respondents prioritized a splash pad for interactive child play (48%) and poolside cabanas available for rental (32%).

*If a new Aquatics Center is built, how do residents anticipate using it?*

Assuming a new Aquatics Center is built in Manhattan Beach, 64% of respondents indicated that they or other members of their household would use the facility to swim for exercise, while 44% anticipated participating in recreational water play, and more than one-third expected to use the facility for therapy, senior classes, and water aerobics (38%) and CPR or water safety classes (36%). One-third or less of respondents expected that a member of their household would use a new Aquatics Center for swim lessons (33%), summer camp programs (26%), or swim team (21%).

*Which funding strategies do residents support?*

Although interest in a new Aquatics Center in Manhattan Beach was found to be widespread, this interest did not translate into widespread support for various strategies for funding a new Aquatics Center. By far the most palatable strategy (71% support) was increasing fees paid by those who use city aquatics and recreational facilities and programs to raise funds for a new Aquatics Center. When it comes to increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year (28%) or increasing the local sales tax rate by 1/4 cent (28%), however, less than one-third of respondents supported these approaches to funding a new Aquatics Center. It is noteworthy that *even among pool users*, support for increasing local property taxes or the local sales tax rate fell well short of the two-thirds threshold that would be required to pass a special tax of this nature.

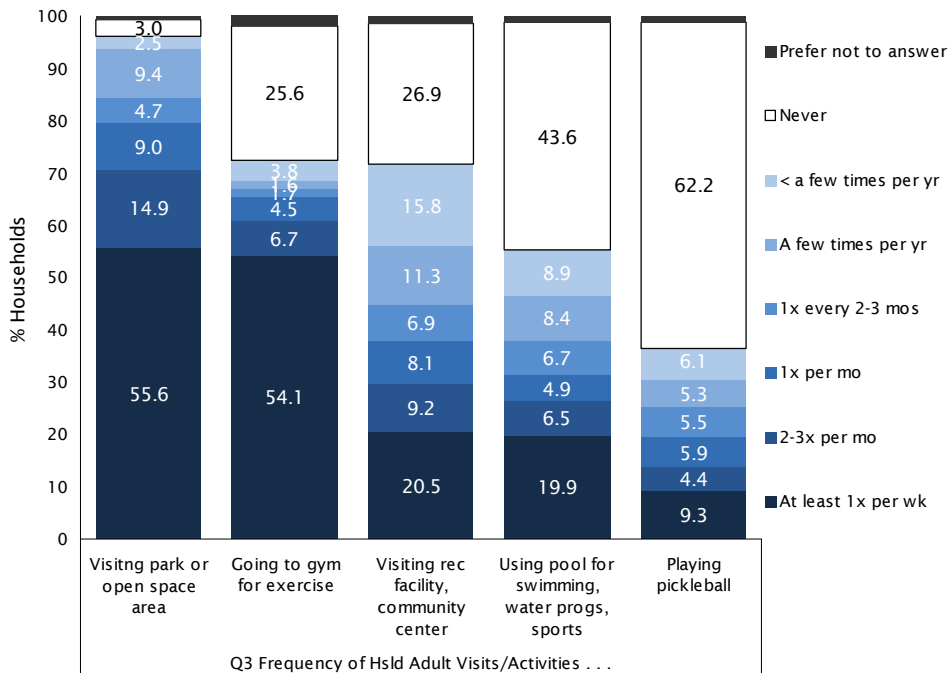
## RECREATION ACTIVITIES & SWIMMING

The opening series of questions in the survey profiled the recreation activities in which Manhattan Beach residents engage, focusing in particular on their use of public and/or private swimming pools for swimming, water programs, and water sports.

**ADULT RECREATION VISITS & ACTIVITIES** Recognizing that the activities and interests of adult residents may differ substantially from those of children or teenagers, the survey first asked respondents to identify how frequently *adult* members of their household engage in each of the activities shown in Figure 1. As shown in the figure, eight-in-ten respondents (80%) reported that an adult member of their household visits a park or open space area at least once per month, with 56% offering that they do so weekly. Nearly two-thirds of respondents (65%) also reported that an adult member of their household visits a gym for exercise at least once per month, with 54% visiting on a weekly basis. Visits to a recreation facility or community center were less frequent, with 38% of respondents indicating that an adult in their household does so at least once per month, and 21% doing so weekly. Visits to a recreation facility or community center were less frequent, with 38% of respondents indicating that an adult in their household does so at least once per month, and 21% doing so weekly.

**Question 3** *Thinking of the adult members of your household, how often do they \_\_\_\_\_? At least once per week, two to three times per month, once per month, once every two or three months, a few times per year, less often than a few times per year, or never?*

**FIGURE 1 FREQUENCY OF HSLD ADULT VISITS/ACTIVITIES**



Among all respondents, just under one-third (31%) indicated that an adult member of their household uses a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports on a monthly basis, and one-in-five (20%) do so weekly. By comparison, one-in-five respondents reported that an adult in their household plays pickleball at least once per month (20%), with 9% playing pickleball weekly.

For the interested reader, tables 1-4 show how *weekly* engagement in each activity by an adult member of the household varied by length of residence, home ownership, ages of people in the household, ethnicity, gender, presence of a child in the home, and presence of a senior in the home. When compared to their respective counterparts, weekly use of a pool for swimming, water programs, and water sports by an adult in the household was most commonly reported by those who had lived in Manhattan Beach less than 10 years, households with children (under 13), Asian Americans, and Caucasians.

**TABLE 1 FREQUENCY OF HSLD ADULT VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Years in Manhattan Beach (Q1)				Home Ownership Status (QD3)	
	Less than 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 or more	Own	Rent
Visitng park or open space area	64.4	53.1	61.0	52.9	55.7	56.5
Going to gym for exercise	54.5	66.0	54.1	51.2	51.1	61.9
Visiting rec facility, community center	18.6	23.4	31.2	18.0	19.0	22.0
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	24.3	24.2	18.1	18.1	19.6	22.0
Playing pickleball	4.9	8.5	10.4	10.5	9.8	9.0

**TABLE 2 FREQUENCY OF HSLD ADULT VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Ages of HslD Members (Q2)					
	Child under 5	Child 5-12	Teen 13-17	Adult 18-49	Adult 50-64	Adult 65+
Visitng park or open space area	84.0	63.9	52.5	57.4	53.4	46.3
Going to gym for exercise	64.8	52.2	58.3	56.9	53.4	48.7
Visiting rec facility, community center	30.7	33.3	12.8	19.0	17.1	21.1
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	34.9	32.2	18.8	21.6	16.3	20.0
Playing pickleball	4.5	7.5	14.3	8.6	12.1	9.4

**TABLE 3 FREQUENCY OF HSLD ADULT VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY ETHNICITY & GENDER (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Ethnicity (QD5)				Gender (QD2)	
	Latino/Hispanic	Asian American	Caucasian / White	Mixed or other	Male	Female
Visitng park or open space area	56.1	52.7	57.0	38.8	58.3	51.7
Going to gym for exercise	43.2	55.5	54.3	62.2	58.0	49.5
Visiting rec facility, community center	16.0	17.2	20.3	32.6	23.2	16.6
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	9.6	22.3	22.0	5.7	22.5	18.1
Playing pickleball	10.0	8.3	10.2	8.2	6.4	12.2

**TABLE 4 FREQUENCY OF HSLD ADULT VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY CHILD IN HSLD & SENIOR IN HSLD (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Child in HslD (Q2)		Senior in HslD (Q2)	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Visitng park or open space area	65.1	50.1	46.3	59.5
Going to gym for exercise	56.5	53.3	48.7	56.9
Visiting rec facility, community center	24.1	17.9	21.1	19.7
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	28.6	14.5	20.0	19.6
Playing pickleball	9.1	9.8	9.4	9.6

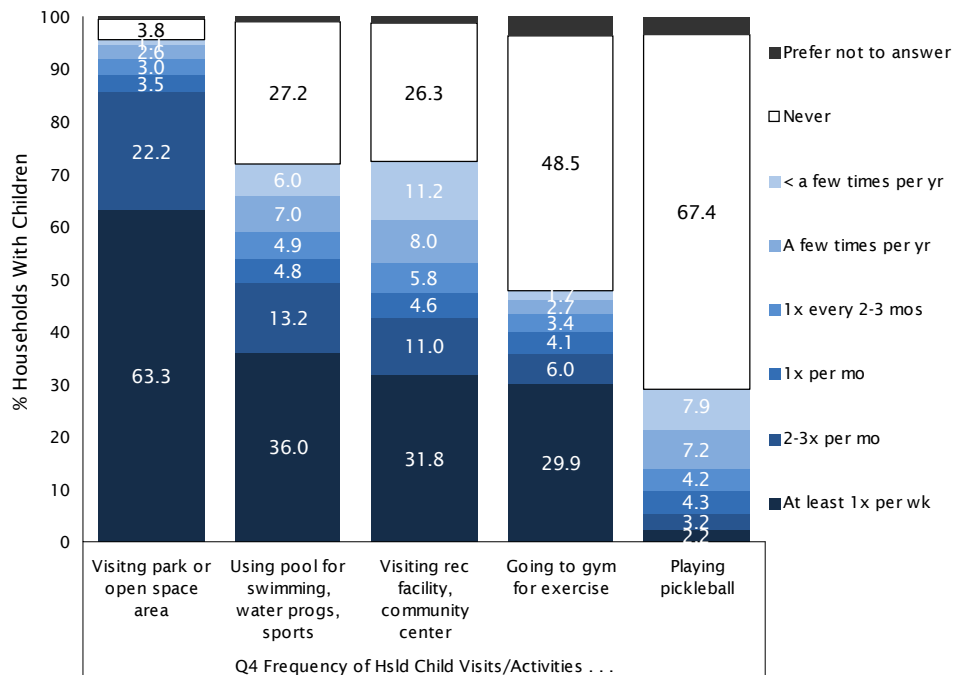
**YOUTH RECREATION VISITS & ACTIVITIES** In a manner similar to that described above, respondents from households with a child or teenager were also asked how frequently the children or teenagers in their home engage in each of the same activities. As shown Figure 2 on the next page, visiting a park or open space area was again the most common activity, with 89% of respondents reporting that the youth in their household do this at least once per month, and 63% visit weekly. Using a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports was more common among households with a child or teen, with more than half of respondents reporting



that the youth in their household use a pool at least once per month, and 36% swim weekly. Nearly half (47%) of respondents indicated the children and teens in their household visit a recreation center or community center on a monthly basis, with one-third (32%) doing so weekly. Going to the gym for exercise was a monthly occasion for the youth in 40% of households with a child or teenager, with 30% using a gym weekly. Finally, pickleball was a far less common form of recreation for Manhattan Beach youth, with just 10% of respondents indicating the youth in their household play pickleball at least once per month, and 2% play weekly.

**Question 4** *Thinking of the children or teenage members of your household, how often do they -----? At least once per week, two to three times per month, once per month, once every two or three months, a few times per year, less often than a few times per year, or never?*

**FIGURE 2 FREQUENCY OF HSLD CHILD VISITS/ACTIVITIES**



Tables 5-7 show how *weekly* engagement in each activity by a child or teenage member of the household varied by length of residence, home ownership, ages of people in the household, ethnicity, gender, presence of a child in the home, and presence of a senior in the home. Weekly use of a pool by Manhattan Beach households with a child or teen was reasonably consistent across subgroups, ranging from a low of 28% to a high of 42%.

**TABLE 5 FREQUENCY OF HSLD CHILD VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Years in Manhattan Beach (Q1)				Home Ownership	
	Less than 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 or more	Own	Rent
Visiting park or open space area	71.5	59.9	75.8	54.3	61.4	70.0
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	36.9	40.6	34.8	33.0	37.2	33.0
Visiting rec facility, community center	32.4	33.6	41.9	25.8	32.3	30.2
Going to gym for exercise	25.1	24.1	41.4	31.8	28.6	33.1
Playing pickleball	4.2	0.0	0.0	3.0	1.2	4.9



**TABLE 6 FREQUENCY OF HSLD CHILD VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

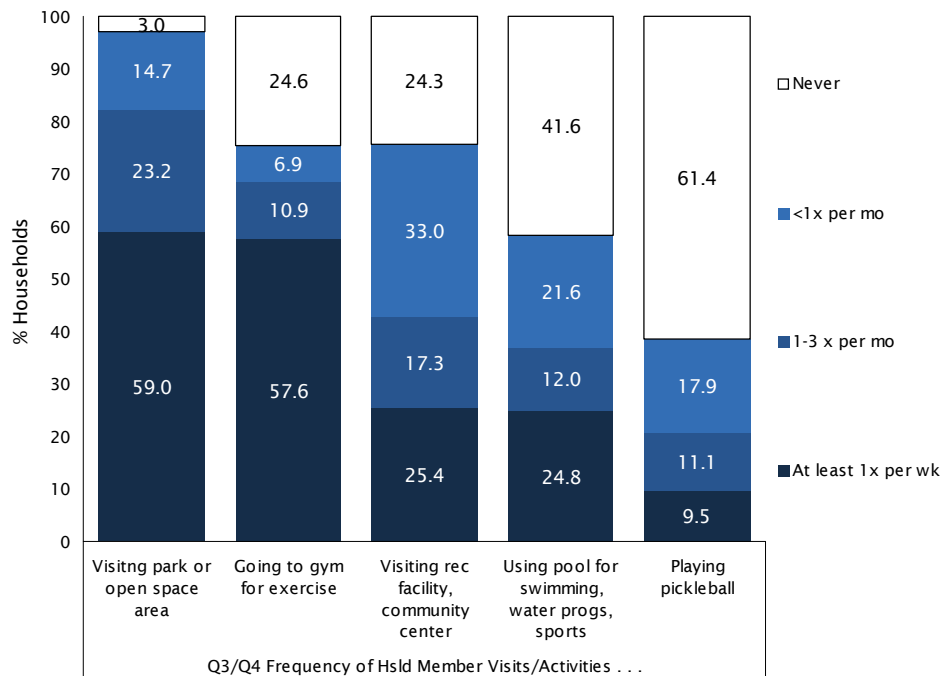
	Ages of HslD Members (Q2)					
	Child under 5	Child 5-12	Teen 13-17	Adult 18-49	Adult 50-64	Adult 65+
Visitng park or open space area	75.6	68.3	49.7	65.3	54.3	38.2
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	37.3	42.4	28.2	37.5	33.5	40.2
Visiting rec facility, community center	40.1	44.6	16.6	34.6	24.3	16.7
Going to gym for exercise	18.1	21.3	46.1	27.6	37.0	39.2
Playing pickleball	1.4	0.7	3.7	1.1	2.9	0.0

**TABLE 7 FREQUENCY OF HSLD CHILD VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY ETHNICITY, GENDER & SENIOR IN HSLD (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Ethnicity (QD5)				Gender (QD2)		Senior in HslD (Q2)	
	Latino/ Hispanic	Asian American	Caucasian / White	Mixed or other	Male	Female	Yes	No
	Visitng park or open space area	59.8	75.6	60.3	89.2	69.1	55.6	38.2
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	36.0	39.7	36.4	29.4	38.6	33.4	40.2	35.6
Visiting rec facility, community center	32.0	27.2	30.1	36.5	38.7	22.6	16.7	33.2
Going to gym for exercise	35.9	42.4	25.2	63.5	30.8	28.7	39.2	29.0
Playing pickleball	0.0	8.1	1.7	0.0	0.9	3.8	0.0	2.4

**HOUSEHOLD RECREATION VISITS & ACTIVITIES** The following figure and tables combine the activities reported for adults and youth into a single *household-level* analysis. More than half of Manhattan Beach households reported that at least one member of their household visits a park or open space area (59%) and goes to the gym for exercise (58%) on a weekly basis, whereas one-quarter visit a recreation facility or community center (25%) and use a pool for swimming, water programs, and water sports (25%) weekly. Overall, 10% of Manhattan Beach households have at least one member that plays pickleball at least once per week.

**FIGURE 3 FREQUENCY OF HSLD MEMBER VISITS/ACTIVITIES**



Tables 8-11 show how *weekly* engagement in each activity by at least one member of the household varied by length of residence, home ownership, ages of people in the household, ethnicity, gender, presence of a child in the home, and presence of a senior in the home. At the household level, the survey found that length of residence was inversely related to frequency of using a pool on a weekly basis, while using a pool weekly was more common among households with a child (especially those under 13), Asian Americans, and Caucasians.

**TABLE 8 FREQUENCY OF HSLD MEMBER VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Years in Manhattan Beach (Q1)				Home Ownership Status (QD3)	
	Less than 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 or more	Own	Rent
Visiting park or open space area	67.2	59.6	65.0	55.5	60.3	56.5
Going to gym for exercise	56.1	68.0	61.7	54.7	54.7	63.7
Visiting rec facility, community center	26.9	31.1	36.6	21.2	25.7	23.2
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	32.3	30.7	28.0	20.6	25.0	25.0
Playing pickleball	4.9	8.6	10.7	10.7	9.9	9.1

**TABLE 9 FREQUENCY OF HSLD MEMBER VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Ages of HslD Members (Q2)					
	Child under 5	Child 5-12	Teen 13-17	Adult 18-49	Adult 50-64	Adult 65+
Visiting park or open space area	88.9	74.7	59.0	61.6	57.4	47.0
Going to gym for exercise	67.0	58.5	70.9	60.4	57.3	50.7
Visiting rec facility, community center	42.9	50.1	23.8	25.9	21.6	22.5
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	42.4	46.0	33.8	27.9	22.4	21.8
Playing pickleball	4.5	7.7	14.6	8.7	12.2	9.6

**TABLE 10 FREQUENCY OF HSLD MEMBER VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY ETHNICITY & GENDER (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Ethnicity (QD5)				Gender (QD2)	
	Latino/Hispanic	Asian American	Caucasian / White	Mixed or other	Male	Female
Visiting park or open space area	61.8	60.7	59.2	43.5	61.3	54.8
Going to gym for exercise	47.5	60.3	57.7	64.9	59.9	54.3
Visiting rec facility, community center	27.3	23.0	24.2	36.9	29.2	20.0
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	21.3	29.1	25.9	11.1	27.1	22.8
Playing pickleball	10.2	8.4	10.3	8.6	6.5	12.4

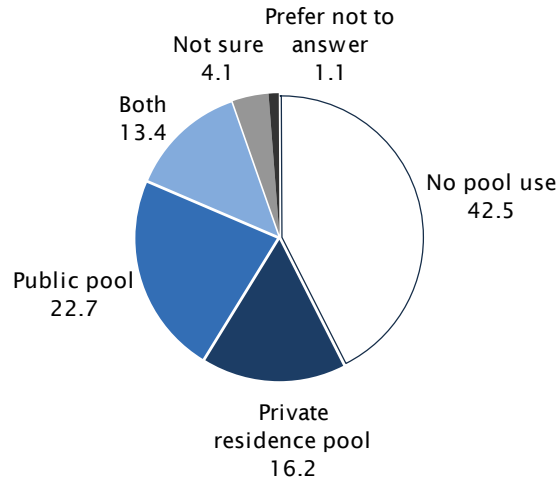
**TABLE 11 FREQUENCY OF HSLD MEMBER VISITS/ACTIVITIES BY CHILD IN HSLD & SENIOR IN HSLD (SHOWING % AT LEAST 1 TIME PER WEEK)**

	Child in HslD (Q2)		Senior in HslD (Q2)	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Visiting park or open space area	72.9	50.2	47.0	63.7
Going to gym for exercise	63.3	54.1	50.7	60.5
Visiting rec facility, community center	36.8	18.0	22.5	26.2
Using pool for swimming, water progs, sports	41.1	14.6	21.8	25.8
Playing pickleball	9.3	9.8	9.6	9.7

**PRIVATE OR PUBLIC POOL?** Among all respondents, 58% reported that at least one member of their household uses a pool *at least occasionally* for swimming, water programs, and water sports. The survey followed-up with these respondents by asking whether they use a private pool for these activities, a pool that is open to the public, or both? Figure 4 on the next page places the results of Question 5 in the context of all Manhattan Beach households, and shows that 23% use a public pool exclusively, 16% a private pool exclusively, 13% use both public and private pools, while the remainder were either unsure (4%), unwilling to answer the question (1%), or their household does not use a swimming pool (43%).

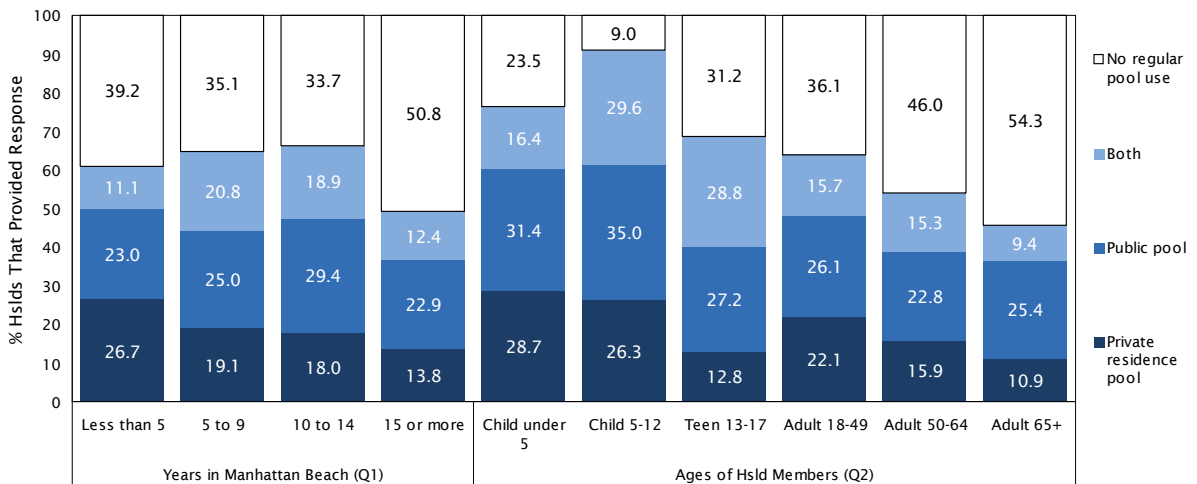
**Question 5** You mentioned that one or more members of your household use a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports. Do they do this at a pool at a private residence, or at a pool that is open to the public - or both?

**FIGURE 4 HSLD USE OF PRIVATE OR PUBLIC POOL**

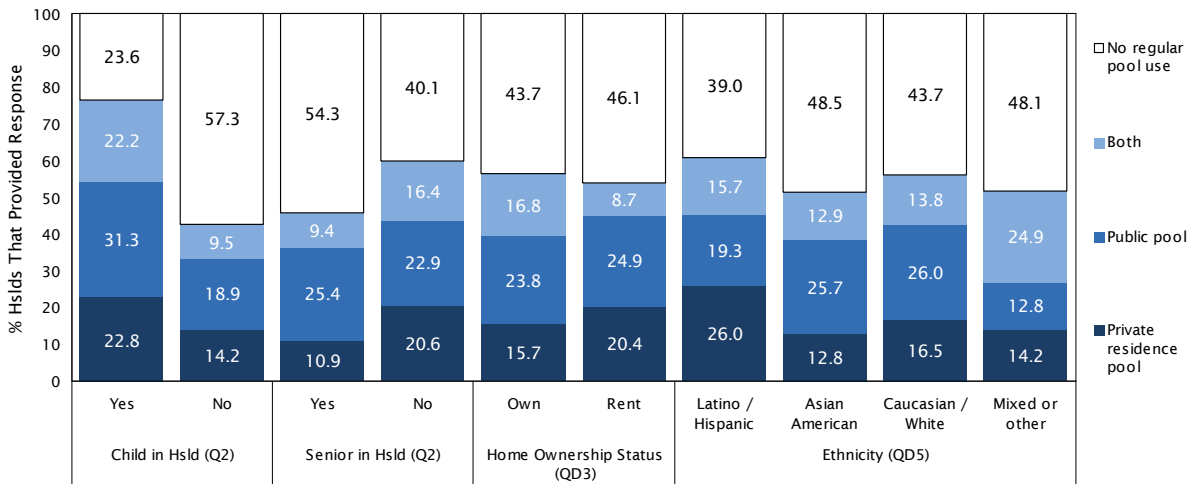


Figures 5 and 6 show how the distribution of pool use varied by length of residence in Manhattan Beach, age of household members, presence of a child in the home, presence of a senior, home ownership status, and ethnicity. For most subgroups, it is worth noting that exclusive use of a public pool was more common than exclusive use of a private pool

**FIGURE 5 HSLD USE OF PRIVATE OR PUBLIC POOL BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS**



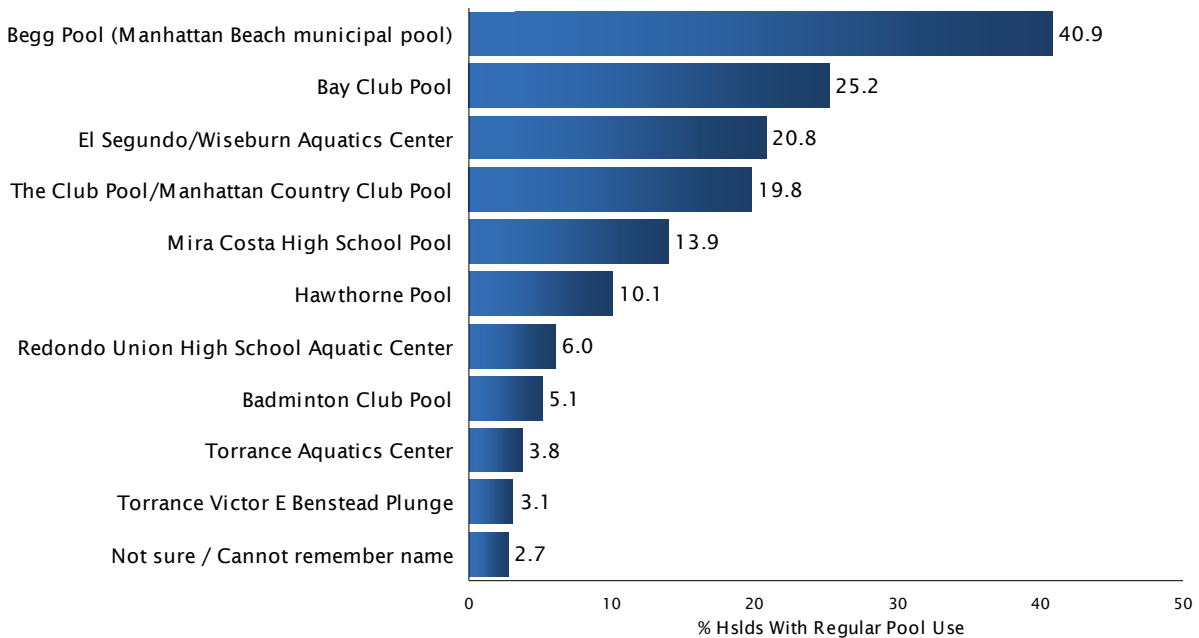
**FIGURE 6 HSLD USE OF PRIVATE OR PUBLIC POOL BY CHILD IN HSLD, SENIOR IN HSLD, HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS & ETHNICITY**



**WHICH PUBLIC POOLS DO YOU USE?** Residents who indicated that their household uses a public pool were subsequently asked to identify which public or club pools their household uses. As shown in Figure 7, the most common response was Begg Pool, mentioned by 41% of respondents, followed by the Bay Club Pool (25%), El Segundo/Wiseburn Aquatics Center (21%), the Club Pool/Manhattan Country Club Pool (20%), MiraCosta High School Pool (14%), and Hawthorne Pool (10%).

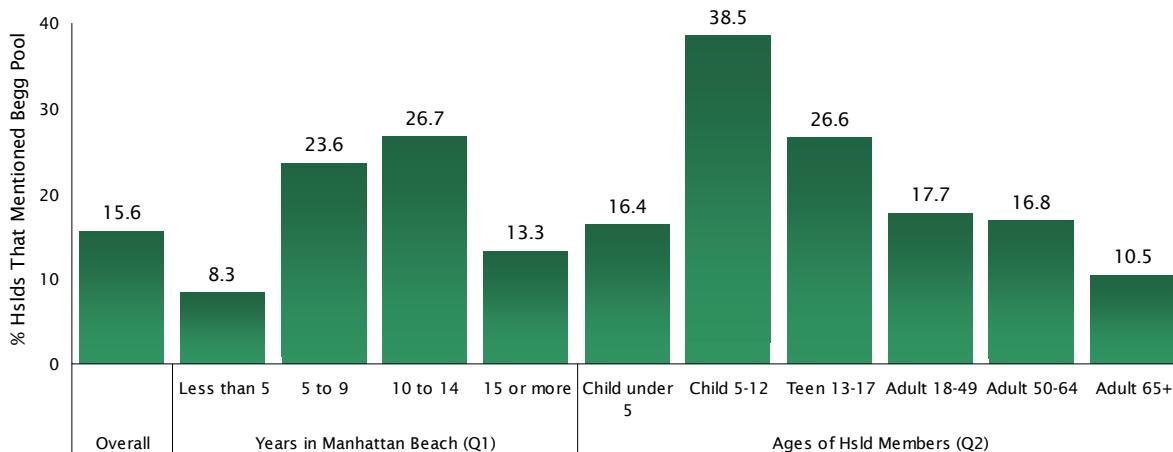
**Question 6** Which public or club pools do members of your household use? Check all that apply.

**FIGURE 7 POOLS USED BY HSLD**

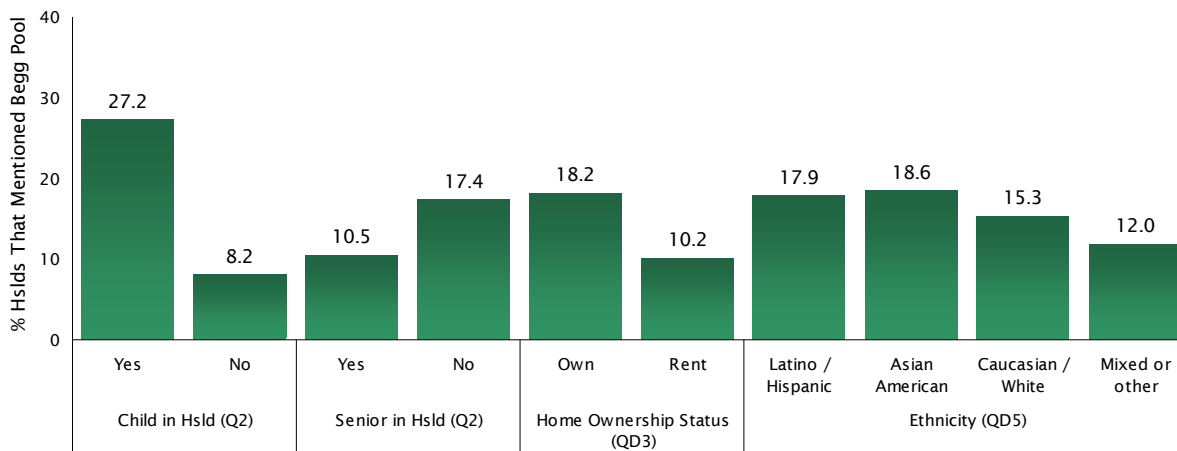


Figures 8 and 9 place the results of Question 6 in the context of all Manhattan Beach households. Although 16% of all households indicated that they use Begg Pool, the percentage was much higher among those who had lived in Manhattan Beach between 5 and 14 years and those with a child or teenager in the home.

**FIGURE 8 USED BEGG POOL BY OVERALL, YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS**



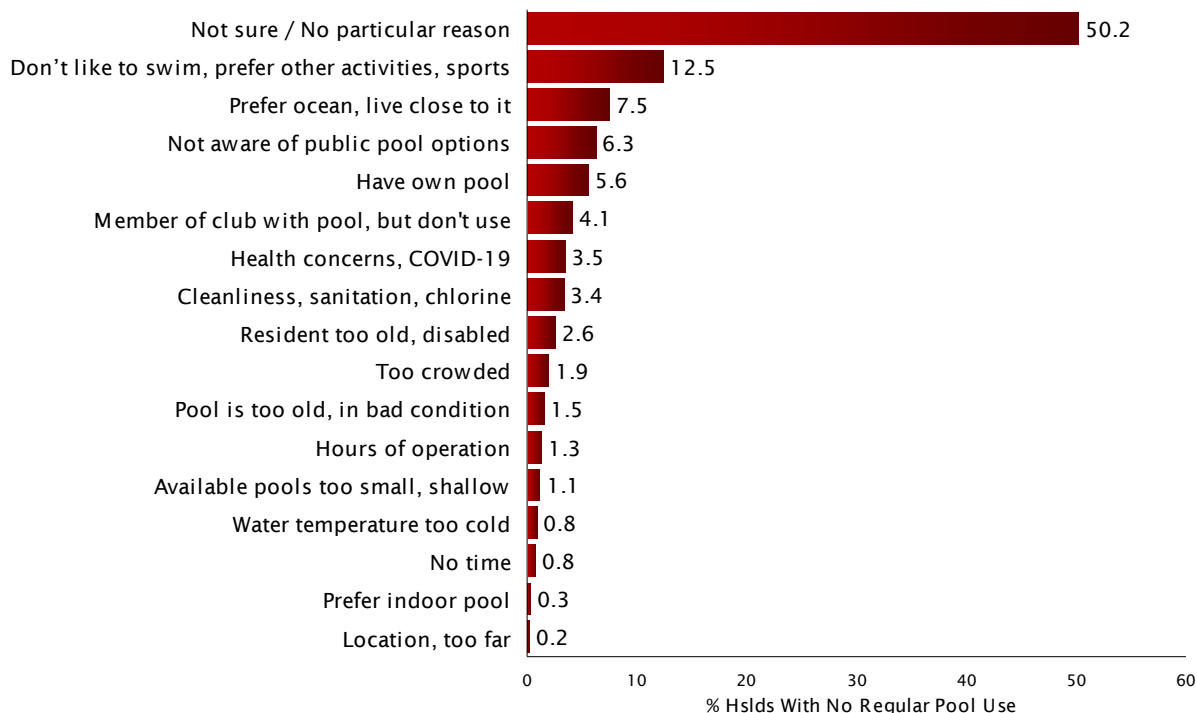
**FIGURE 9 USED BEGG POOL BY HSLD BY CHILD IN HSLD, SENIOR IN HSLD, HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS & ETHNICITY**



**WHY DOES YOUR HOUSEHOLD NOT USE A POOL?** Approximately 42% of respondents indicated that no member of their household uses a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports (see Figure 3). When asked if there is a particular reason that their household doesn't use a pool (see Figure 10 on the next page), half (50%) indicated that there was no particular reason, 13% indicated they don't like to swim or prefer other activities, and 8% indicated they prefer the ocean. Few respondents mentioned a reason that is related to the availability or condition of pool facilities, including that pools are too crowded (2%), are too old/in bad condition (2%), too shallow (1%), or don't keep convenient hours of operation (1%). Approximately 6% confided that they weren't aware of the public pool options in the area.

**Question 7** *Is there a particular reason that your household doesn't use a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports?*

**FIGURE 10 REASONS FOR NOT USING A POOL**



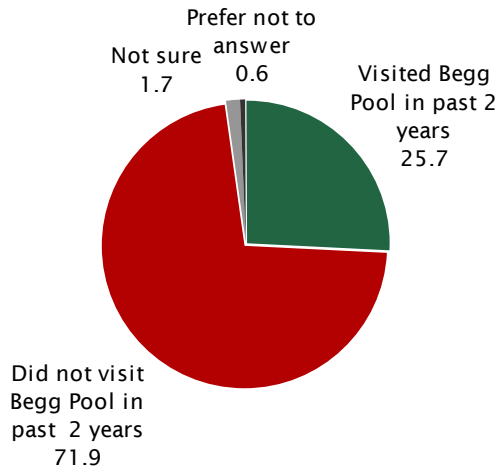
# BEGG POOL

Having measured household use of pools in general, as well as the specific public or club pools they visit in the area, the survey narrowed to focus on residents' use of Begg Pool, the types of activities they engaged in at the pool, as well as their assessment of Begg Pool facilities, amenities, and programming.

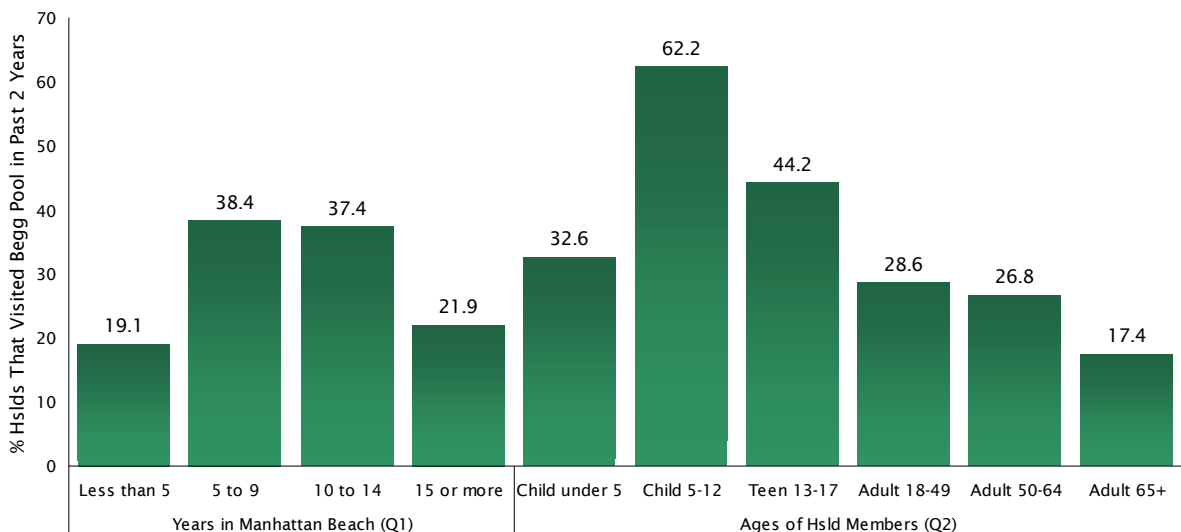
**VISITS TO BEGG POOL** The first question in this series asked all respondents whether, in the past two years, they or other members of their household had visited Begg Pool, which is the municipal pool for Manhattan Beach. Overall, one-quarter (26%) of respondents indicated that their household had visited Begg Pool during the period of interest (Figure 11), although the percentage that visited was substantially higher among those who had lived in Manhattan Beach between 5 and 14 years and households with children or teens (see figures 12 & 13).

**Question 8** *In the past two years, have you or other members of your household visited Begg Pool, which is the municipal pool for Manhattan Beach?*

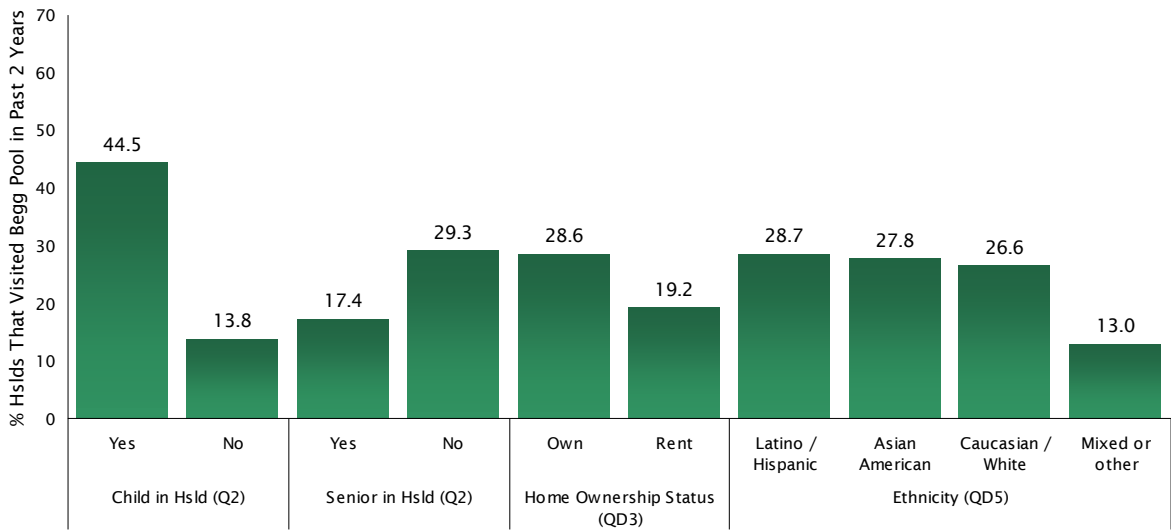
**FIGURE 11 HSLD VISITED BEGG POOL IN PAST 2 YEARS**



**FIGURE 12 HSLD VISITED BEGG POOL IN PAST 2 YEARS BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS**



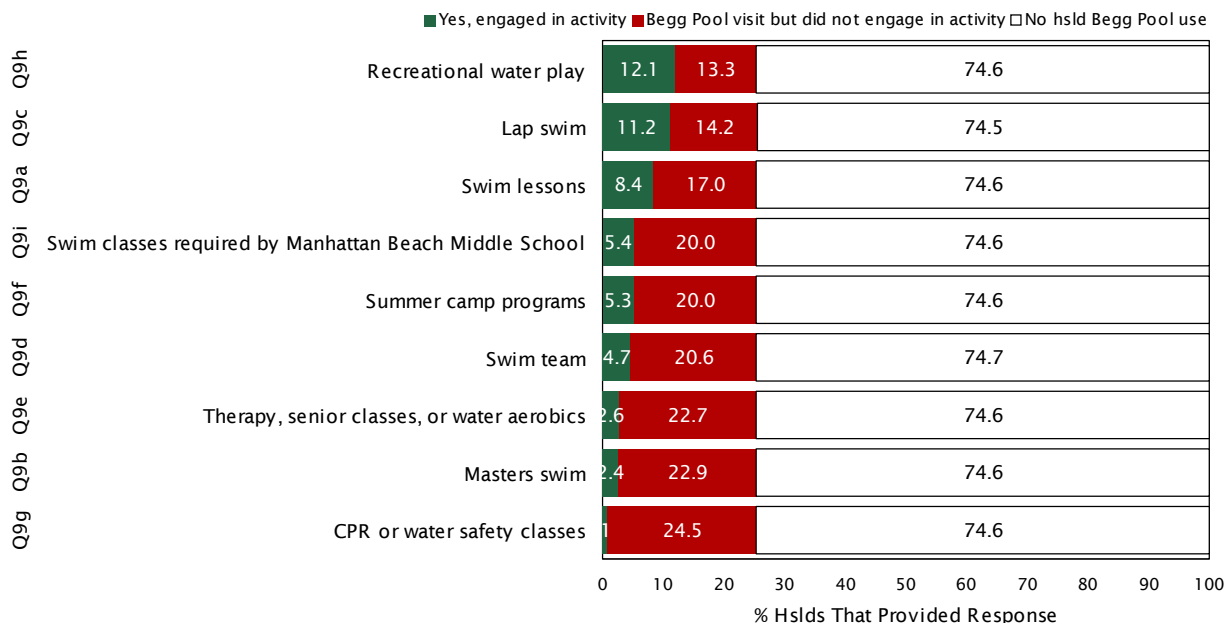
**FIGURE 13 HSLD VISITED BEGG POOL IN PAST 2 YEARS BY CHILD IN HSLD, SENIOR IN HSLD, HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS & ETHNICITY**



**ACTIVITIES AT BEGG POOL** Respondents who reported that their household had visited Begg Pool during the prior two years were next asked to indicate whether they or other members of their household had engaged in each of the activities shown in Figure 14 while visiting Begg Pool during this period. Figure 14 places the results of Question 9 in the context of *all* households.

**Question 9** *As I read the following list of activities, please indicate whether you or other members of your household have engaged in this activity at Begg Pool during the past 2 years. Yes means you have, no means you haven't.*

**FIGURE 14 HSLD ACTIVITIES AT BEGG POOL**





Recreational water play was the most common activity at Begg Pool (12%), followed by lap swim (11%), swim lessons (8%), swim classes required by Manhattan Beach Middle School (5%), summer camp programs (5%), and swim team (5%). Among all Manhattan Beach households, 3% participated in therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics at Begg Pool, 2% 14engaged in Masters swim, and 1% participated in CPR or water safety classes.

Tables 12-14 show the percentage of Manhattan Beach households that engaged in each of the activities at Begg Pool, by subgroup. To ease comparisons, the top three most frequent activities are highlighted in green within each subgroup. As shown in the tables, recreational water play, lap swim, and swim lessons were the most common Begg Pool activities for most households.

**TABLE 12 HSLD ACTIVITIES AT BEGG POOL BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS (SHOWING % YES, ENGAGED ACTIVITY)**

	Years in Manhattan Beach (Q1)				Home Ownership Status (QD3)	
	Less than 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 or more	Own	Rent
Recreational water play	10.1	23.9	19.5	8.2	13.5	9.4
Lap swim	8.3	13.4	14.9	10.7	13.9	5.6
Swim lessons	10.2	14.5	15.4	4.9	10.3	4.8
Swim classes required by Manhattan Beach Middle School	3.7	4.6	15.4	3.9	6.5	3.3
Summer camp programs	5.5	6.1	8.1	4.5	6.4	3.4
Swim team	3.7	6.5	13.2	2.8	6.4	0.9
Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics	2.6	0.0	0.0	3.9	3.6	0.9
Masters swim	3.2	2.1	0.0	2.8	3.3	0.9
CPR or water safety classes	0.0	0.9	0.8	1.1	1.3	0.0

**TABLE 13 HSLD ACTIVITIES AT BEGG POOL BY AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS (SHOWING % YES, ENGAGED ACTIVITY)**

	Ages of Hsld Members (Q2)					
	Child under 5	Child 5-12	Teen 13-17	Adult 18-49	Adult 50-64	Adult 65+
Recreational water play	21.3	40.2	24.0	16.1	13.7	5.8
Lap swim	12.6	23.1	17.4	12.4	10.7	9.9
Swim lessons	19.3	29.6	10.4	10.4	7.5	4.6
Swim classes required by Manhattan Beach Middle School	0.8	15.7	22.7	5.0	8.7	2.3
Summer camp programs	7.3	18.1	6.8	6.8	6.0	2.2
Swim team	5.3	17.3	11.2	5.8	5.2	1.4
Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics	0.8	1.5	1.6	2.2	3.9	4.0
Masters swim	2.8	4.6	5.1	2.9	3.4	1.3
CPR or water safety classes	0.0	2.2	1.4	1.0	0.9	1.2

**TABLE 14 HSLD ACTIVITIES AT BEGG POOL BY CHILD IN HSLD & SENIOR IN HSLD (SHOWING % YES, ENGAGED ACTIVITY)**

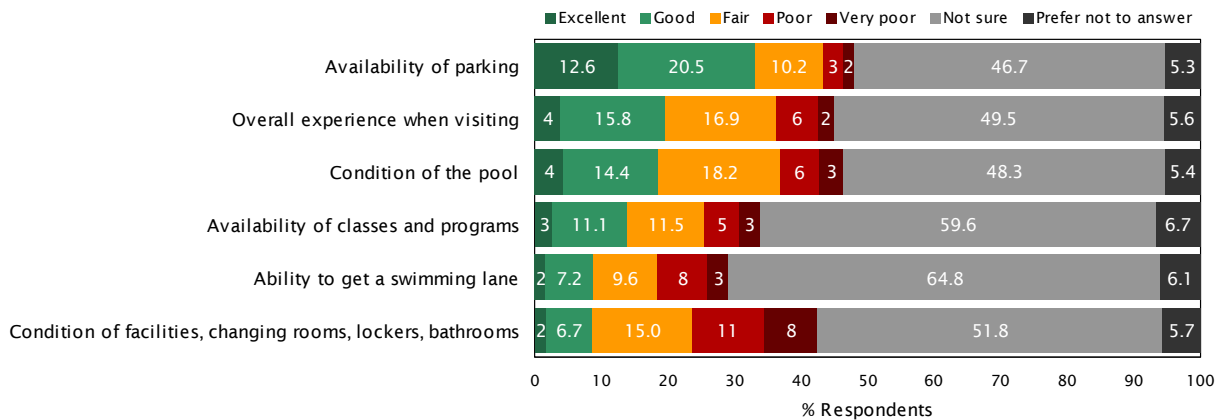
	Child in Hsld (Q2)		Senior in Hsld (Q2)	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Recreational water play	27.1	3.4	5.8	15.5
Lap swim	16.9	7.2	9.9	11.4
Swim lessons	18.2	2.7	4.6	10.5
Swim classes required by Manhattan Beach Middle School	12.7	0.8	2.3	6.8
Summer camp programs	10.7	2.2	2.2	7.0
Swim team	10.9	1.2	1.4	6.5
Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics	1.7	3.3	4.0	2.1
Masters swim	3.8	1.5	1.3	2.9
CPR or water safety classes	1.4	0.6	1.2	0.7

**RATING BEGG POOL** Regardless of whether they had visited Begg Pool in the past two years, all respondents were next asked to rate various aspects of Begg Pool based on their own experiences and what they may have heard from others. As shown in Figure 15 on the next page, the majority of respondents indicated they were not sure or preferred to not answer the question for each aspect tested, suggesting they had no experience or insight upon which to form an

opinion. Among those with an opinion, the ratings were decidedly mixed. Begg Pool received the most positive ratings for the availability of parking (33% excellent or good), overall experience when visiting (20%), condition of the pool (18%) and availability of classes and programs (14%). Approximately one-in-ten respondents rated the ability to get a swimming lane (10%) and the condition of facilities, changing rooms, lockers, and bathrooms (9%) as excellent or good. For all but one dimension (availability of parking), the percentage who rated the aspect as excellent or good was *smaller* than the percentage that provided a fair, poor, or very poor rating.

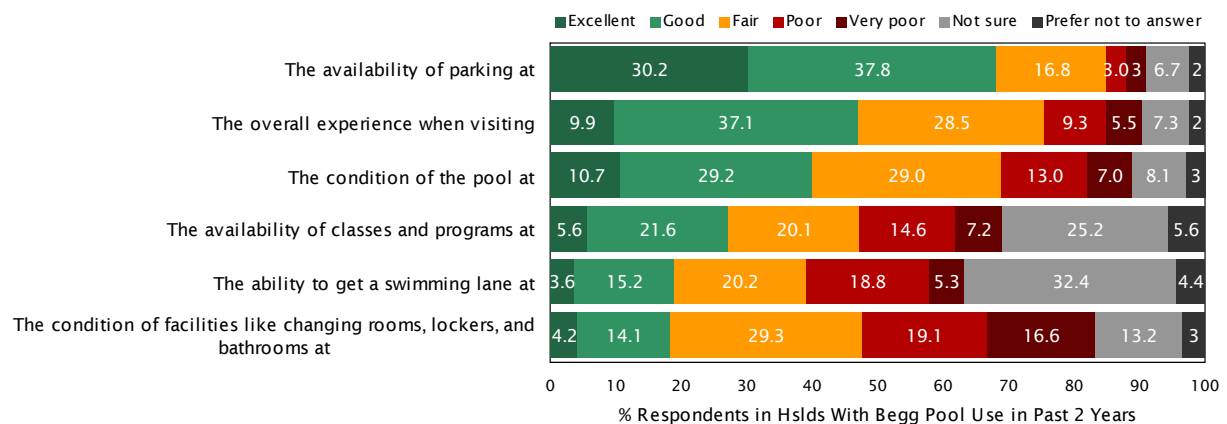
**Question 10** *From your own experiences and what you may have heard from others, how would you rate: \_\_\_\_\_ Begg Pool? Would you say it is excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor?*

**FIGURE 15 RATING BEGG POOL**

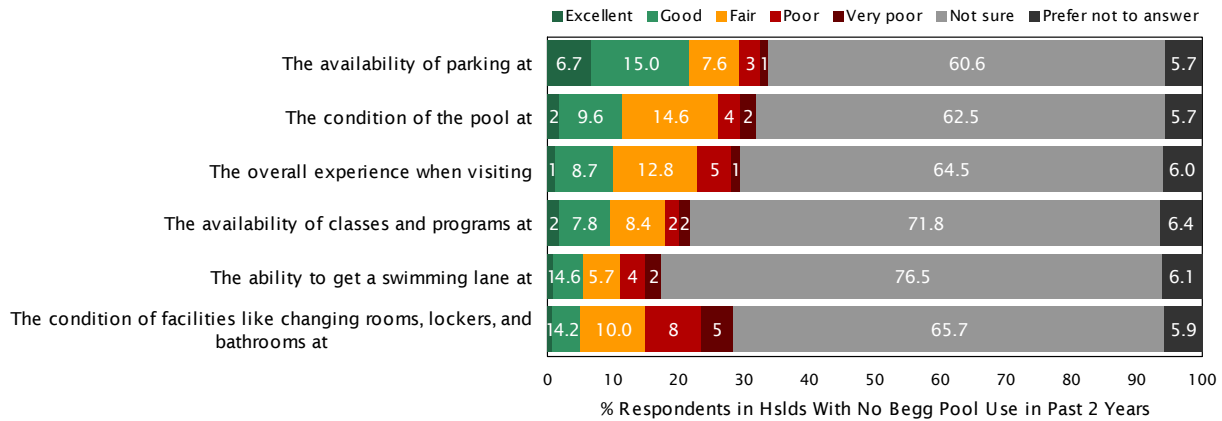


For the interested reader, Figure 16 shows how respondents whose households had visited Begg Pool rated each aspect of the facility, whereas Figure 17 provides the ratings among those whose household had not visited the pool during the past two years. Among users of Begg Pool, ratings of fair, poor, or very poor were more common than ratings of excellent or good for every dimension tested with the exception of the availability of parking and overall experience when visiting Begg Pool.

**FIGURE 16 RATING BEGG POOL BY BEGG POOL USERS**



**FIGURE 17 RATING BEGG POOL BY BEGG POOL NON-USERS**



For the interested reader, tables 15-17 show how ratings of excellent or good varied across sub-groups of Begg Pool visitors.

**TABLE 15 RATING BEGG POOL BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS (SHOWING % EXCELLENT & GOOD)**

	Years in Manhattan Beach (Q1)				Home Ownership Status (QD3)	
	Less than 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 or more	Own	Rent
Availability of parking	78.2	80.0	70.8	64.7	66.7	75.8
Overall experience when visiting	57.3	59.2	37.1	39.0	44.0	41.5
Condition of the pool	58.9	50.1	39.3	35.1	41.7	33.9
Availability of classes and programs	51.5	33.6	24.7	45.7	43.7	36.2
Ability to get a swimming lane	52.8	29.7	28.2	27.1	30.9	24.6
Condition of facilities, changing rooms, lockers, bathrooms	19.1	28.6	16.3	19.4	22.1	11.3

**TABLE 16 RATING BEGG POOL BY AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS (SHOWING % EXCELLENT & GOOD)**

	Ages of Hsld Members (Q2)					
	Child under 5	Child 5-12	Teen 13-17	Adult 18-49	Adult 50-64	Adult 65+
Availability of parking	83.2	74.6	68.9	62.7	69.3	71.7
Overall experience when visiting	54.2	47.2	37.9	40.6	42.3	47.4
Condition of the pool	38.8	48.9	34.9	37.7	36.8	50.9
Availability of classes and programs	28.4	30.9	39.3	34.2	40.4	59.3
Ability to get a swimming lane	18.1	28.0	18.8	30.2	33.1	28.9
Condition of facilities, changing rooms, lockers, bathrooms	9.6	16.6	17.2	20.1	20.7	27.8

**TABLE 17 RATING BEGG POOL BY HSLD BEGG POOL VISIT IN PAST 2 YEARS, CHILD IN HSLD & SENIOR IN HSLD (SHOWING % EXCELLENT & GOOD)**

	Hsld Begg Pool Visit in Past 2 Years (Q8)		Child in Hsld (Q2)		Senior in Hsld (Q2)	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Availability of parking	74.9	64.3	71.5	66.3	71.7	67.6
Overall experience when visiting	52.1	34.0	44.9	40.9	47.4	40.9
Condition of the pool	44.9	35.8	42.4	36.5	50.9	35.9
Availability of classes and programs	39.4	44.1	35.9	46.0	59.3	35.2
Ability to get a swimming lane	29.8	31.0	25.4	33.3	28.9	28.9
Condition of facilities, changing rooms, lockers, bathrooms	22.0	17.7	17.9	21.5	27.8	17.4

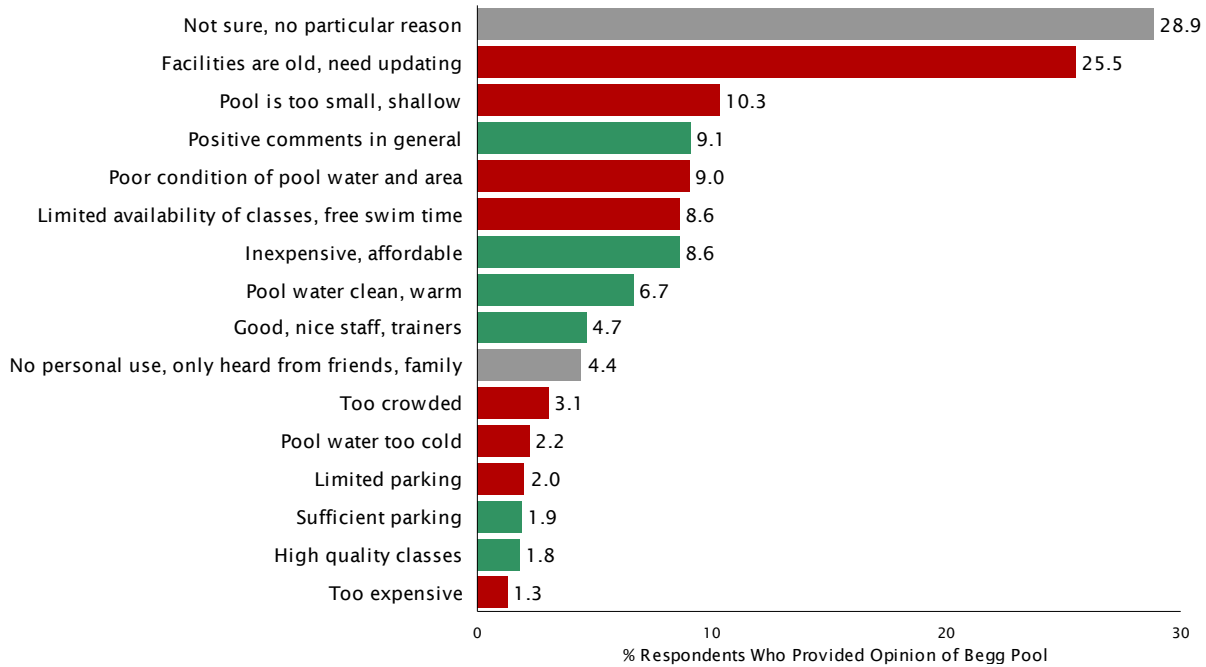
**WHY DID YOU RATE THE OVERALL BEGG POOL EXPERIENCE AS...?** Having captured respondents' ratings of the overall Begg Pool experience on a scale of excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor, Question 11 followed-up by asking respondents to identify a particular reason for the rating they provided. Question 11 was presented in an open-ended manner, allowing respondents to cite any reason that came to mind without being prompted by, or restricted to, a

particular list of options. True North later reviewed the verbatim responses and grouped them into the categories shown in Figure 18.

Among the explanations provided for negative ratings (see red bars), the most common responses were that the facilities are old and need updating (26%), pool is too small and/or shallow (10%), pool water and area is in poor condition (9%), and there is limited availability of classes and free swim time (9%). Among the explanations for positive ratings (green bars), respondents made positive comments in general (9%), mentioned that using the pool is affordable/inexpensive (9%), they thought the pool water was clean/warm (7%), and they praised the staff and trainers (7%). Approximately 29% indicated they didn't have a particular reason behind the rating they provided for the overall experience when visiting Begg Pool.

**Question 11** *Is there a particular reason why you rated the overall experience when visiting Begg Pool as \_\_\_\_\_?*

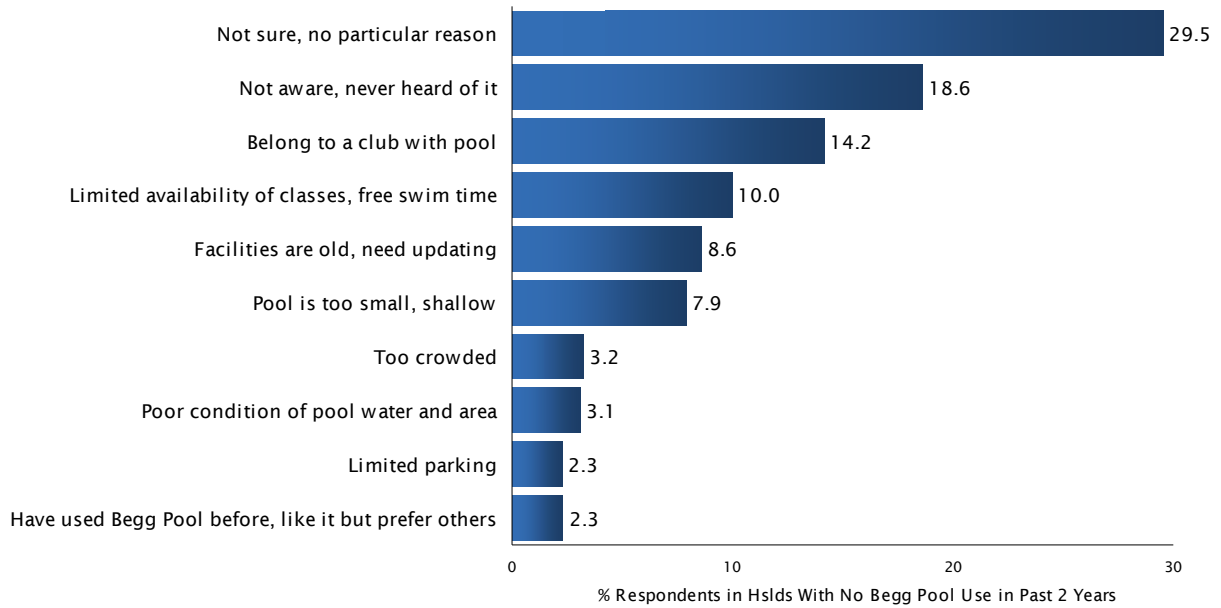
**FIGURE 18 REASONS FOR OPINION OF BEGG POOL EXPERIENCE**



**WHY NOT USE BEGG POOL?** The final question in this series was reserved for those who indicated their household uses a public pool for swimming, but not Begg Pool. When asked if there was a particular reason why they don't use Begg Pool (see Figure 19 on the next page), 30% indicated that there was no reason in particular, 19% stated they weren't aware of/hadn't hear of Begg Pool, and 14% mentioned they belong to a club with a pool. Among reasons that were linked to Begg Pool, 10% mentioned the limited availability of classes/free swim time, 9% complained that the facilities are old and need updating (9%), 9% mentioned that the pool is too small/too shallow, 3% felt it was too crowded, and a similar percentage (3%) did not like the condition of pool water or the pool area.

**Question 12** *You mentioned your household uses other public pools in the area, but not Begg Pool. Is there a particular reason why you don't use Begg Pool?*

**FIGURE 19 REASONS FOR NOT USING BEGG POOL**



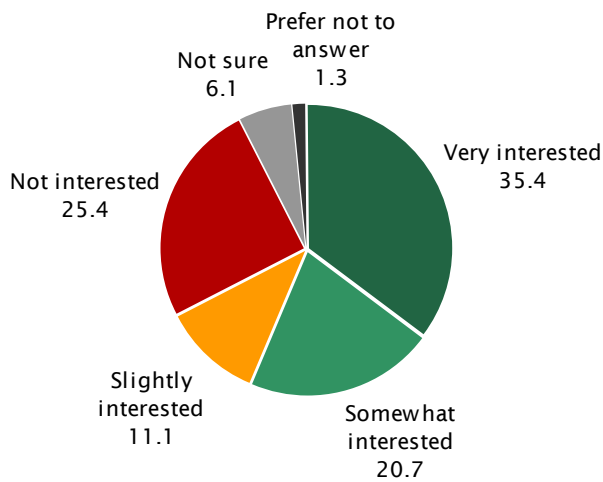
# NEW AQUATICS FACILITY

Having profiled respondents' experiences and opinions related to Begg Pool, the survey transitioned to exploring their interest in a potential new Aquatics Center in Manhattan Beach, as well as the amenities and programming that could be offered at the facility.

**INTEREST IN NEW AQUATICS CENTER** Begg Pool was built in 1940, about 82 years ago. Although it has been renovated multiple times, the pool has reached an age where it may be more cost-effective to replace the pool with a new Aquatics Center. After providing respondents with this brief background, the survey asked them to describe their interest in a new Aquatics Center, if it were to be built by the City of Manhattan Beach.

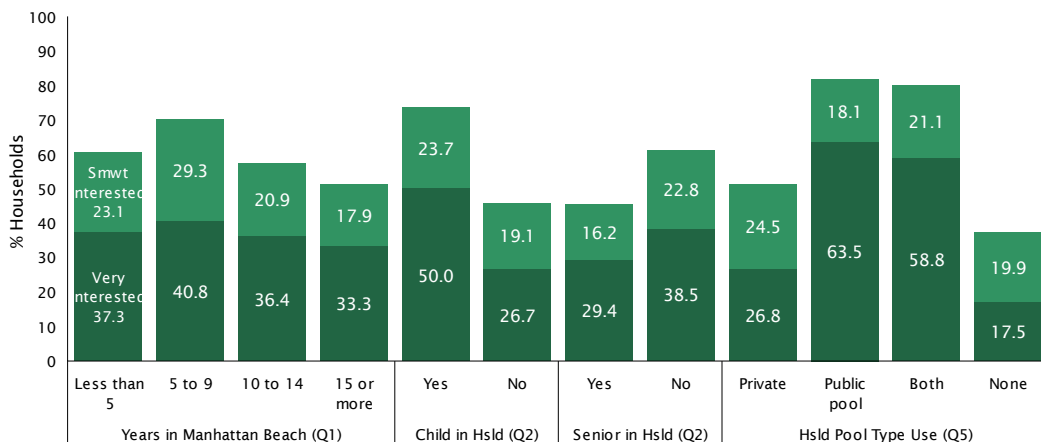
**Question 13** *Begg Pool was built in 1940, about 82 years ago. Although it has been renovated multiple times, the pool has reached an age where it may be more cost-effective to replace the pool with a new Aquatics Center. If the City were to build a new Aquatics Center, how interested would your household be in using the Aquatics Center?*

**FIGURE 20 INTEREST IN NEW AQUATICS CENTER**

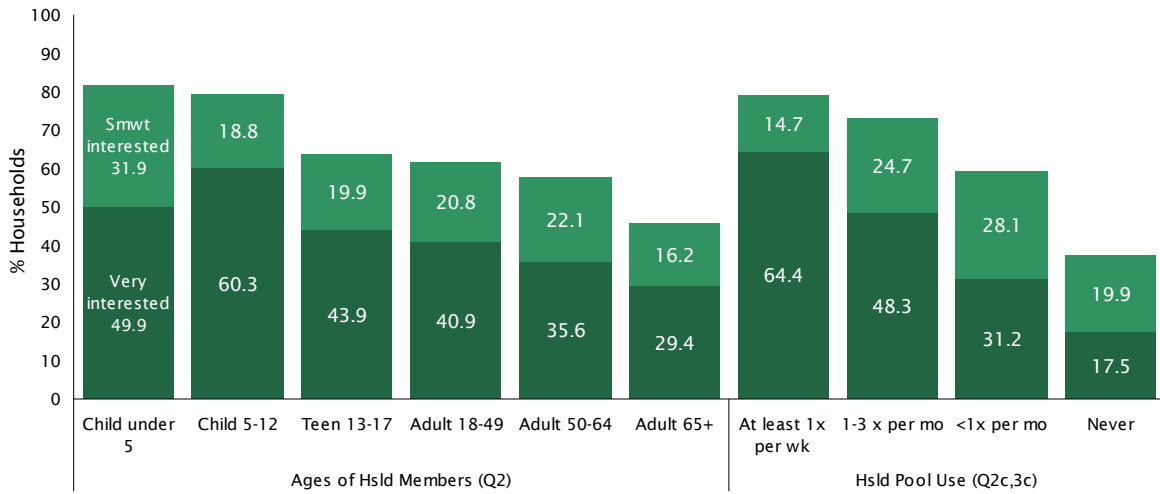


Most respondents indicated they were either very interested (35%) or somewhat interested (21%) in a new Aquatics Center, whereas 11% indicated they were slightly interested. Approximately one-quarter (25%) of respondents professed no interest in a new Aquatics Center, whereas the remainder were either unsure (6%) or unwilling to answer the question (Figure 20). When compared to their counterparts, interest in a new Aquatics Center was greatest among households with children or teenagers, those who use a public pool, households that use a pool (public or private) on a weekly basis, and those who had visited Begg Pool in the past two years (Figures 21-23).

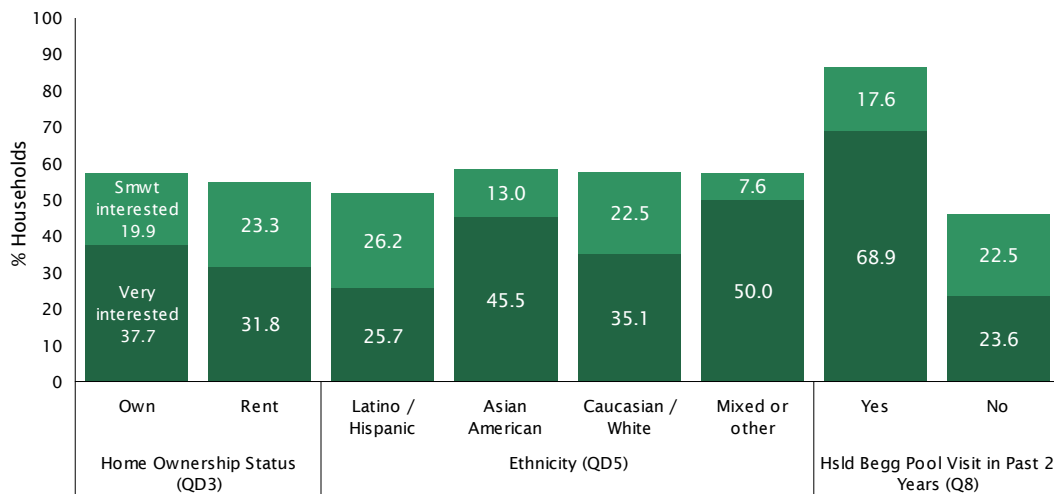
**FIGURE 21 INTEREST IN NEW AQUATICS CENTER BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH, CHILD IN HSLD, SENIOR IN HSLD & HSLD POOL TYPE USE**



**FIGURE 22 INTEREST IN NEW AQUATICS CENTER BY AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS & HSLD POOL USE**



**FIGURE 23 INTEREST IN NEW AQUATICS CENTER BY HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS, ETHNICITY & HSLD BEGG POOL VISIT IN PAST 2 YEARS**



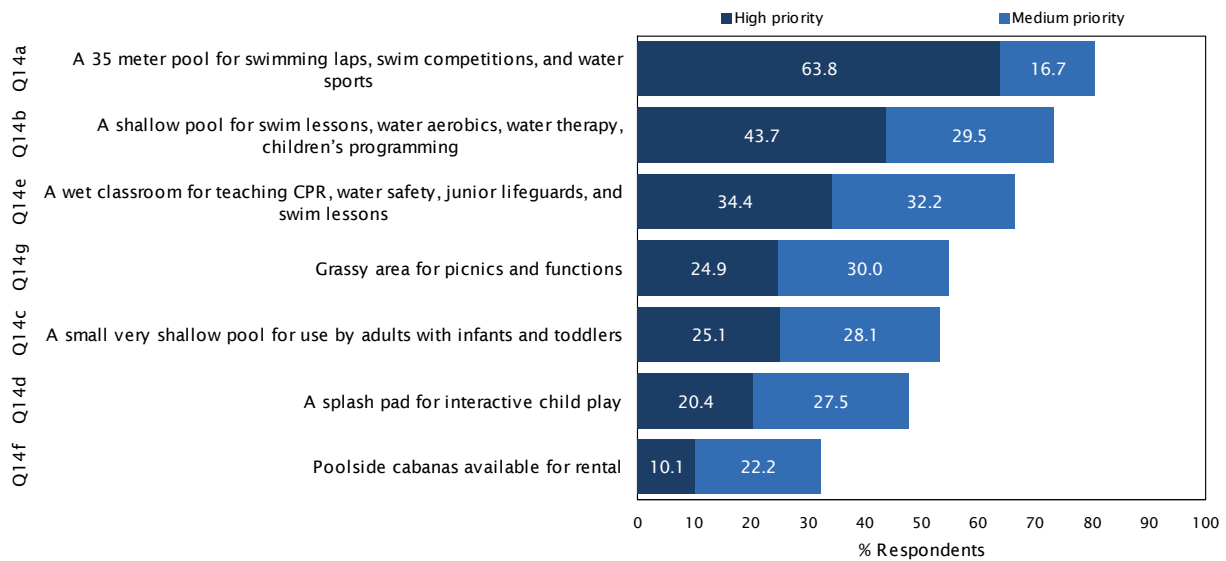
**FEATURES & AMENITIES** Regardless of their level of interest in a new Aquatics Center, all respondents were next presented with the list of features and amenities shown in Figure 24 on the next page and asked if each item should be a high, medium, or low priority for inclusion in the Aquatics Center (if built)—or if the item should not be part of the Aquatics Center. To introduce a sense of competition and encourage respondents to prioritize, respondents were also informed that not all of the amenities can be high priorities.

Among the features and amenities tested, Manhattan Beach residents indicated that a 35 meter pool for swimming laps, swim competitions, and water sports was the highest priority (81% high or medium priority), followed by a shallow pool for swim lessons, water aerobics, water therapy, and children’s programming (73%), and a wet classroom for teaching CPR, water safety, junior lifeguards, and swim lessons (67%). Approximately half of respondents rated a grassy area for

picnics and functions (55%) and a small, very shallow pool for use by adults with infants and toddlers (53%) as a high or medium priority. When compared to the other amenities tested, fewer respondents prioritized a splash pad for interactive child play (48%) and poolside cabanas available for rental (32%).

**Question 14** *If built, the Aquatics Center could have a number of features and amenities. As I read each of the following amenities, I'd like you to indicate whether you think the amenity should be a high, medium or low priority for inclusion in the Aquatics Center - or if you think it should not be a part of the Center. Please keep in mind that not all of the amenities can be high priorities.*

**FIGURE 24 PRIORITY OF AQUATICS CENTER AMENITIES**



Tables 18-22 show how the percentage of respondents that rated each item as a high priority varied across subgroups of Manhattan Beach residents. To ease comparisons, the top three rated items are highlighted green within each subgroup. Overall, the tables reveal a lot of consistency in how Manhattan Beach residents prioritize among the amenities that could be featured in a new Aquatics Center, with two items (35 meter lap pool and shallow pool for swim lessons) being among the top three items in every subgroup.

**TABLE 18 PRIORITY OF AQUATICS CENTER AMENITIES BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS (SHOWING % OF HIGH PRIORITY)**

	Years in Manhattan Beach (Q1)				Home Ownership Status (QD3)	
	Less than 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 or more	Own	Rent
A 35 meter pool for swimming laps, swim competitions, and water sports	64.3	62.9	76.1	61.4	63.5	64.7
A shallow pool for swim lessons, water aerobics, water therapy, children's programming	58.6	39.3	40.5	41.2	43.5	44.0
A wet classroom for teaching CPR, water safety, junior lifeguards, and swim lessons	41.2	34.2	47.2	29.9	33.0	36.1
A small very shallow pool for use by adults with infants and toddlers	39.5	21.3	32.2	20.7	22.7	29.5
Grassy area for picnics and functions	27.7	25.3	33.0	22.3	24.0	26.6
A splash pad for interactive child play	42.4	25.7	19.0	13.4	18.2	25.8
Poolside cabanas available for rental	11.5	13.7	7.8	9.4	9.8	11.0



**TABLE 19 PRIORITY OF AQUATICS CENTER AMENITIES BY AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS (SHOWING % OF HIGH PRIORITY)**

	Ages of HslD Members (Q2)					
	Child under 5	Child 5-12	Teen 13-17	Adult 18-49	Adult 50-64	Adult 65+
A 35 meter pool for swimming laps, swim competitions, and water sports	62.5	70.4	74.3	65.5	63.2	57.7
A shallow pool for swim lessons, water aerobics, water therapy, children's programming	65.6	48.9	46.1	43.2	40.7	40.5
A wet classroom for teaching CPR, water safety, junior lifeguards, and swim lessons	22.8	33.3	45.1	31.1	36.8	29.0
A small very shallow pool for use by adults with infants and toddlers	50.8	20.1	21.5	25.7	22.6	22.7
Grassy area for picnics and functions	35.0	33.1	35.3	27.7	27.0	15.8
A splash pad for interactive child play	50.5	19.9	17.7	23.5	14.9	15.9
Poolside cabanas available for rental	12.8	11.5	12.5	13.1	9.8	6.0

**TABLE 20 PRIORITY OF AQUATICS CENTER AMENITIES BY ETHNICITY & GENDER (SHOWING % OF HIGH PRIORITY)**

	Ethnicity (QD5)				Gender (QD2)	
	Latino/Hispanic	Asian American	Caucasian / White	Mixed or other	Male	Female
A 35 meter pool for swimming laps, swim competitions, and water sports	55.8	65.6	64.8	79.0	63.0	66.8
A shallow pool for swim lessons, water aerobics, water therapy, children's programming	42.8	44.4	44.1	41.8	38.3	51.1
A wet classroom for teaching CPR, water safety, junior lifeguards, and swim lessons	35.7	38.9	35.1	20.1	25.0	46.2
A small very shallow pool for use by adults with infants and toddlers	20.4	27.7	24.8	26.1	24.3	27.5
Grassy area for picnics and functions	27.3	28.8	25.3	16.4	21.9	29.3
A splash pad for interactive child play	19.0	18.6	20.9	24.5	18.2	23.9
Poolside cabanas available for rental	2.7	12.1	9.2	24.8	9.6	11.1

**TABLE 21 PRIORITY OF AQUATICS CENTER AMENITIES BY HSLD POOL USE, CHILD IN HSLD & SENIOR IN HSLD (SHOWING % OF HIGH PRIORITY)**

	At least 1x per wk	HslD Pool Use (Q2c,3c)			Child in HslD (Q2)		Senior in HslD (Q2)	
		HslD Pool Use (Q2c,3c) 1-3 x per mo	<1x per mo	Never	Yes	No	Yes	No
A 35 meter pool for swimming laps, swim competitions, and water sports	80.4	58.8	70.3	53.9	67.7	62.1	57.7	67.4
A shallow pool for swim lessons, water aerobics, water therapy, children's programming	43.4	48.6	45.2	43.1	52.1	38.9	40.5	45.7
A wet classroom for teaching CPR, water safety, junior lifeguards, and swim lessons	34.1	33.1	29.6	38.3	35.0	34.0	29.0	37.1
A small very shallow pool for use by adults with infants and toddlers	23.8	23.7	24.8	26.9	28.9	23.1	22.7	26.7
Grassy area for picnics and functions	23.9	33.3	24.2	23.9	35.0	19.0	15.8	29.5
A splash pad for interactive child play	21.3	25.8	19.5	19.4	29.1	15.4	15.9	22.9
Poolside cabanas available for rental	12.6	8.7	8.8	9.7	14.3	7.5	6.0	11.9

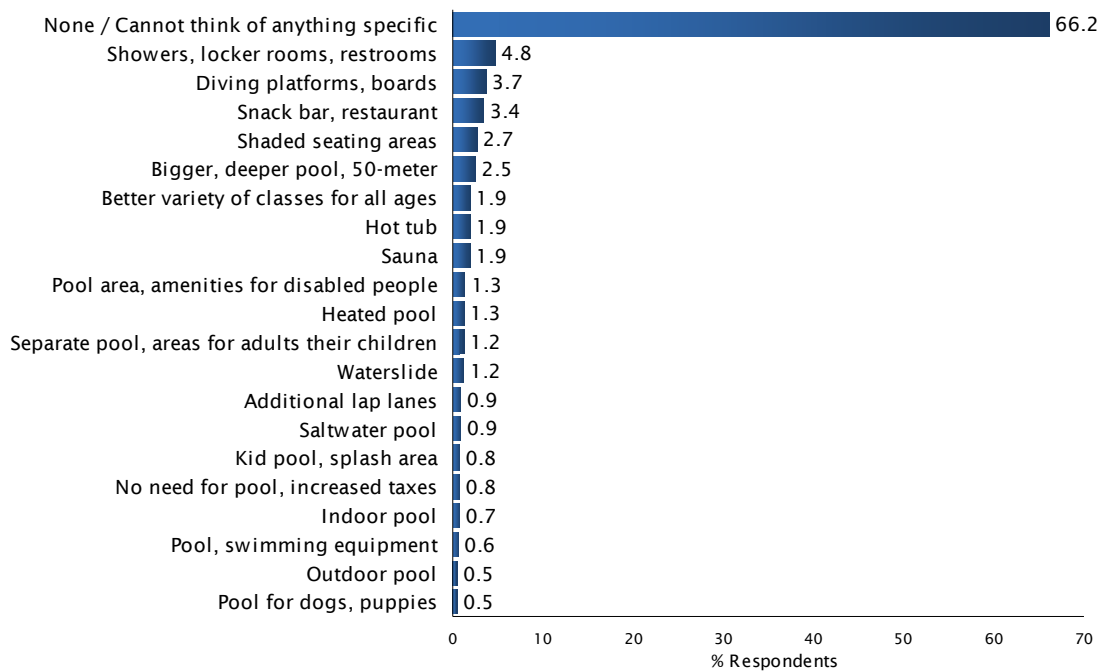
**TABLE 22 PRIORITY OF AQUATICS CENTER AMENITIES BY HSLD POOL TYPE USE & HSLD BEGG POOL VISIT IN PAST 2 YEARS (SHOWING % OF HIGH PRIORITY)**

	HslD Pool Type Use (Q5)				HslD BEGG Pool Visit in Past 2 Years (Q8)	
	Private	Public pool	Both	None	Yes	No
A 35 meter pool for swimming laps, swim competitions, and water sports	60.5	79.6	75.2	53.9	81.0	58.2
A shallow pool for swim lessons, water aerobics, water therapy, children's programming	40.8	47.0	46.2	43.1	52.2	41.4
A wet classroom for teaching CPR, water safety, junior lifeguards, and swim lessons	30.5	29.5	37.2	38.3	35.0	34.3
A small very shallow pool for use by adults with infants and toddlers	24.4	24.5	26.8	26.9	27.4	25.1
Grassy area for picnics and functions	26.6	23.6	32.5	23.9	27.8	24.6
A splash pad for interactive child play	22.0	21.1	22.7	19.4	21.2	20.5
Poolside cabanas available for rental	16.5	5.4	14.6	9.7	9.1	10.8

**ADDITIONAL AMENITIES OF INTEREST** Recognizing that the list of features and amenities tested in Question 14 was not exhaustive, the survey also included an open-ended opportunity (Question 15) for respondents to suggest *additional* features or amenities that should be prioritized for a new Aquatics Center. Most respondents (66%) declined to suggest an additional feature or amenity for inclusion in the Aquatics Center (see Figure 25 on the next page). Among the specific items that were suggested, showers/locker rooms/restrooms were most common (5%), following by diving platforms/boards (4%), a snack bar/restaurant (3%), shaded seating areas (3%), and a bigger, deeper 50 meter pool (3%).

**Question 15** *Is there a feature or amenity I didn't mention that you think should be a high priority for inclusion in a new Aquatics Center?*

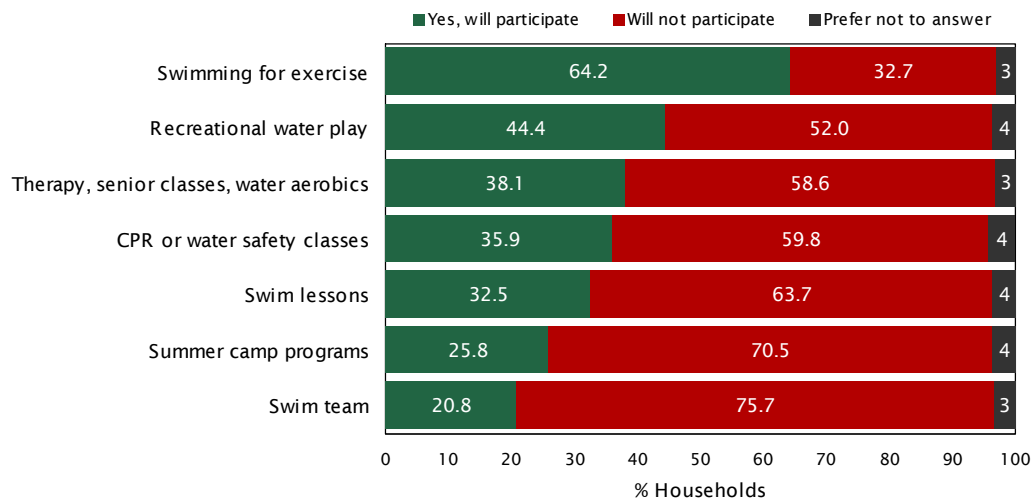
**FIGURE 25 AQUATICS CENTER FEATURE, AMENITY NOT MENTIONED**



**PROGRAMMING AT NEW AQUATICS CENTER** In addition to measuring respondents' interest in various amenities and features that could be included in a new Aquatics Center, the survey explored their interest in a variety of classes and programs that could be offered at the facility (Figure 26).

**Question 16** *If the new Aquatics Center is built, do you expect that one or more members of your household would participate in \_\_\_\_\_ at the Center?*

**FIGURE 26 HSLD PARTICIPATION IN AQUATIC CENTER ACTIVITIES**



Assuming a new Aquatics Center is built in Manhattan Beach, 64% of respondents indicated that they or other members of their household would use the facility to swim for exercise, while 44% anticipated participating in recreational water play, and more than one-third expected to use the facility for therapy, senior classes, and water aerobics (38%) and CPR or water safety classes (36%). One-third or less of respondents expected that a member of their household would use a new Aquatics Center for swim lessons (33%), summer camp programs (26%), or swim team (21%). Tables 23-27 show how anticipated household participation in activities at a new Aquatics Center varied across subgroups of residents, with the top three activities in each subgroup highlighted green.

**TABLE 23 HSLD PARTICIPATION IN AQUATIC CENTER ACTIVITIES BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS (SHOWING % YES, WILL PARTICIPATE)**

	Years in Manhattan Beach (Q1)				Home Ownership Status (QD3)	
	Less than 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 or more	Own	Rent
Swimming for exercise	65.7	71.1	72.2	60.2	62.0	69.2
Recreational water play	69.0	60.5	45.0	33.6	44.2	45.6
Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics	28.9	21.3	35.6	45.1	44.6	24.1
CPR or water safety classes	51.0	42.8	42.1	28.6	33.7	41.8
Swim lessons	57.9	45.1	38.7	21.0	33.7	30.0
Summer camp programs	53.2	43.7	33.4	12.3	26.1	25.8
Swim team	31.9	29.6	32.5	13.1	22.2	17.6

**TABLE 24 HSLD PARTICIPATION IN AQUATIC CENTER ACTIVITIES BY AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS (SHOWING % YES, WILL PARTICIPATE)**

	Ages of HslD Members (Q2)					
	Child under 5	Child 5-12	Teen 13-17	Adult 18-49	Adult 50-64	Adult 65+
Swimming for exercise	68.8	72.9	64.3	67.3	65.9	57.4
Recreational water play	91.3	80.6	56.3	56.4	39.2	27.0
Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics	8.9	21.6	37.9	28.9	39.5	54.2
CPR or water safety classes	57.5	54.0	43.6	36.1	32.0	26.1
Swim lessons	92.9	73.5	28.5	43.8	23.3	18.4
Summer camp programs	85.6	75.2	29.1	36.5	17.0	6.9
Swim team	50.7	56.3	30.4	28.8	15.1	9.3

**TABLE 25 HSLD PARTICIPATION IN AQUATIC CENTER ACTIVITIES BY ETHNICITY & GENDER (SHOWING % YES, WILL PARTICIPATE)**

	Ethnicity (QD5)				Gender (QD2)	
	Latino/Hispanic	Asian American	Caucasian / White	Mixed or other	Male	Female
Swimming for exercise	55.8	62.5	66.5	79.5	64.1	65.9
Recreational water play	46.3	44.0	45.4	47.0	46.2	44.4
Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics	33.3	43.2	37.4	50.1	29.5	46.9
CPR or water safety classes	31.7	38.0	37.6	25.5	32.2	41.2
Swim lessons	36.8	36.6	32.4	28.7	34.8	31.9
Summer camp programs	30.9	23.5	26.6	8.8	29.2	23.5
Swim team	25.5	21.3	22.1	11.7	21.9	20.5

**TABLE 26 HSLD PARTICIPATION IN AQUATIC CENTER ACTIVITIES BY HSLD POOL USE, CHILD IN HSLD & SENIOR IN HSLD (SHOWING % YES, WILL PARTICIPATE)**

	HslD Pool Use (Q2c,3c)				Child in HslD (Q2)		Senior in HslD (Q2)	
	At least 1x per wk	1-3 x per mo	<1x per mo	Never	Yes	No	Yes	No
Swimming for exercise	84.9	72.3	70.5	48.3	68.9	61.7	57.4	67.6
Recreational water play	62.7	64.4	50.4	25.8	74.3	26.9	27.0	52.9
Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics	40.9	38.4	35.47	38.3	25.0	45.9	54.2	30.1
CPR or water safety classes	44.1	45.0	35.47	29.6	50.6	27.5	26.1	40.7
Swim lessons	49.6	46.1	31.6	19.6	61.0	15.8	18.4	39.5
Summer camp programs	44.8	38.5	27.0	10.7	60.2	5.3	6.9	35.1
Swim team	45.6	30.0	15.1	7.0	42.5	7.7	9.3	26.3

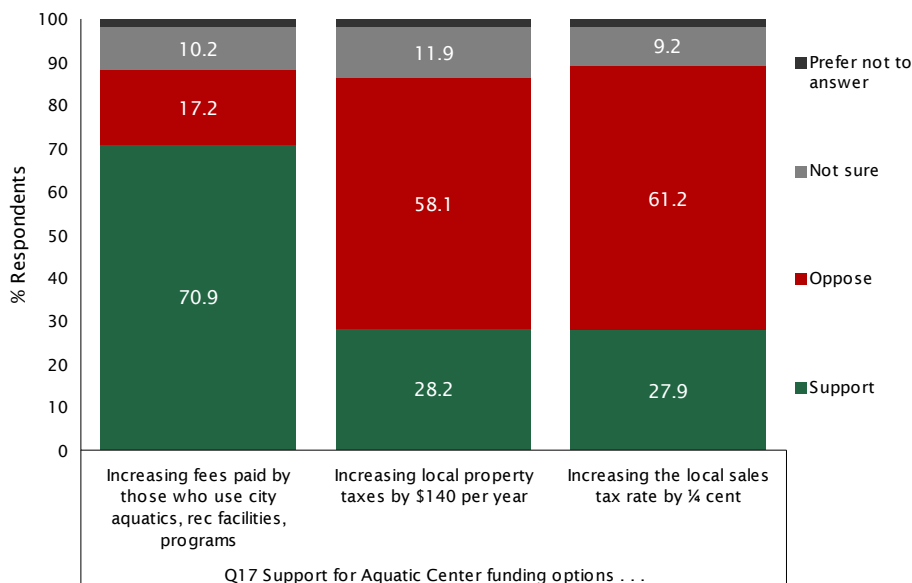
**TABLE 27 HSLD PARTICIPATION IN AQUATIC CENTER ACTIVITIES BY HSLD TYPE POOL USE & HSLD BEGG POOL VISIT IN PAST 2 YEARS (SHOWING % YES, WILL PARTICIPATE)**

	HslD Pool Type Use (Q5)				HslD BEGG Pool Visit in Past 2 Years (Q8)	
	Private	Public pool	Both	None	Yes	No
Swimming for exercise	83.9	57.1	58.3	89.7	82.6	48.3
Recreational water play	68.2	35.8	49.9	62.0	66.1	25.8
Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics	43.6	35.3	27.7	44.7	39.4	38.3
CPR or water safety classes	47.7	31.1	38.2	38.5	52.3	29.6
Swim lessons	50.5	25.7	44.2	40.0	47.9	19.6
Summer camp programs	48.6	18.2	37.9	35.3	42.0	10.7
Swim team	40.9	14.0	28.7	29.3	41.6	7.0

**FUNDING A NEW AQUATICS CENTER** The final substantive question in the survey addressed the issue of how to fund a new Aquatics Center. Although interest in a new Aquatics Facility in Manhattan Beach was found to be widespread, to what extent does that interest translate into a willingness to support various funding alternatives? As shown in Figure 27 below, more than two-thirds of respondents (71%) supported increasing fees paid by those who use city aquatics and recreational facilities and programs to raise funds for a new Aquatics Center. When it comes to increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year (28%) or increasing the local sales tax rate by 1/4 cent (28%), however, less than one-third of respondents supported these approaches to funding a new Aquatics Center.

**Question 17** *Building a new Aquatics Center will require raising additional funds. As I read the following funding alternatives, I'd like to know which options you are willing to support and which you oppose.*

**FIGURE 27 SUPPORT FOR AQUATICS CENTER FUNDING OPTIONS**



Tables 28-33 on the following page detail the level of support for each funding alternative tested in Question 17 at the subgroup level. Raising user fees was consistently the top-supported funding alternative across all subgroups. It is noteworthy that even among pool users, support for increasing local property taxes or the local sales tax rate fell well short of the two-thirds threshold that would be required to pass a special tax of this nature.

**TABLE 28 SUPPORT FOR AQUATICS CENTER FUNDING OPTIONS BY YEARS IN MANHATTAN BEACH & HOME OWNERSHIP STATUS (SHOWING % SUPPORT)**

	Years in Manhattan Beach (Q1)				Home Ownership Status (QD3)	
	Less than 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 or more	Own	Rent
Increasing fees paid by those who use city aquatics, rec facilities, programs	76.7	73.3	67.7	69.4	73.7	65.9
Increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year	33.4	35.8	31.5	24.3	24.6	36.5
Increasing the local sales tax rate by ¼ cent	19.7	30.7	40.6	26.7	26.6	30.8

**TABLE 29 SUPPORT FOR AQUATICS CENTER FUNDING OPTIONS BY AGES OF HSLD MEMBERS (SHOWING % SUPPORT)**

	Ages of HslD Members (Q2)					
	Child under 5	Child 5-12	Teen 13-17	Adult 18-49	Adult 50-64	Adult 65+
Increasing fees paid by those who use city aquatics, rec facilities, programs	83.6	83.5	78.4	71.9	71.6	62.4
Increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year	41.5	46.1	34.7	32.0	25.8	19.8
Increasing the local sales tax rate by ¼ cent	37.4	36.9	29.3	29.5	25.9	27.9

**TABLE 30 SUPPORT FOR AQUATICS CENTER FUNDING OPTIONS BY ETHNICITY & GENDER (SHOWING % SUPPORT)**

	Ethnicity (QD5)				Gender (QD2)	
	Latino/Hispanic	Asian American	Caucasian / White	Mixed or other	Male	Female
Increasing fees paid by those who use city aquatics, rec facilities, programs	66.6	67.4	72.4	60.5	70.6	71.7
Increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year	26.8	17.7	32.1	33.8	34.1	23.9
Increasing the local sales tax rate by ¼ cent	24.8	23.5	29.9	28.6	33.5	22.5

**TABLE 31 SUPPORT FOR AQUATICS CENTER FUNDING OPTIONS BY HSLD POOL USE, CHILD IN HSLD & SENIOR IN HSLD (SHOWING % SUPPORT)**

	At least 1x per wk	HslD Pool Use (Q2c,3c)			Child in HslD (Q2)		Senior in HslD (Q2)	
		1-3 x per mo	<1x per mo	Never	Yes	No	Yes	No
		Increasing fees paid by those who use city aquatics, rec facilities, programs	69.5	68.0	70.3	73.9	80.5	66.3
Increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year	48.8	26.6	29.1	16.2	37.9	22.5	19.8	32.5
Increasing the local sales tax rate by ¼ cent	40.6	34.2	29.9	17.6	32.9	24.9	27.9	27.6

**TABLE 32 SUPPORT FOR AQUATICS CENTER FUNDING OPTIONS BY HSLD REC FACILITY, COMMUNITY CENTER VISIT & HSLD BEGG POOL VISIT IN PAST 2 YEARS (SHOWING % SUPPORT)**

	HslD Rec Facility, Community Center Visit (Q2b,3b)				HslD Begg Pool Visit in Past 2 Years (Q8)	
	At least 1x per wk	1-3 x per mo	<1x per mo	Never	Yes	No
Increasing fees paid by those who use city aquatics, rec facilities, programs	71.8	81.3	69.8	65.9	74.5	71.1
Increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year	32.9	25.7	30.2	22.8	45.4	22.7
Increasing the local sales tax rate by ¼ cent	41.4	25.7	24.5	19.9	39.5	24.2

**TABLE 33 SUPPORT FOR AQUATICS CENTER FUNDING OPTIONS BY INTEREST IN AQUATIC CENTER & HSLD POOL TYPE USE (SHOWING % SUPPORT)**

	Interest in Aquatics Center (Q13)			HslD Pool Type Use (Q5)			
	Very interested	Smwt interested	Slightly, not interested	Private	Public pool	Both	None
Increasing fees paid by those who use city aquatics, rec facilities, programs	70.1	80.8	66.8	68.9	66.7	72.7	73.9
Increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year	51.1	25.1	11.5	26.4	40.7	45.5	16.2
Increasing the local sales tax rate by ¼ cent	42.9	29.1	15.3	28.3	35.6	40.6	17.6



# BACKGROUND & DEMOGRAPHICS

**TABLE 34 DEMOGRAPHICS OF SAMPLE**

<i>Total Respondents</i>	574
<b>Years in Manhattan Beach (Q1)</b>	
Less than 5	15.7
5 to 9	14.3
10 to 14	12.3
15 or more	57.6
Prefer not to answer	0.1
<b>Child in Hsld (Q2)</b>	
Yes	37.0
No	60.7
Prefer not to answer	2.3
<b>Senior in Hsld (Q2)</b>	
Yes	31.4
No	65.9
Prefer not to answer	2.7
<b>Age (QD1)</b>	
Under 35	16.5
35 to 44	19.5
45 to 54	22.5
55 to 64	18.4
65 or older	18.6
Prefer not to answer	4.6
<b>Gender (QD2)</b>	
Male	48.7
Female	46.4
Prefer not to answer	4.9
<b>Home Ownership Status (QD3)</b>	
Own	66.1
Rent	31.6
Prefer not to answer	2.2
<b>Employment Status (QD4)</b>	
Full-time	56.0
Part-time	6.3
Homemaker	4.8
Retired	22.5
Prefer not to answer	10.5
<b>Ethnicity (QD5)</b>	
Latino / Hispanic	9.2
Asian American	12.0
Caucasian / White	67.1
Mixed or other	4.5
Prefer not to answer	7.3

Table 34 presents the key demographic information collected during the survey. Although the primary motivation for collecting the background and demographic information was to provide a better insight into how the results of the substantive questions of the survey vary by demographic characteristics, it was also a means to ensure that the resulting sample matched the profile of Manhattan Beach's adult resident population on key characteristics according to the latest Census estimates.



## M E T H O D O L O G Y

The following sections outline the methodology used in the study, as well as the motivation for using certain techniques.

**QUESTIONNAIRE DEVELOPMENT** Dr. McLarney of True North Research worked closely with the City of Manhattan Beach to develop a questionnaire that covered the topics of interest and avoided many possible sources of systematic measurement error, including position-order effects, wording effects, response-category effects, scaling effects, and priming. Several questions included multiple individual items. Because asking items in a set order can lead to a systematic position bias in responses, the items were asked in a random order for each respondent.

Some questions asked in this study were presented only to a subset of respondents. For example, only respondents who indicated a member of their household had visited Begg Pool during the past two years (Question 9) were asked what types of activities they engaged in at Begg Pool (Question 10). The questionnaire included with this report (see *Questionnaire & Toplines* on page 34) identifies the skip patterns used during the interview to ensure that each respondent received the appropriate questions.

**PROGRAMMING & PRE-TEST** Prior to fielding the survey, the questionnaire was CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing) programmed to assist interviewers when conducting the telephone interviews. The CATI program automatically navigates the skip patterns, randomizes the appropriate question items, and alerts interviewers to certain types of keypunching mistakes should they happen during the interview. The survey was also programmed into a passcode-protected online survey application to allow residents who preferred to complete the survey online the opportunity to do so. The integrity of the questionnaire was pre-tested internally by True North and by dialing into random homes in the City prior to formally beginning the survey.

**SAMPLE, RECRUITING & DATA COLLECTION** A comprehensive database of Manhattan Beach households was utilized for this study, ensuring that all households in Manhattan Beach had the opportunity to be selected to participate in the survey. Once selected at random, contact information was appended to each record including email addresses and telephone numbers for adult residents. Individuals were subsequently recruited to participate in the survey through multiple recruiting methods. Using a combination of email and text invitations, sampled residents were initially invited to participate in the survey online at a secure, passcode-protected website designed and hosted by True North. Each individual was assigned a unique passcode to ensure that only Manhattan Beach residents who received an invitation could access the online survey site, and that the survey could be completed only one time per passcode. An email reminder notice was also sent to encourage participation among those who had yet to take the survey. Following a period of online data collection, True North placed telephone calls to land lines and cell phone numbers of sampled residents that had yet to participate in the online survey or for whom only telephone contact information was available.

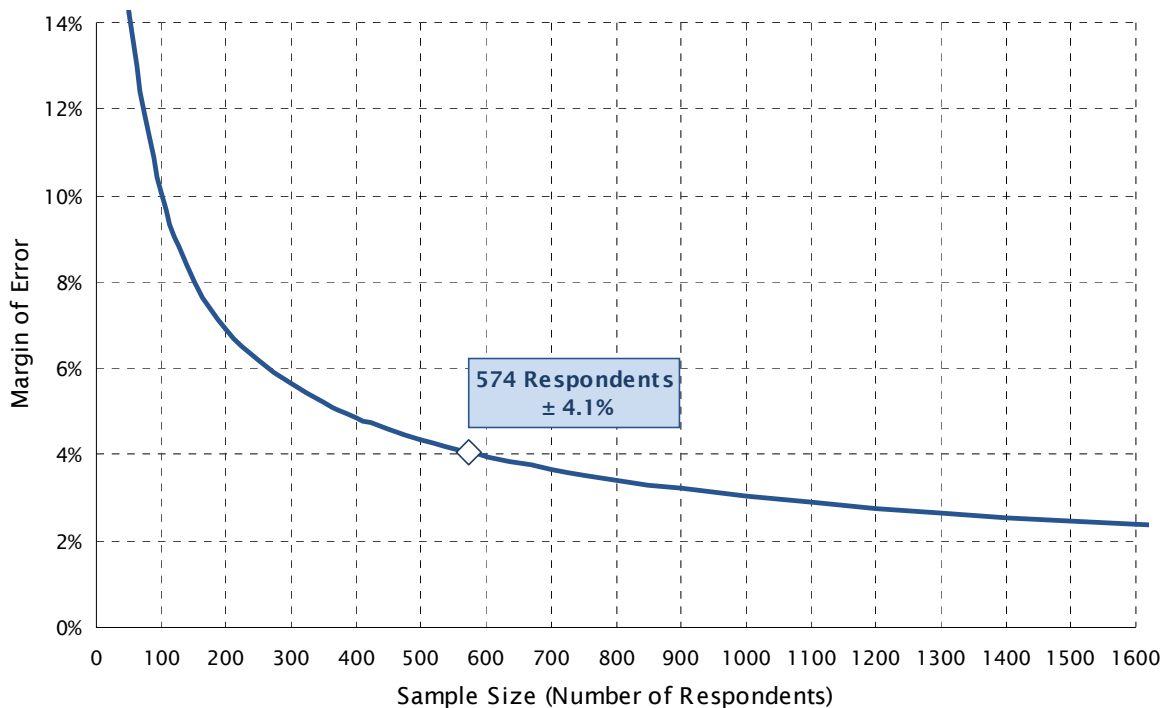
Telephone interviews averaged 15 minutes in length and were conducted during weekday evenings (5:30PM to 9PM) and on weekends (10AM to 5PM). It is standard practice not to call during the day on weekdays because most working adults are unavailable and thus calling during those

hours would bias the sample. A total of 574 completed surveys were gathered online and by telephone between October 8 and October 16, 2022.

**MARGIN OF ERROR DUE TO SAMPLING** Because this survey captured the interests and activities of the entire household (not just the respondent), the results of the survey can be used to estimate the interests and activities of all households in the City. Because not every household in the City participated in the survey, however, the results have what is known as a statistical margin of error due to sampling. The margin of error refers to the difference between what was found in the survey of 574 respondents for a particular question and what would have been found if all of the estimated 13,313 Manhattan Beach households<sup>3</sup> had been interviewed.

Figure 28 provides a plot of the *maximum* margin of error in this study. The maximum margin of error for a dichotomous percentage result occurs when the answers are evenly split such that 50% provide one response and 50% provide the alternative response. For this survey, the maximum margin of error is  $\pm 4.1\%$  for questions answered by all 574 respondents.

**FIGURE 28 MAXIMUM MARGIN OF ERROR**



Within this report, figures and tables show how responses to certain questions varied by demographic characteristics such as length of residence and age of the respondent. Figure 28 is thus useful for understanding how the maximum margin of error for a percentage estimate will grow as the number of individuals asked a question (or in a particular subgroup) shrinks. Because the margin of error grows exponentially as the sample size decreases, the reader should use caution when generalizing and interpreting the results for small subgroups.

3. Source: U.S. Census Bureau estimate for Manhattan Beach, 2016-2020.



**DATA PROCESSING & WEIGHTING** Data processing consisted of checking the data for errors or inconsistencies, coding and recoding responses, categorizing verbatim responses, and preparing frequency analyses and cross-tabulations. The final data were weighted to balance the sample by age and home ownership status according to Census estimates.

**ROUNDING** Numbers that end in 0.5 or higher are rounded up to the nearest whole number, whereas numbers that end in 0.4 or lower are rounded down to the nearest whole number. These same rounding rules are also applied, when needed, to arrive at numbers that include a decimal place in constructing figures and charts. Occasionally, these rounding rules lead to small discrepancies in the first decimal place when comparing tables and figures for a given question.

# QUESTIONNAIRE & TOPLINES



City of Manhattan Beach  
Aquatics Center Survey  
Final Toplines (n=574)  
October 2022

**Section 1: Introduction to Study**

Hi, may I please speak to \_\_\_\_\_? Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling from TNR on behalf of the City of Manhattan Beach. The City is conducting a survey about important issues in Manhattan Beach and we would like to get your opinions.

*If needed:* This is a survey about important issues in your community, focusing on recreation interests. I'm NOT trying to sell anything and I won't ask for a donation.

*If needed:* The survey should take about 12 minutes to complete.

*If needed:* If now is not a convenient time, can you let me know a better time so I can call back?

*If needed:* Your responses to the survey will be confidential.

**Section 2: Household Profile**

Q1	To begin, how long have you lived in the City of Manhattan Beach?			
	1	Less than 1 year	3%	
	2	1 to 4 years	13%	
	3	5 to 9 years	14%	
	4	10 to 14 years	12%	
	5	15 years or longer	58%	
	99	Prefer not to answer	0%	
Q2	Next, let me ask you about the ages of people in your household. This will allow me to limit the survey to questions that are appropriate to your household.			
	Do you have _____ in your household?			
	<i>Read in Order</i>	Yes	No	Prefer not to answer
A	A child under the age of 5	12%	85%	2%
B	A child between 5 and 12	19%	79%	2%
C	A teenager between 13 and 17	17%	81%	2%
D	An adult between the ages of 18 and 49	58%	39%	4%
E	An adult between the ages of 50 and 64	46%	52%	3%
F	An adult 65 years of age or older	31%	66%	3%

<b>Section 3: Recreation Activities &amp; Swimming</b>										
Q3	Thinking of the <b>adult</b> members of your household, how often do they _____? At least once per week, two to three times per month, once per month, once every two or three months, a few times per year, less often than a few times per year, or never?									
	<i>Randomize</i>	At least 1 time per week	2 to 3 times per month	1 time per month	Once every 2 to 3 months	A few times per year	Less often than a few times per year	Never	Prefer not to answer	
A	Visit a park or open space area	56%	15%	9%	5%	9%	2%	3%	1%	
B	Visit a recreation facility or community center	20%	9%	8%	7%	11%	16%	27%	1%	
C	Use a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports	20%	6%	5%	7%	8%	9%	44%	1%	
D	Play pickleball	9%	4%	6%	6%	5%	6%	62%	1%	
E	Go to a gym for exercise	54%	7%	4%	2%	2%	4%	26%	2%	
<i>Ask Q4 if Q2a=1, Q2b=1, OR Q2c=1. Otherwise skip to instruction preceding Q5.</i>										
Q4	Thinking of the <b>children or teenage</b> members of your household, how often do they _____? At least once per week, two to three times per month, once per month, once every two or three months, a few times per year, less often than a few times per year, or never?									
	<i>Randomize</i>	At least 1 time per week	2 to 3 times per month	1 time per month	Once every 2 to 3 months	A few times per year	Less often than a few times per year	Never	Prefer not to answer	
A	Visit a park or open space area	63%	22%	4%	3%	3%	1%	4%	1%	
B	Visit a recreation facility or community center	32%	11%	5%	6%	8%	11%	26%	1%	
C	Use a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports	36%	13%	5%	5%	7%	6%	27%	1%	
D	Play pickleball	2%	3%	4%	4%	7%	8%	67%	3%	
E	Go to a gym for exercise	30%	6%	4%	3%	3%	2%	49%	4%	
<i>Ask Q5 if Q3c=(1-6) OR Q4c=(1-6).</i>										
Q5	You mentioned that one or more members of your household use a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports. Do they do this at a pool at a private residence, or at a pool that is open to the public – or both?									
	1	Private Residence Pool								28%
	2	Public Pool								39%
	3	Both								23%
	98	Not sure								7%
	99	Prefer not to answer								2%

Ask Q6 if Q5=(2,3).		
Q6	Which public or club pools do members of your household use? <i>Check all that apply.</i>	
	1	Begg Pool (Manhattan Beach municipal pool) 41%
	2	Badminton Club Pool 5%
	3	Bay Club Pool 25%
	4	The Club Pool/Manhattan Country Club Pool 20%
	5	Mira Costa High School Pool 14%
	6	El Segundo/Wiseburn Aquatics Center 21%
	7	Hawthorne Pool 10%
	8	Torrance Aquatics Center 4%
	9	Torrance Victor E Benstead Plunge 3%
	10	Redondo Union High School Aquatic Center 6%
	11	Other 8%
	98	Not sure 3%
	99	Prefer not to answer 2%
Ask Q7 if [(Q2a=1, Q2b=1, OR Q2c=1) AND Q3c=7 AND Q4c=7] OR [(Q2a≠1, Q2b≠1, AND Q2c≠1) AND Q3c=7]		
Q7	Is there a particular reason that your household doesn't use a pool for swimming, water programs, or water sports? Verbatim responses recorded and later grouped into categories shown below.	
	Not sure / No particular reason 50%	
	Don't like to swim, prefer other activities, sports 12%	
	Prefer ocean, live close to it 7%	
	Not aware of public pool options 6%	
	Have own pool 6%	
	Member of club with pool, but don't use 4%	
	Health concerns, COVID-19 3%	
	Cleanliness, sanitation, chlorine 3%	
	Resident too old, disabled 3%	
	Too crowded 2%	
	Pool is too old, in bad condition 2%	
	Hours of operation 1%	
	Available pools too small, shallow 1%	
	Water temperature too cold 1%	
	No time 1%	

Section 4: Begg Pool									
Q8	In the past two years, have you or other members of your household visited <b>Begg Pool</b> , which is the municipal pool for Manhattan Beach?								
	1	Yes	26%	Ask Q9					
	2	No	72%	Skip to Q10					
	98	Not sure	2%	Skip to Q10					
	99	Prefer not to answer	1%	Skip to Q10					
Q9	As I read the following list of activities, please indicate whether you or other members of your household have engaged in this activity at <b>Begg Pool</b> during the past 2 years. Yes means you have, no means you haven't. Here is the (first/next) one: -----.								
		<i>Randomize</i>	Yes	No	Prefer not to answer				
A	Swim lessons		32%	66%	2%				
B	Masters swim		9%	89%	2%				
C	Lap swim		43%	55%	1%				
D	Swim team		18%	79%	2%				
E	Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics		10%	88%	2%				
F	Summer camp programs		21%	78%	2%				
G	CPR or water safety classes		3%	95%	2%				
H	Recreational water play		47%	51%	2%				
I	Swim classes required by Manhattan Beach Middle School		21%	77%	2%				
Q10	From your own experiences and what you may have heard from others, how would you rate: ----- Begg Pool? Would you say it is excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor?								
		<i>Randomize A-E, but ask item F last</i>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Not sure	Prefer not to answer
A	The condition of the pool at		4%	14%	18%	6%	3%	48%	5%
B	The condition of facilities like changing rooms, lockers, and bathrooms at		2%	7%	15%	11%	8%	52%	6%
C	The availability of classes and programs at		3%	11%	12%	5%	3%	60%	7%
D	The ability to get a swimming lane at		2%	7%	10%	8%	3%	65%	6%
E	The availability of parking at		13%	21%	10%	3%	2%	47%	5%
F	The overall experience when visiting		4%	16%	17%	6%	2%	50%	6%
<i>Ask Q11 if Q10F=(1-5).</i>									

Q11	Is there a particular reason why you rated the overall experience when visiting Begg Pool as ____? <i>Pipe answer from Q10F.</i> Verbatim responses recorded and later grouped into categories shown below.	
	Not sure, no particular reason	29%
	Facilities are old, need updating	26%
	Pool is too small, shallow	10%
	Positive comments in general	9%
	Poor condition of pool water and area	9%
	Limited availability of classes, free swim time	9%
	Inexpensive, affordable	9%
	Pool water clean, warm	7%
	Good, nice staff, trainers	5%
	No personal use, only heard from friends, family	4%
	Too crowded	3%
	Pool water too cold	2%
	Limited parking	2%
	Sufficient parking	2%
	High quality classes	2%
	Too expensive	1%
<i>Ask Q12 if Q5=(2,3) AND Q8=2.</i>		
Q12	You mentioned your household uses other public pools in the area, but not Begg Pool. Is there a particular reason why you don't use Begg Pool? Verbatim responses recorded and later grouped into categories shown below.	
	Not sure, no particular reason	30%
	Not aware, never heard of it	19%
	Belong to a club with pool	14%
	Limited availability of classes, free swim time	10%
	Facilities are old, need updating	9%
	Pool is too small, shallow	8%
	Poor condition of pool water and area	3%
	Too crowded	3%
	Limited parking	2%
	Have used Begg Pool before, like it but prefer others	2%

Section 5: New Aquatics Facility								
Q13	Begg Pool was built in 1940, about 82 years ago. Although it has been renovated multiple times, the pool has reached an age where it may be more cost-effective to replace the pool with a new Aquatics Center.							
	If the City were to build a new Aquatics Center, how interested would your household be in using the Aquatics Center? Would you say very interested, somewhat interested, slightly interested, or not interested?							
	1	Very interested						35%
	2	Somewhat interested						21%
	3	Slightly interested						11%
	4	Not interested						25%
	98	Not sure						6%
99	Prefer not to answer						1%	
Q14	If built, the Aquatics Center could have a number of features and amenities. As I read each of the following amenities, I'd like you to indicate whether you think the amenity should be a high, medium or low priority for inclusion in the Aquatics Center - or if you think it should not be a part of the Center. Please keep in mind that not all of the amenities can be high priorities.							
	Here is the (first/next) one: _____. Should this amenity be a high, medium or low priority for the Aquatics Center - or should the Center not include this amenity?							
		<i>Randomize</i>	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Should not include in Center	Not sure	Prefer not to answer
	A	A <b>35-meter pool</b> for swimming laps, swim competitions, and water sports	64%	17%	4%	3%	9%	3%
	B	A <b>shallow pool</b> for swim lessons, water aerobics, water therapy, and children's programming	44%	30%	10%	5%	9%	3%
	C	A small <b>very shallow pool</b> for use by adults with infants and toddlers	25%	28%	23%	8%	13%	3%
	D	A <b>splash pad</b> for interactive child play	20%	27%	25%	10%	14%	3%
	E	A "wet" classroom for teaching CPR, water safety, junior lifeguards, and swim lessons	34%	32%	16%	4%	10%	3%
	F	Poolside cabanas available for rental	10%	22%	37%	19%	8%	4%
	G	Grassy area for picnics and functions	25%	30%	24%	8%	10%	3%

Q15		Is there a feature or amenity I <i>didn't</i> mention that you think should be a high priority for inclusion in a new Aquatics Center? <i>If yes, ask: Please describe it to me. Verbatim responses recorded and later grouped into categories shown below.</i>		
	Not sure / Cannot think of anything specific	66%		
	Showers, locker rooms, restrooms	5%		
	Diving platforms, boards	4%		
	Snack bar, restaurant	3%		
	Bigger, deeper pool, 50-meter	3%		
	Shaded seating areas	3%		
	Sauna	2%		
	Better variety of classes for all ages	2%		
	Hot tub	2%		
	Waterslide	1%		
	Additional lap lanes	1%		
	Pool, swimming equipment	1%		
	Heated pool	1%		
	Indoor pool	1%		
	Kid pool, splash area	1%		
	Pool area, amenities for disabled people	1%		
	Saltwater pool	1%		
	Outdoor pool	1%		
	Separate pool, areas for adults their children	1%		
	Pool for dogs, puppies	1%		
	No need for pool, increased taxes	1%		
Q16		If the new Aquatics Center is built, do you expect that one or more members of your household would participate in _____ at the Center?		
	<i>Randomize</i>	Yes	No	Prefer not to answer
A	Swim lessons	33%	64%	4%
B	Swimming for exercise	64%	33%	3%
C	Swim team	21%	76%	3%
D	Therapy, senior classes, or water aerobics	38%	59%	3%
E	Summer camp programs	26%	71%	4%
F	CPR or water safety classes	36%	60%	4%
G	Recreational water play	44%	52%	4%



Q17	Building a new Aquatics Center will require raising additional funds. As I read the following funding alternatives, I'd like to know which options you are willing to support and which you oppose. Here's (the first/an <u>alternative</u> ) approach: _____. Would you support or oppose this approach to funding a new Aquatics Center?	Support	Oppose	No Opinion	Prefer not to answer
	<i>Randomize</i>				
A	Increasing the fees paid by those who use city aquatics and recreation facilities and programs	71%	17%	10%	2%
B	Increasing local property taxes by \$140 per year	28%	58%	12%	2%
C	Increasing the local sales tax rate by ¼ cent	28%	61%	9%	2%

### Section 6: Background & Demographics

Thank you so much for your participation. I have just a few background questions for statistical purposes.

D1	In what year were you born? Year coded into age categories shown below.		
	18 to 24		4%
	25 to 34		13%
	35 to 44		19%
	45 to 54		22%
	55 to 64		18%
	65 or older		19%
	Prefer not to answer		5%
D2	What is your gender?		
	1	Male	49%
	2	Female	46%
	3	Non-binary	1%
	99	Prefer not to answer	4%
D3	Do you own or rent your residence in Manhattan Beach?		
	1	Own	66%
	2	Rent	32%
	99	Prefer not to answer	2%

D4 Which of the following best describes your employment status? Would you say you are employed full-time, part-time, a student, a homemaker, retired, or are you in-between jobs right now?		
1	Employed full-time	56%
2	Employed part-time	6%
3	Student	2%
4	Homemaker	5%
5	Retired	22%
6	In-between jobs	1%
99	Prefer not to answer	7%
D5 What ethnic group do you consider yourself a part of or feel closest to? <i>Read list if respondent hesitates</i>		
1	Latino/Hispanic	9%
2	Asian American -- Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino or other Asian	12%
3	Caucasian/White	67%
4	African-American/Black	2%
5	American Indian or Alaskan Native	<1%
6	Pacific Islander	<1%
7	Middle Eastern	1%
8	Mixed Heritage	1%
98	Other	1%
99	Prefer not to answer	7%

Thanks so much for participating in this important survey! This survey was conducted for the City of Manhattan Beach.

# AQUATICS CENTER SURVEY

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

PRESENTED BY  
TIMOTHY McLARNEY PH.D.

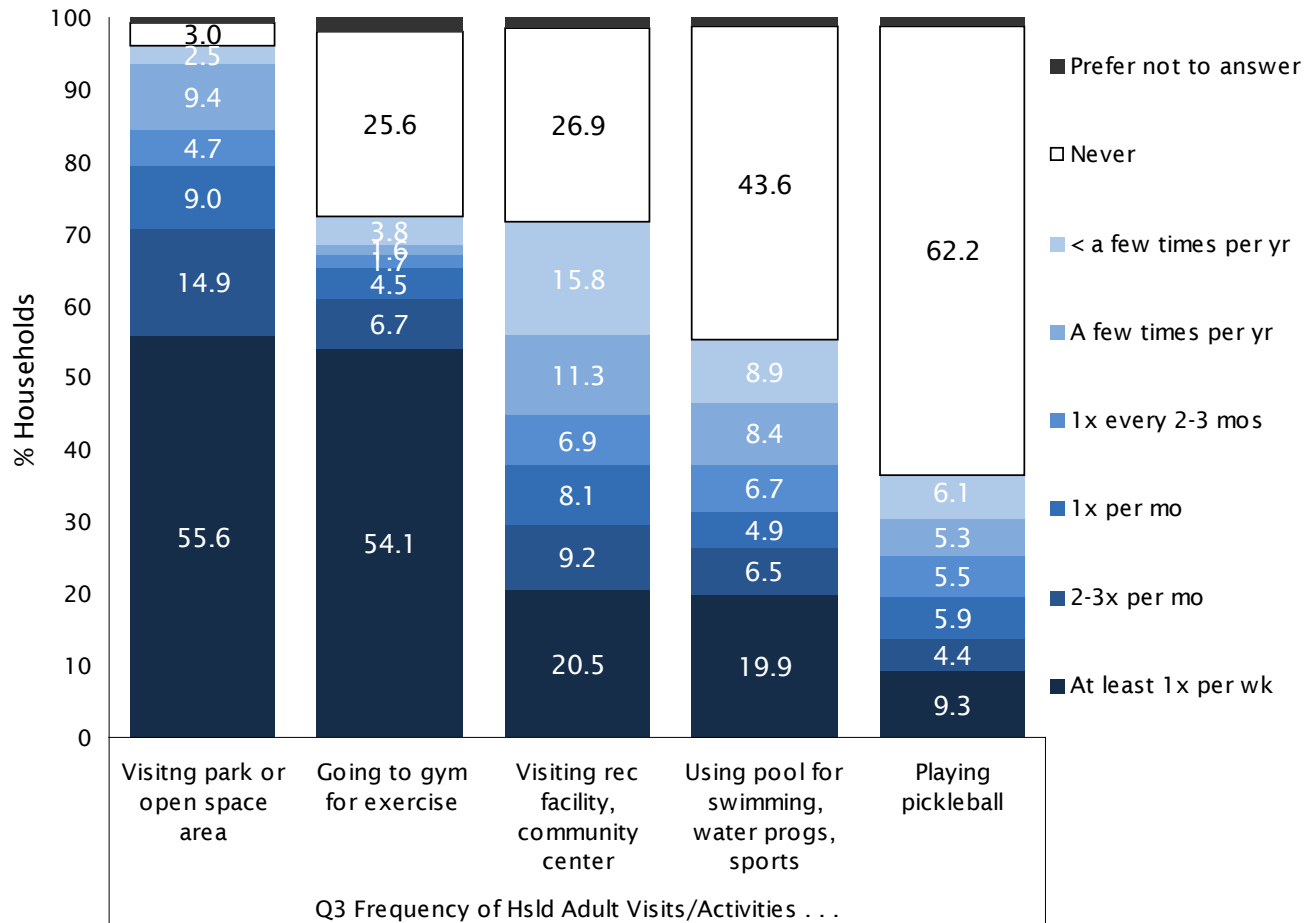
11/22/2022



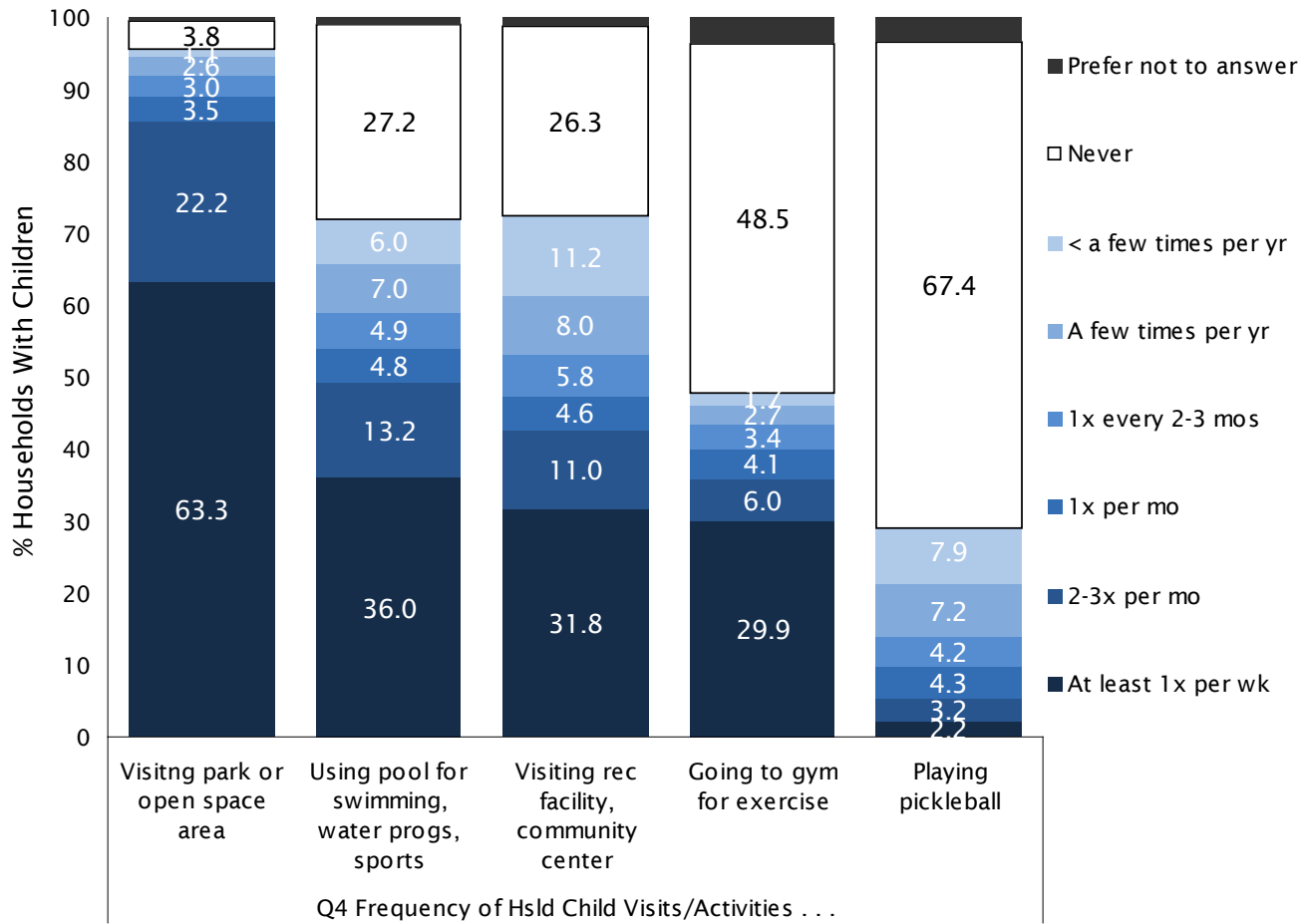
# METHODOLOGY OF STUDY

- **How did we select residents to survey?**
  - Stratified Random Sampling of households in Manhattan Beach & monitor demographics to match Census
  - Ensures balanced, representative sample of households
- **How did we recruit participation?**
  - Personalized email, text and/or telephone
  - PINs to restrict access and ensure one complete per respondent
- **How were residents able to share their opinions?**
  - Secure, PIN-protected website
  - Telephone (land line or mobile)
- **What was the sample size?**
  - 574 completed household interviews
  - Overall margin of error of  $\pm 4.1\%$  @ 95% level of confidence
- **When was the survey conducted?**
  - October 8th-16th, 2022

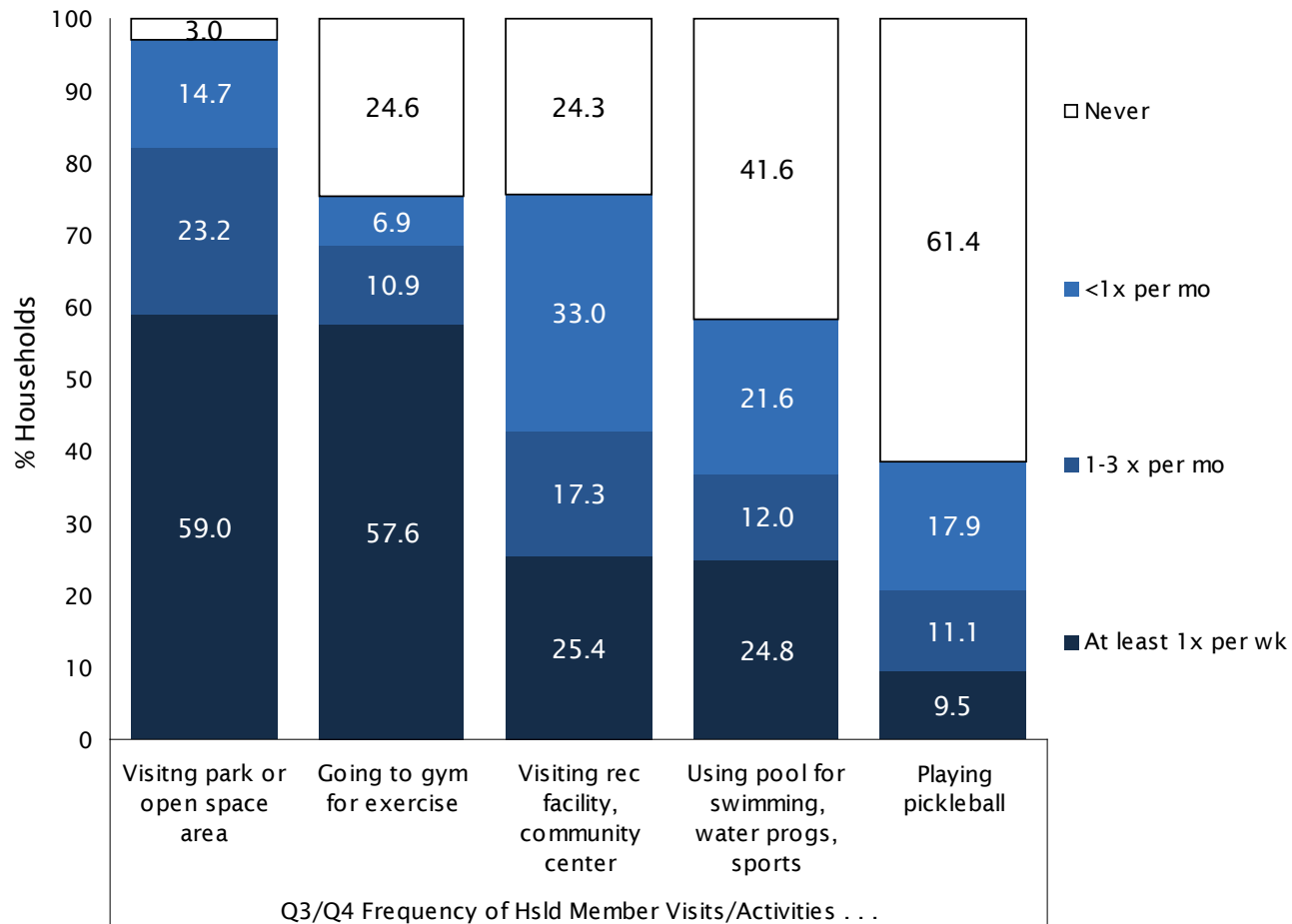
# FREQUENCY OF ADULT ACTIVITIES



# FREQUENCY OF CHILD/TEEN ACTIVITIES

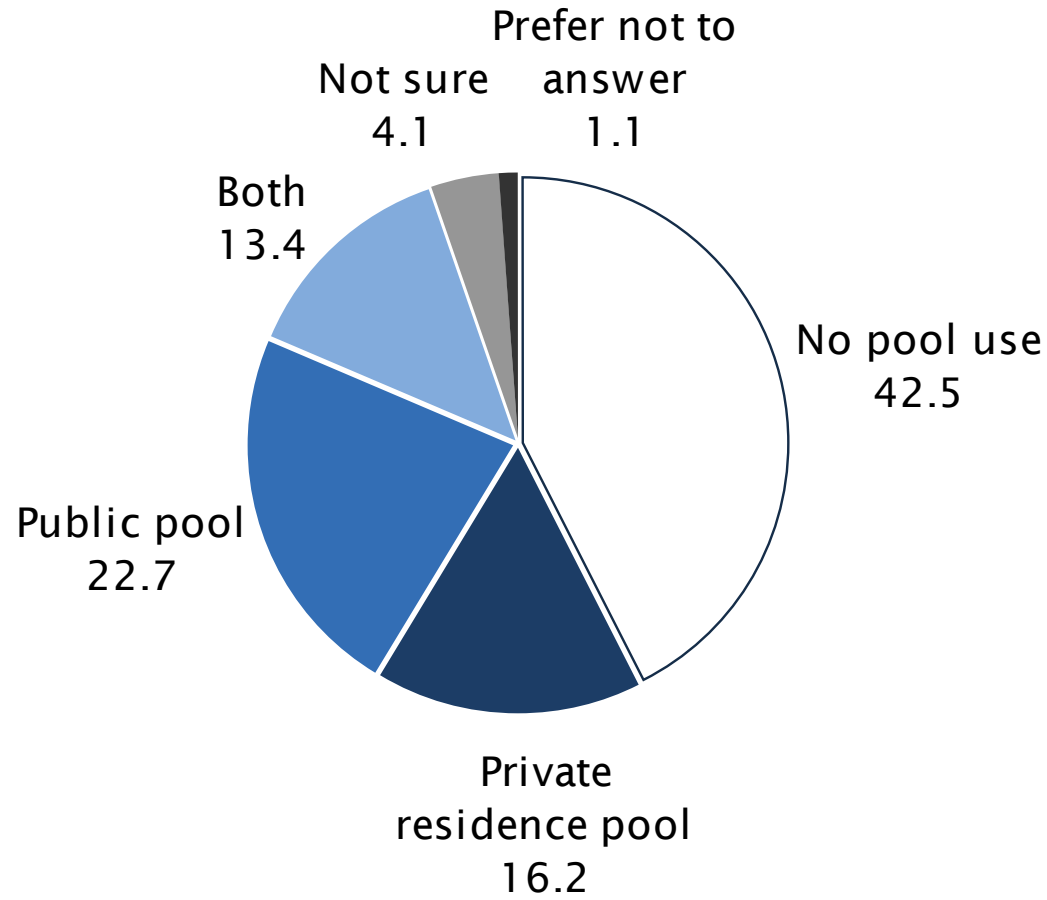


# FREQUENCY OF HOUSEHOLD ACTIVITIES



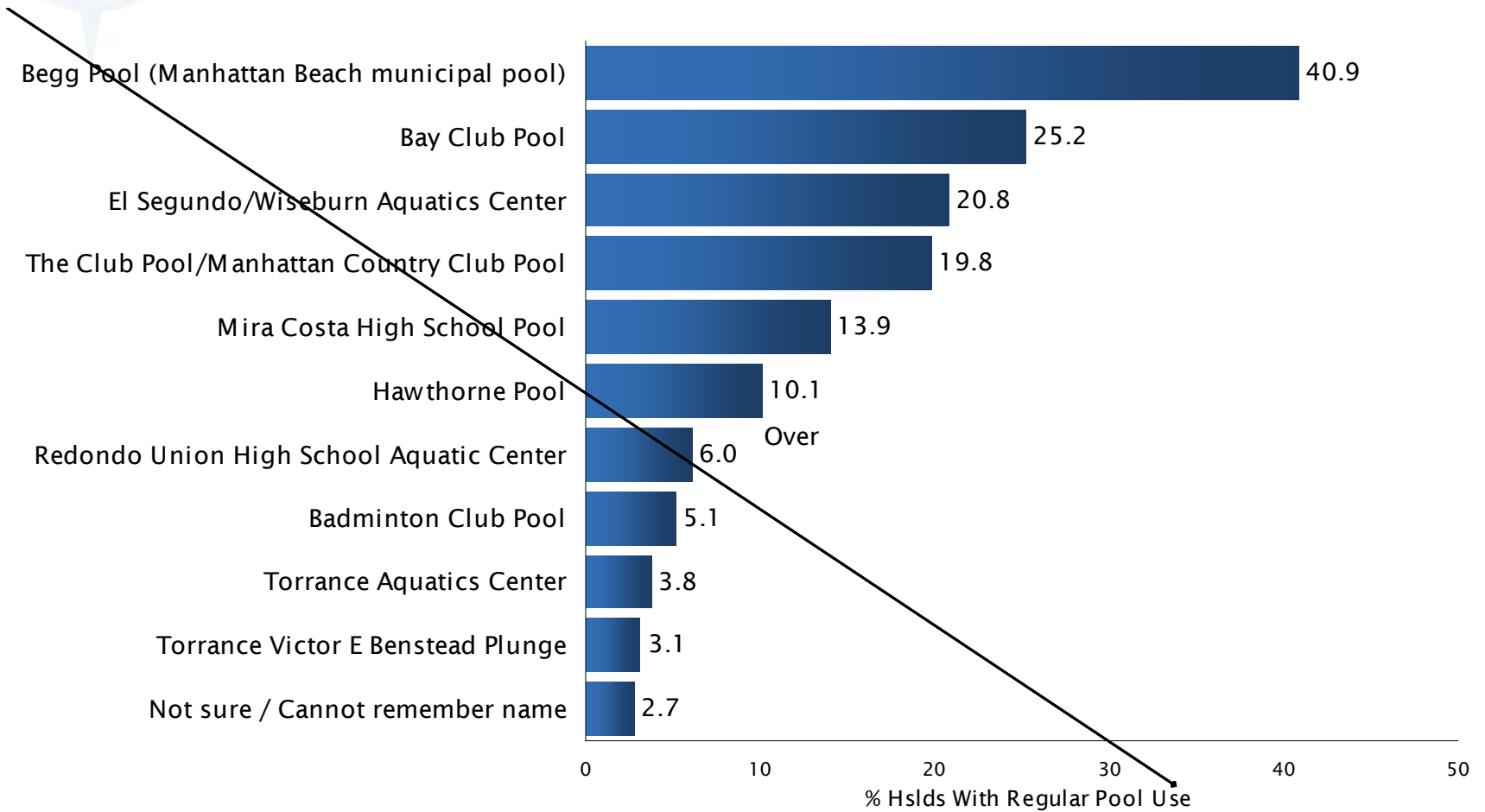


# TYPES OF POOLS USED

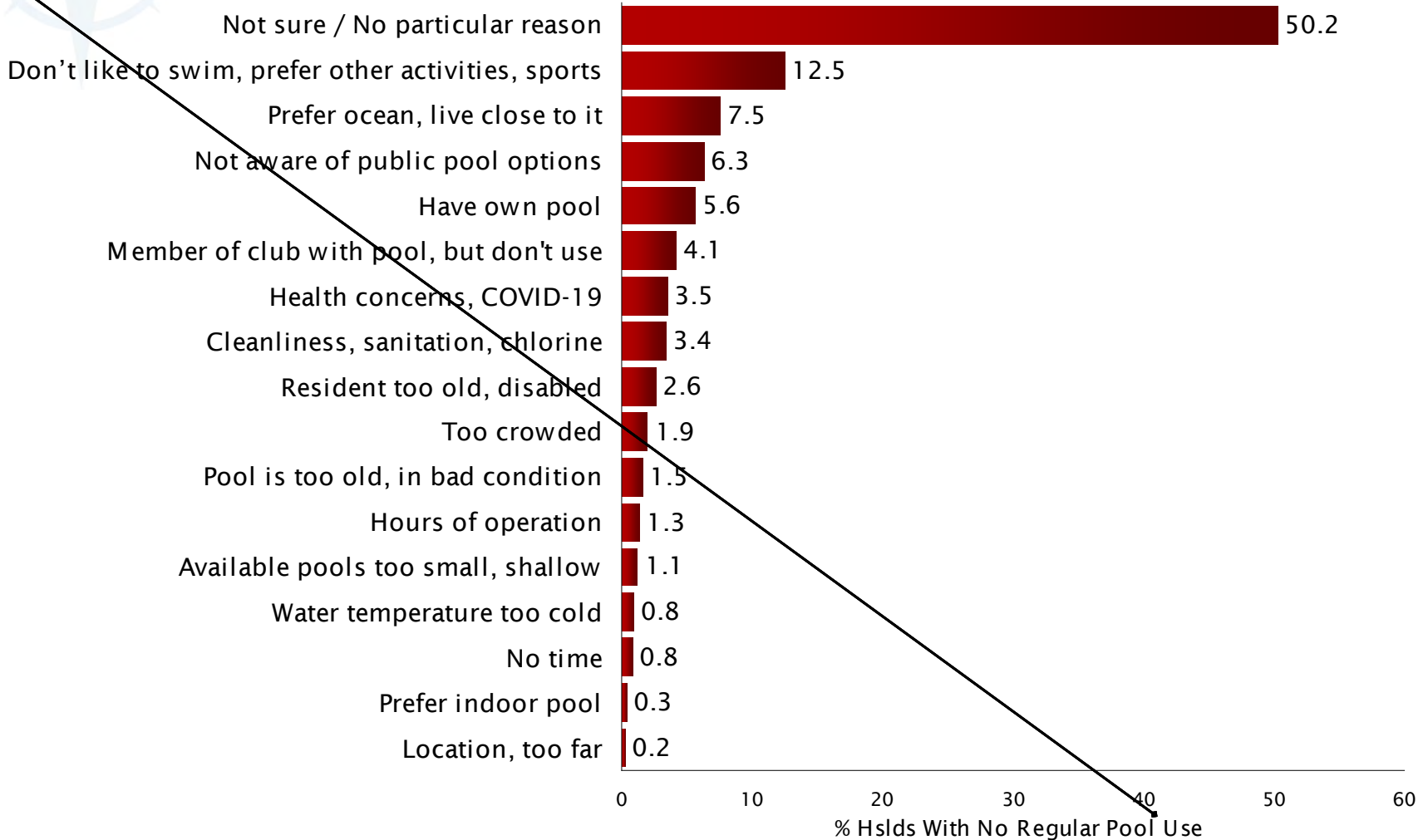




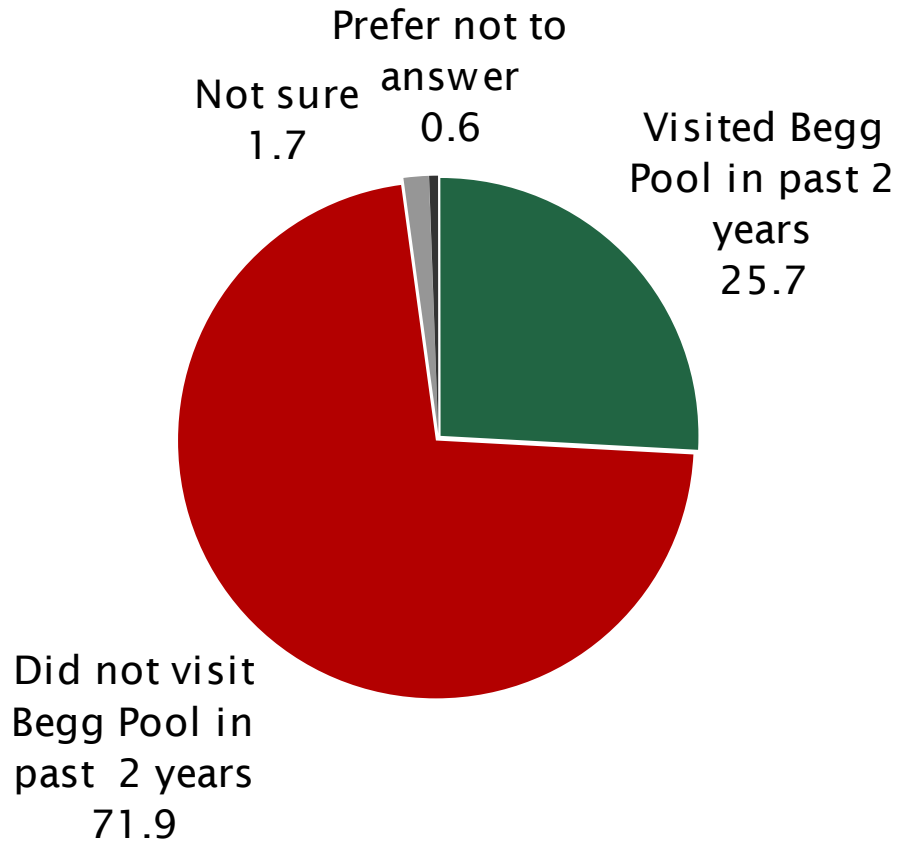
# PUBLIC POOLS USED



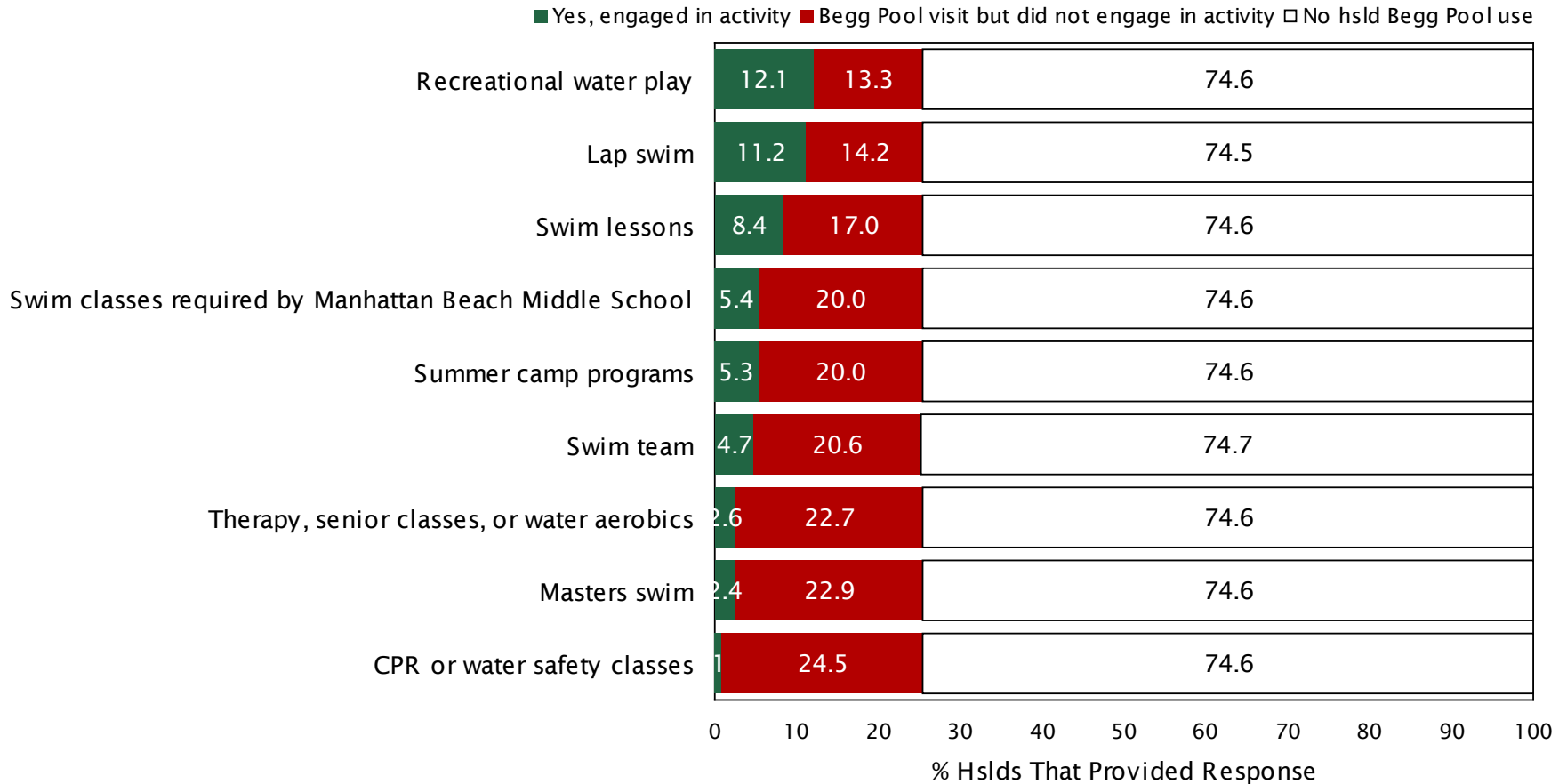
# REASONS FOR NOT USING POOL



# HOUSEHOLD VISITED BEGG POOL

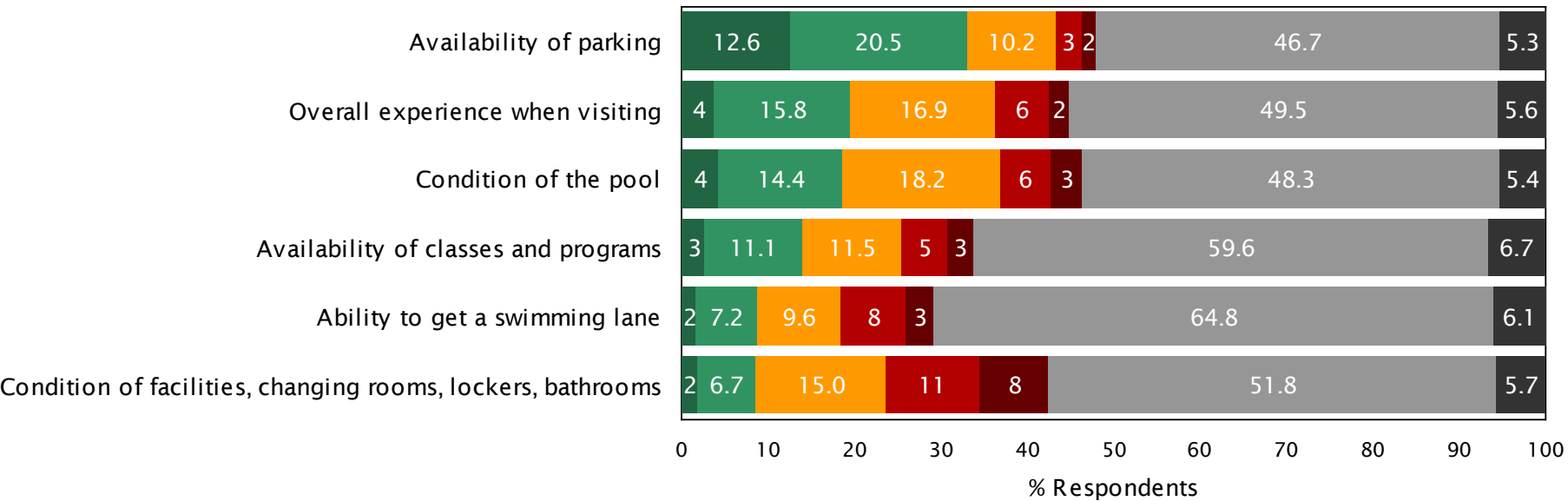


# HSLD ACTIVITIES AT BEGG POOL

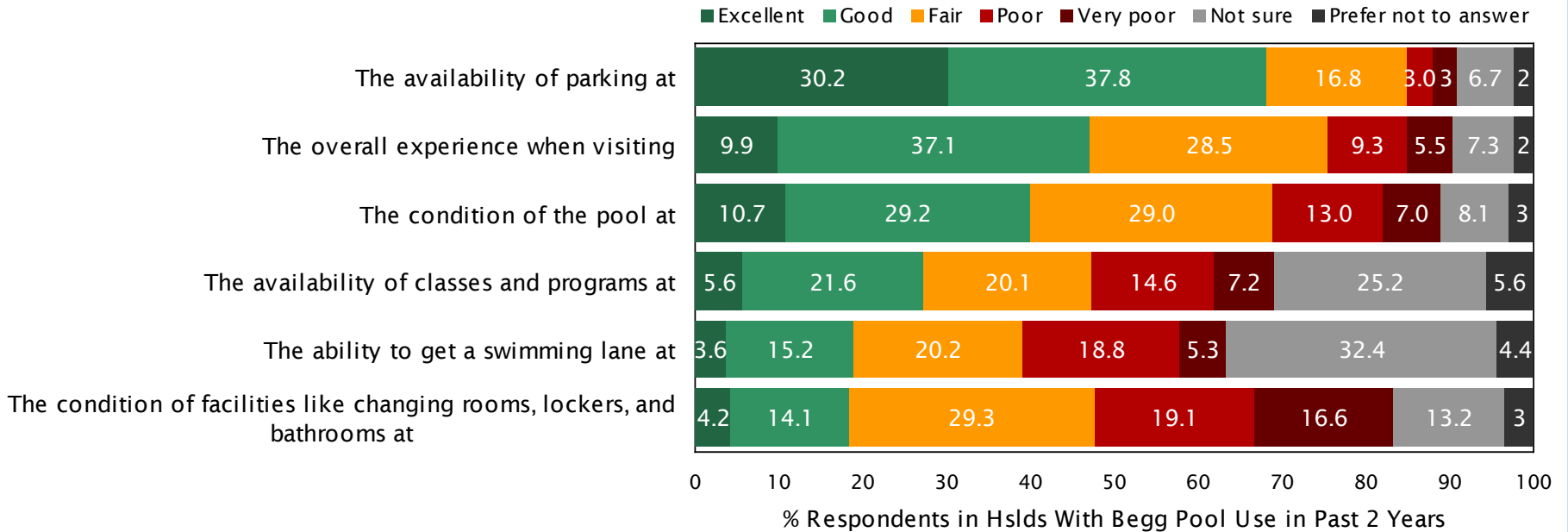


# RATING BEGG POOL

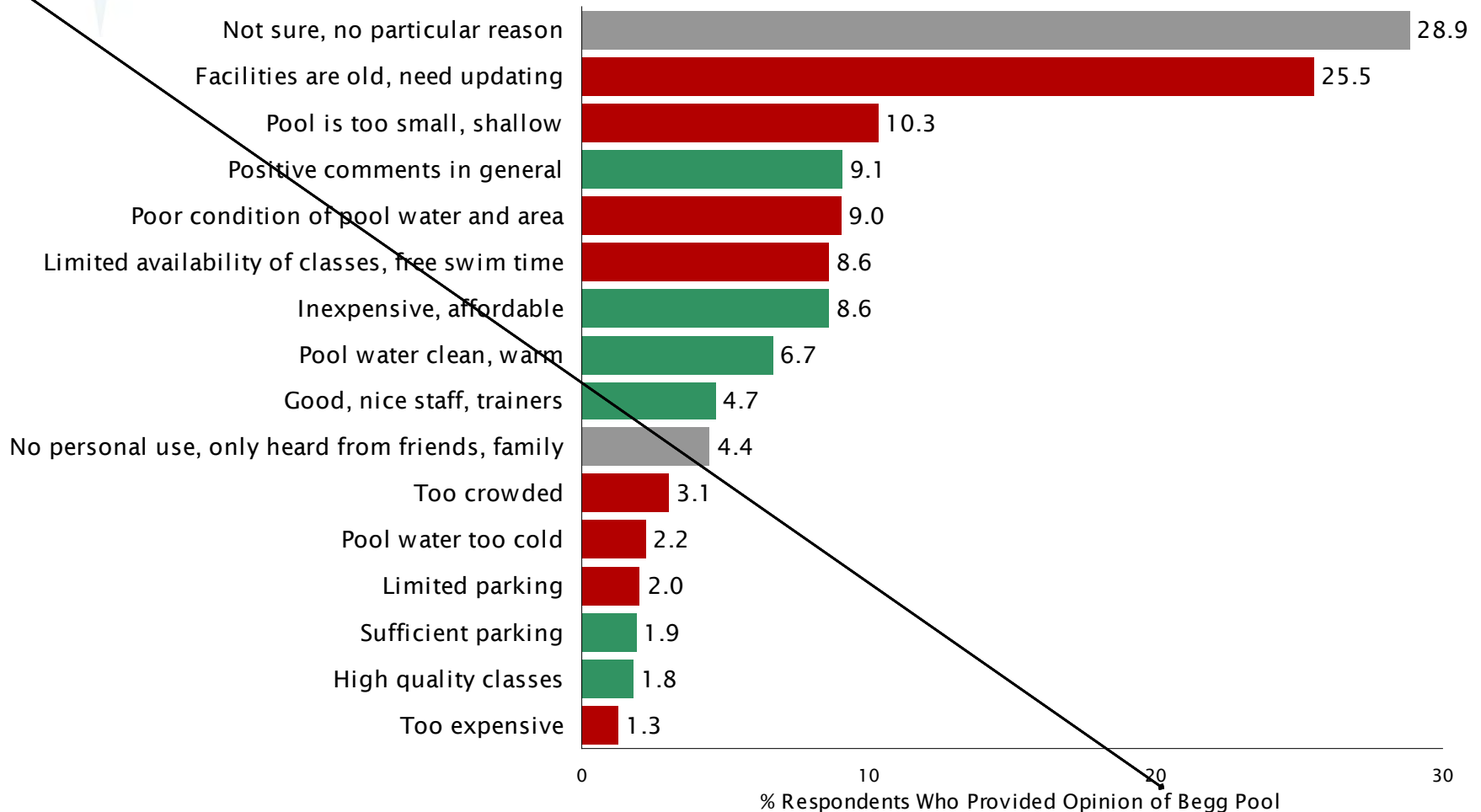
■ Excellent 
 ■ Good 
 ■ Fair 
 ■ Poor 
 ■ Very poor 
 ■ Not sure 
 ■ Prefer not to answer



# RATING BEGG POOL AMONG USERS

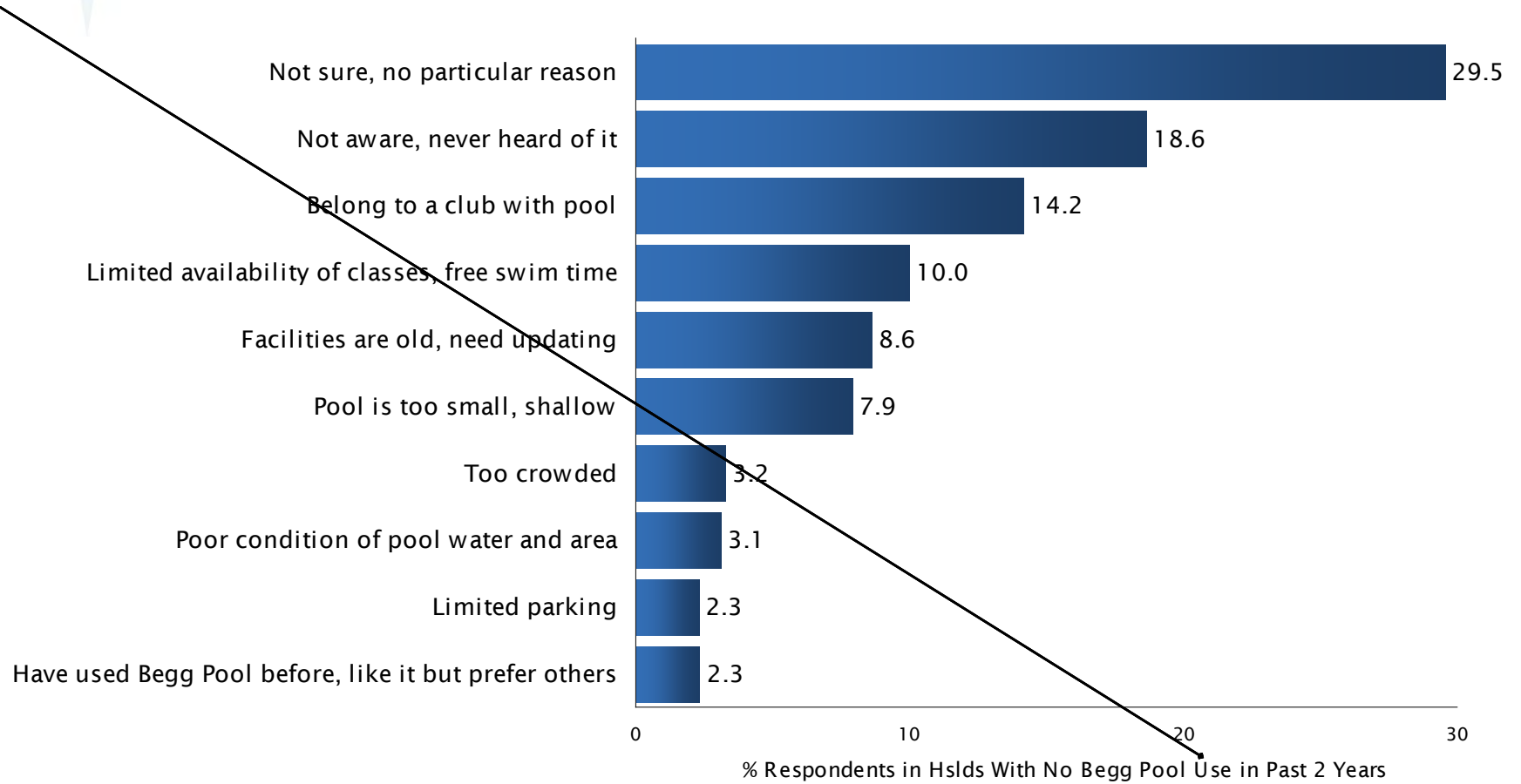


# REASONS FOR OPINION OF BEGG POOL EXPERIENCE



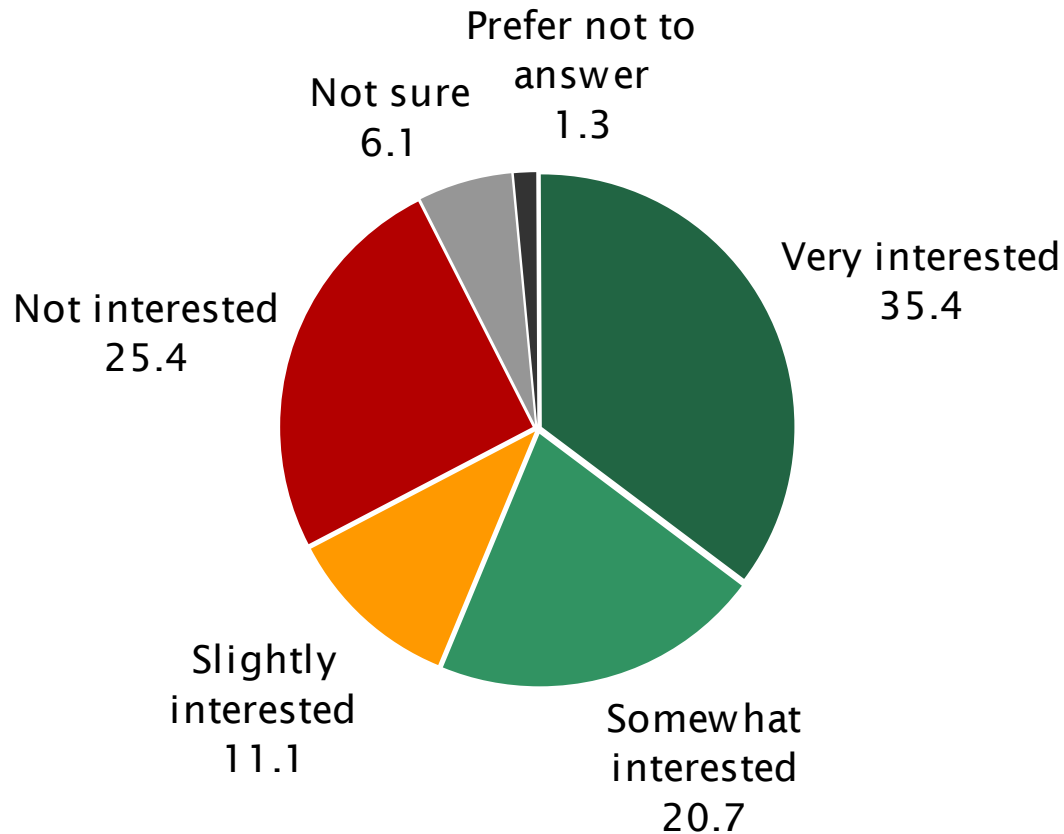
# REASONS FOR NOT USING BEGG POOL

## AMONG PUBLIC POOL USERS

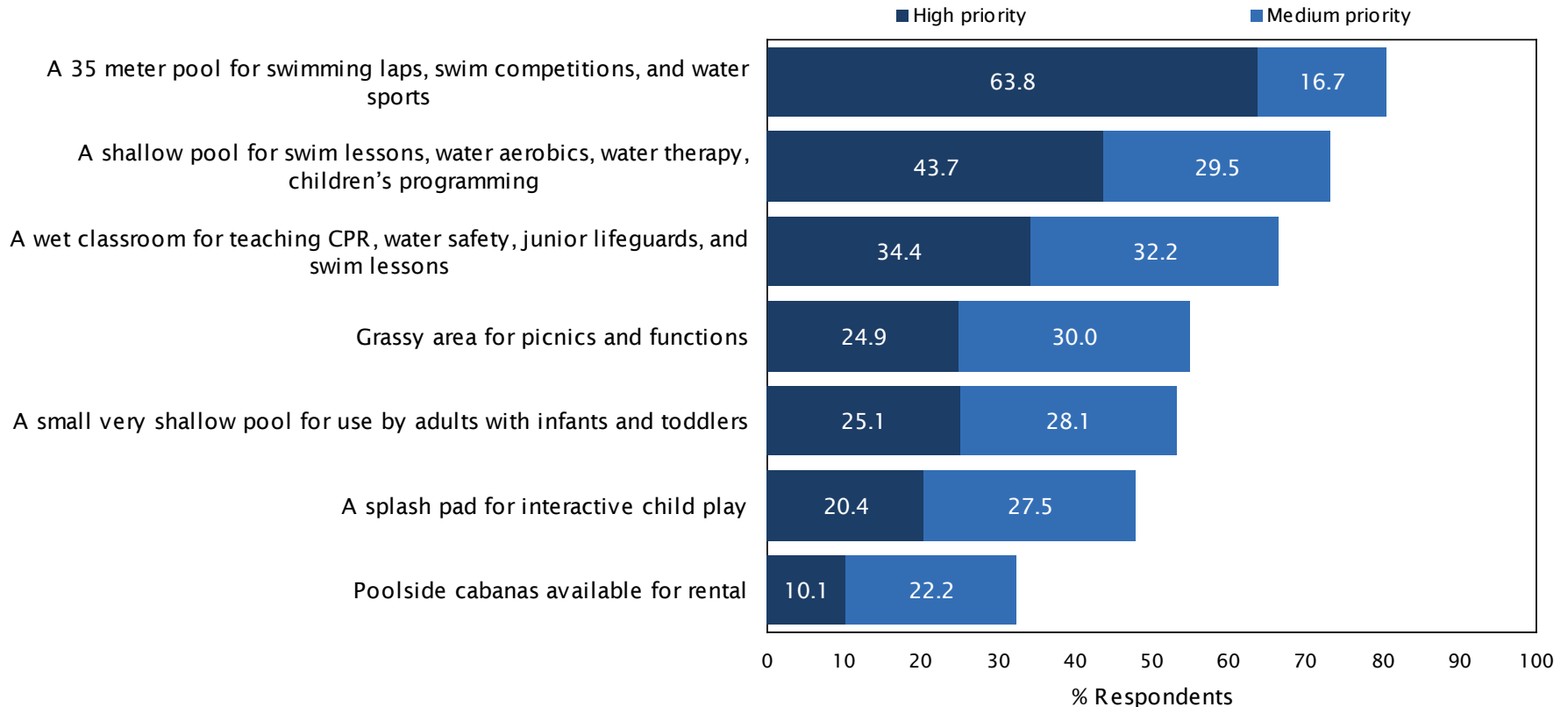




# INTEREST IN NEW AQUATICS CENTER

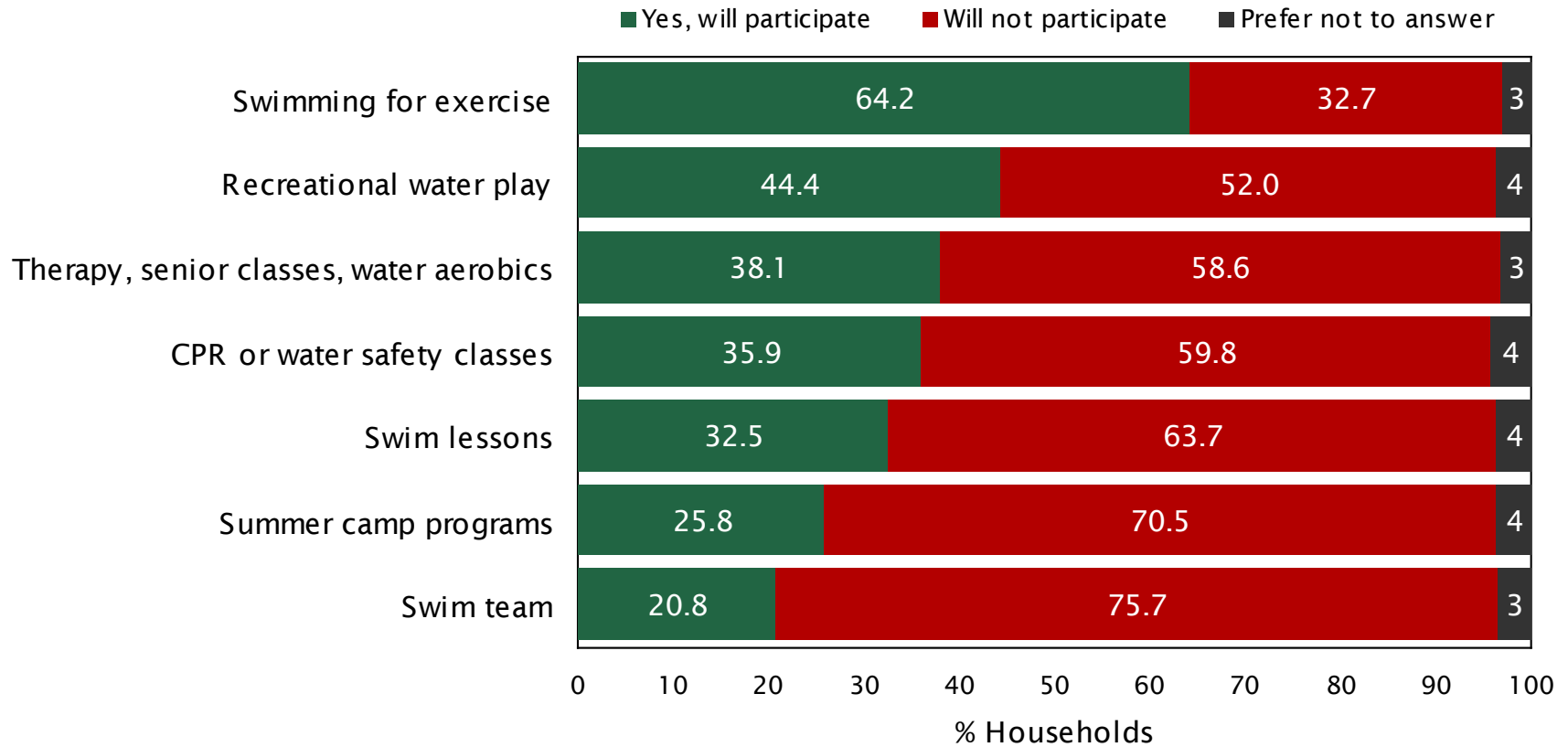


# PRIORITY FOR FEATURES & AMENITIES

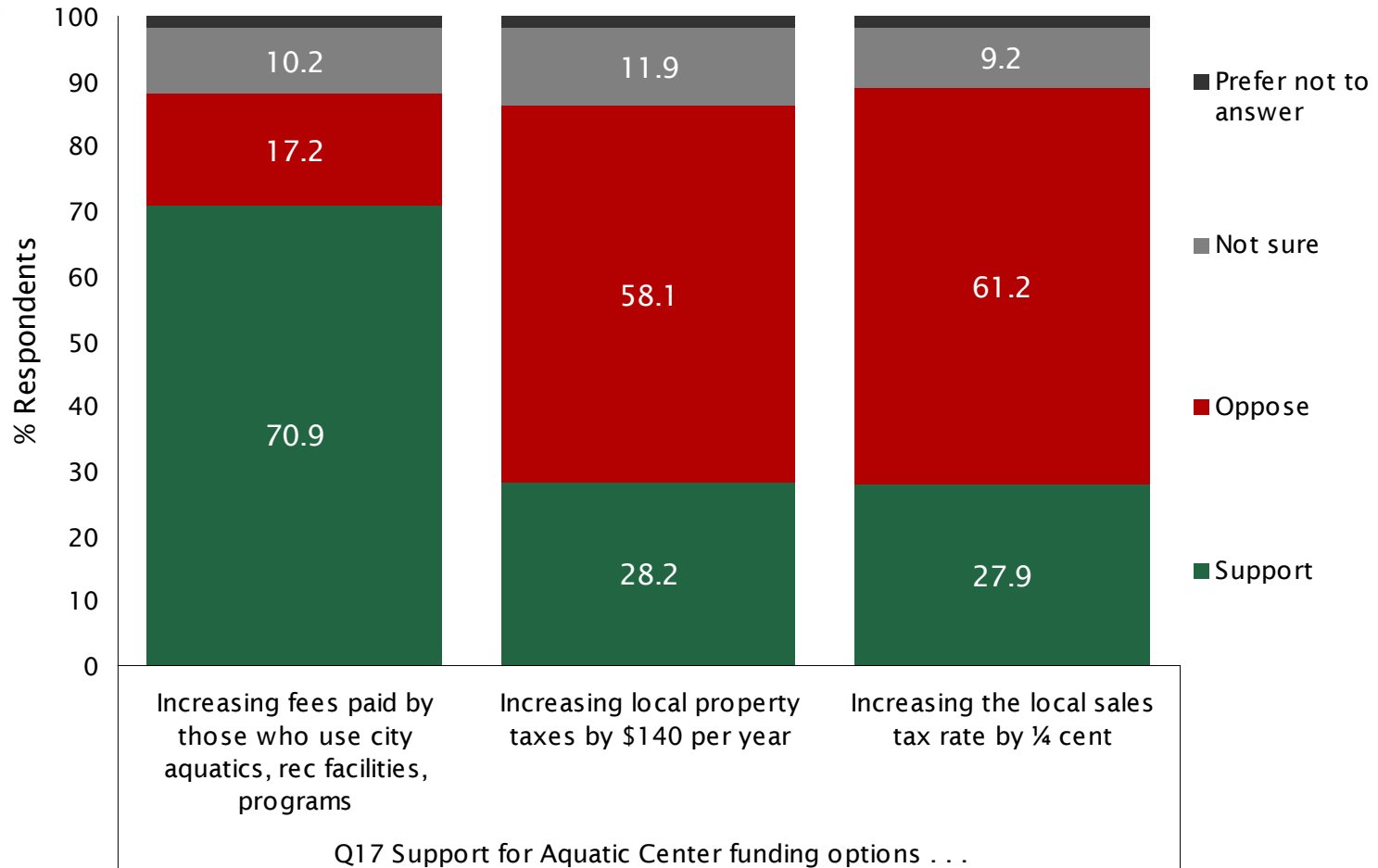


# ANTICIPATED PARTICIPATION BY ACTIVITY

## IF NEW AQUATICS CENTER IS BUILT

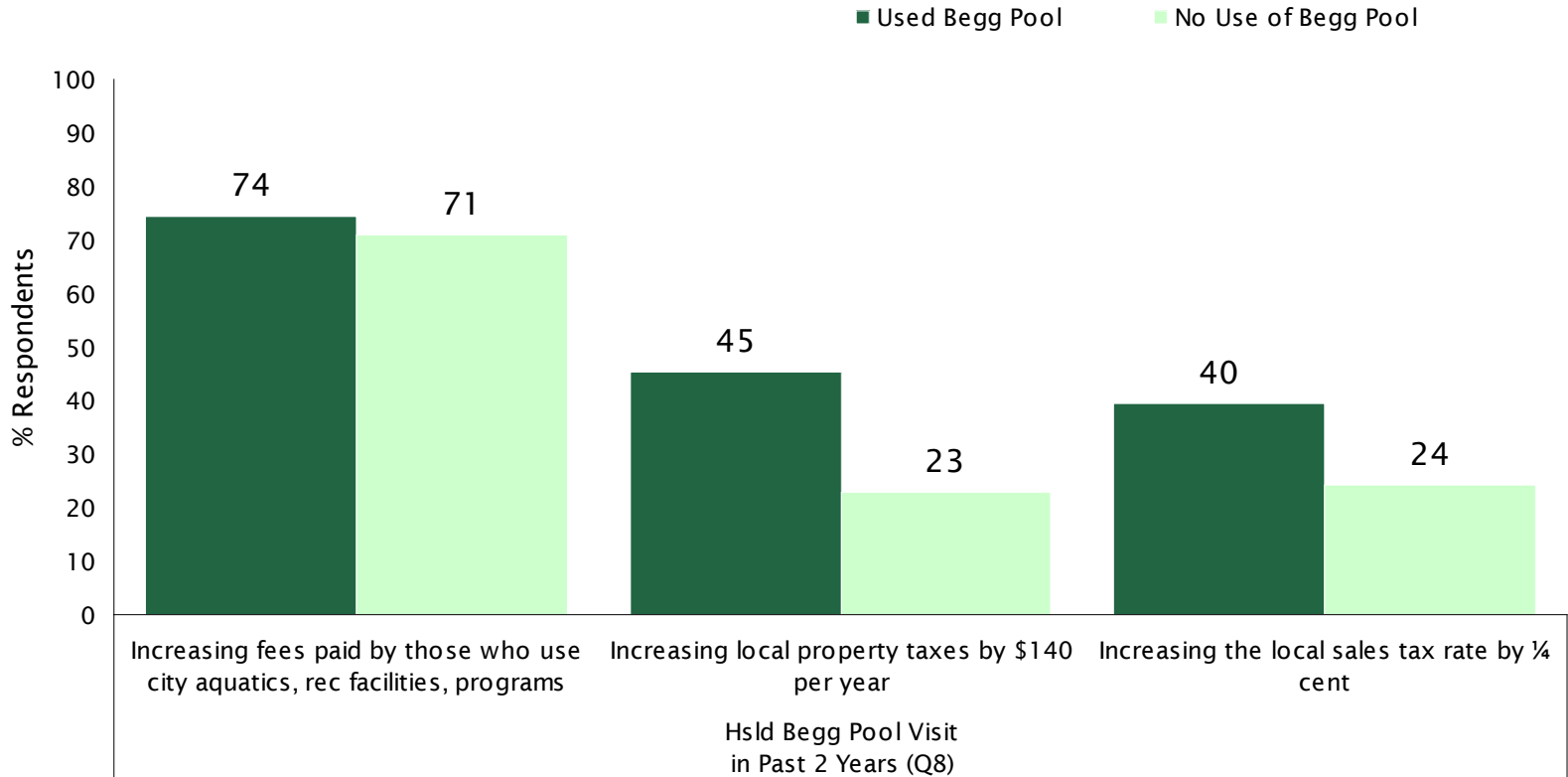


# AQUATICS CENTER FUNDING OPTIONS



# AQUATICS CENTER FUNDING OPTIONS

## BY BEGG POOL USE IN PAST 2 YEARS



**TO:**

Parks and Recreation Commission

**THROUGH:**

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director

**FROM:**

Sean Roberts, Maintenance Manager

Melissa McCollum, Senior Recreation Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Consideration of Park Maintenance Priorities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (Parks and Recreation Director Leyman).

**DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission discuss park maintenance priorities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no fiscal implications associated with the recommended action at this time. Once the City Council directs staff on this matter, future funding appropriations may be required.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Adopted Annual Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 includes a \$1,000,000 park maintenance appropriation from the General Fund to help complete Parks Master Plan priorities, such as replacing park furnishings and features, in a timely, cost-effective manner.

The Parks Master Plan is guided by the following themes:

- Increase and optimize access to open space
- Create a strong sense of community
- Optimize existing park and beach experiences
- Enhance play for all

Three categories of projects are identified in the Parks Master Plan based on estimated cost, complexity, and staff resource requirements. They are summarized as follows:

- Quick Wins – projects estimated to cost up to but not in excess of \$60,000 and require limited staff resources. These projects will be funded in large part through the General Fund.
- Mid-Range – projects estimated to cost \$60,000-\$1,000,000 and require additional staff resources and time to complete. Funding may come from a variety of sources, including the Capital Improvement Program, Measure A grant

allocation, donation program, and small scale sponsorships.

- Long-Term – projects with costs estimated in excess of \$1,000,000. These projects are larger, entail a vision of the future, and are targeted at enhancing the quality of life for residents. They involve significant costs, complexity, and requirements for staff resources. Potential funding could come from a bond issue, community partnerships involving naming rights, the City's General Fund, or local, state, and federal grants.

In process Parks Master Plan projects include:

Quick Wins:

- Install Shade Structure at Live Oak Dog Run (2022 target installation)

Mid-Range:

- Develop Nature Trails and Welcoming Nature Space (Sand Dune Landscaping Revitalization Project completed in 2022)
- Increase Public Art Throughout Parks and Streetscapes (Rainbow Crosswalk, Rainbow Gazebo, and Manhattan Beach Art Center Mural completed in 2022)
- Begg Field Renovations (2023 target completion)
- National Fitness Court Installation in Polliwog Park (2023 target completion)

Long-Term:

- Lower Polliwog Park Playground Renovations (2023 target completion)

One item – Create El Porto Family Park – was removed at the direction of City Council on October 6, 2022.

Select ongoing maintenance and replacement projects identified in the Parks Master Plan include:

- Set aside funds to replace Picnic Pads throughout parks
- Develop turf replacement fund
- Replace rubber chips with poured-in-place surfacing

## **DISCUSSION:**

Parks and Recreation and Public Works staff members reviewed the Parks Master Plan and pressing park maintenance needs during FY 2022-2023 Quarter 1, and recommend moving forward on the following ten priority projects using the \$1,000,000 appropriation. Four of the projects are considered mid-range projects and six are quick wins.

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>PROBABLE COST</b>
Marine Field Turf Replacement	\$250,000 + \$500,000 from User Groups
Pay N Play Upgrades	\$200,000
Live Oak Park and Marine Park Basketball Court Resurfacing	\$150,000
Polliwog Park Picnic Pads/Trash	\$90,000

Cans/Kiosks Replacement	
Polliwog Park Dog Run Expansion	\$30,000
8 <sup>th</sup> Street Parkette and Larsson Street Parkette Upgrades	\$25,000
Marine Avenue Park HVAC Installation	\$25,000
Strand Parcourse Installation	\$10,000
Public Art Installations at Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden and Manhattan Beach Art Center	\$10,000
Manhattan Heights Drinking Fountain Upgrade	\$10,000
<b>Projects Subtotal</b>	<b>\$800,000</b>
<b>25% Contingency</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

Probable costs are based on scope of work and are not based on approved designs and construction documents. If actual project costs are less than estimates, remaining funds will be reallocated to additional park maintenance priorities.

Potential projects for FY 2023-2024 if City Council appropriates additional funding in next year's budget include:

- Poured in place installations at playgrounds (mid-range project)
- Fencing and windscreen replacements at all parks (mid-range project)
- Manhattan Heights restroom upgrades (long-term project)

Parks and Recreation and Public Works staff will present the priority projects at the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting on November 28, 2022. Project summaries are included below.

### **Marine Field Turf Replacement**

The synthetic turf at Marine Field is in need of replacement after ten years and thousands of hours of play due to loosening and torn inlays and seams, loose turf fibers and infill, and surface discoloration. Similar to the last Marine Field turf project in 2013, staff proposes a collaborative process to fund the improvements and allocate field-use. Related funding and field use agreements with local user groups will be considered by the Parks and Recreation Commission at a future meeting.

### **Pay N Play Upgrades**

The Pay N Play building was closed for repairs on September 6, 2022. During the closure, Public Works will paint the building, upgrade lighting, evaluate ventilation systems, and replace doors, windows, and railings. The Parks and Recreation Commission and staff are identifying short term use options and will develop a community survey to gauge interest. Programming options include: wallyball, picklewall (a variation of pickleball), indoor soccer and basketball, racquetball, yoga and other fitness classes, an indoor golf simulator, and more.



### **Live Oak Park and Marine Park Basketball Court Resurfacing**

The basketball courts at Live Oak Park need to be repaired, resurfaced, and restriped. The Marine Avenue Park courts need regrading in addition to repairs. Hoops and fencing will be upgraded at the courts too.

### **Polliwog Park Picnic Pads/Trash Cans/Kiosks Replacement**

Five picnic pads in Polliwog Park were recently replaced. Nine additional picnic pads need to be upgraded. Polliwog Park trash cans and kiosks should be upgraded and standardized to improve the aesthetics and functionality of the park. A separate project to replace Polliwog Park lighting is underway.

### **Polliwog Park Dog Run Expansion**

If approved by City Council, the Polliwog Park Dog Run will be expanded to the west by removing existing storage containers and concrete and constructing a new area with fencing, entry gates, wood chips, water, trash, and seating.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Street Parkette and Larsson Street Parkette Upgrades**

Planned improvements include fence work and green screens, tree trimming, and updated signage. The basketball backboard, rim, and net will be replaced at Larsson.

### **Marine Avenue Park HVAC Installation**

Rocketship Hall, used regularly for City programs and private rentals, is past due for an HVAC upgrade. Work needs to be completed by summer 2023 to avoid relocation and/or cancellation of planned youth programming in the facility.

### **Strand Parcourse Installation**

The Manhattan Beach 10K Race Committee recently agreed to purchase replacement Strand Parcourse equipment valued at approximately \$16,000. Target installation of the equipment is early 2023.

### **Public Art Installations at Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden and Manhattan Beach Art Center**

In an effort to increase public art throughout parks and streetscapes, two sculptures owned by the City have been identified for new installations in town. *Exuberant Birds* by artists Margaret Lazzari and Lauren Evans will be installed in the Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden and *Dragon Tale* by artists Rick Randall and Jaydon Sterling-Randall will be installed at the Manhattan Beach Art Center.

### **Manhattan Heights Drinking Fountain Upgrade**

Based on ongoing community feedback, a new drinking fountain is needed soon for the Pickleball and tennis players at the Manhattan Heights courts.

### **ATTACHMENT:**

1. Parks Master Plan
2. PowerPoint Presentation

# MANHATTAN BEACH

# PARKS MASTER PLAN

A PRACTICAL, COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO MEET THE IMMEDIATE, SHORT-TERM  
AND LONG-TERM NEEDS & INTERESTS FOR PARKS & FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY OF  
MANHATTAN BEACH

UPDATED DECEMBER 7, 2020



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With extensive knowledge of the community and the use, history, and status of parks, facilities and recreation programs, the Plan was developed in its entirety by the Parks & Recreation Commission and key employees from the Parks & Recreation Department.

Mark Leyman, Director of Parks & Recreation oversaw the development, coordination, and completion of the Plan. Jessica Vincent, Senior Recreation Manager, researched past Plans, assisted with community outreach, analyzed data, drafted the final document and acted as creative art director. Linda Robb, Management Analyst, collected and reviewed data, edited the Plan and researched options for grant and funding opportunities.

Bruce Greenberg, Ken Weiner, and Steve Nicholson, Parks & Recreation Commissioners, assisted with gathering information, soliciting feedback from the community, synthesizing data, formulating recommendations and priorities, and editing the final Plan.

Current and former Parks & Recreation Commissioners, Suzanne Karger, Laurie McCarthy, J.J. Turkmany, Jr., Matthew Cullen, Sue Allard, and Genevieve Jackson assisted with community outreach and provided feedback and support for the Plan.

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# CONTENTS

01

## INTRODUCTION

ABOUT MANHATTAN BEACH  
MANHATTAN BEACH COMMUNITY

02

## PLAN DEVELOPMENT

TIMELINE  
PAST DOCUMENTS  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

03

## OVERVIEW

FACILITIES AND AMENITIES  
PARKS AND AMENITIES  
COMMUNITY CENTERS  
AQUATICS CENTERS  
CULTURAL CENTERS  
BEACHES AND AMENITIES

04

## COMPARATIVE LANDSCAPES

PARKS NEEDS ASSESSMENT  
BENCHMARK CITIES

05

## THE PLAN

COMMON THEMES  
STRATEGIC ACTIONS  
PROPOSED PROJECTS

06

## FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

POTENTIAL FUNDING OPTIONS  
GRANTS & FUNDING PROGRAMS



# 01

## INTRODUCTION

Over the years, the community's demographics, values and interests have changed; the infrastructure has aged; and the city has attempted to maintain a good level of functionality of its facilities and programs. This Parks Master Plan provides a practical, comprehensive plan of action for meeting the immediate, short-term and long-range needs and interests for parks, programs and facilities in Manhattan Beach. This Plan is to serve as a working document for the planning, enhancement and development of our parks, programs and recreation facilities. The goal is to utilize the information gathered to prioritize projects and develop funding strategies that can potentially be executed over the next 10 years.









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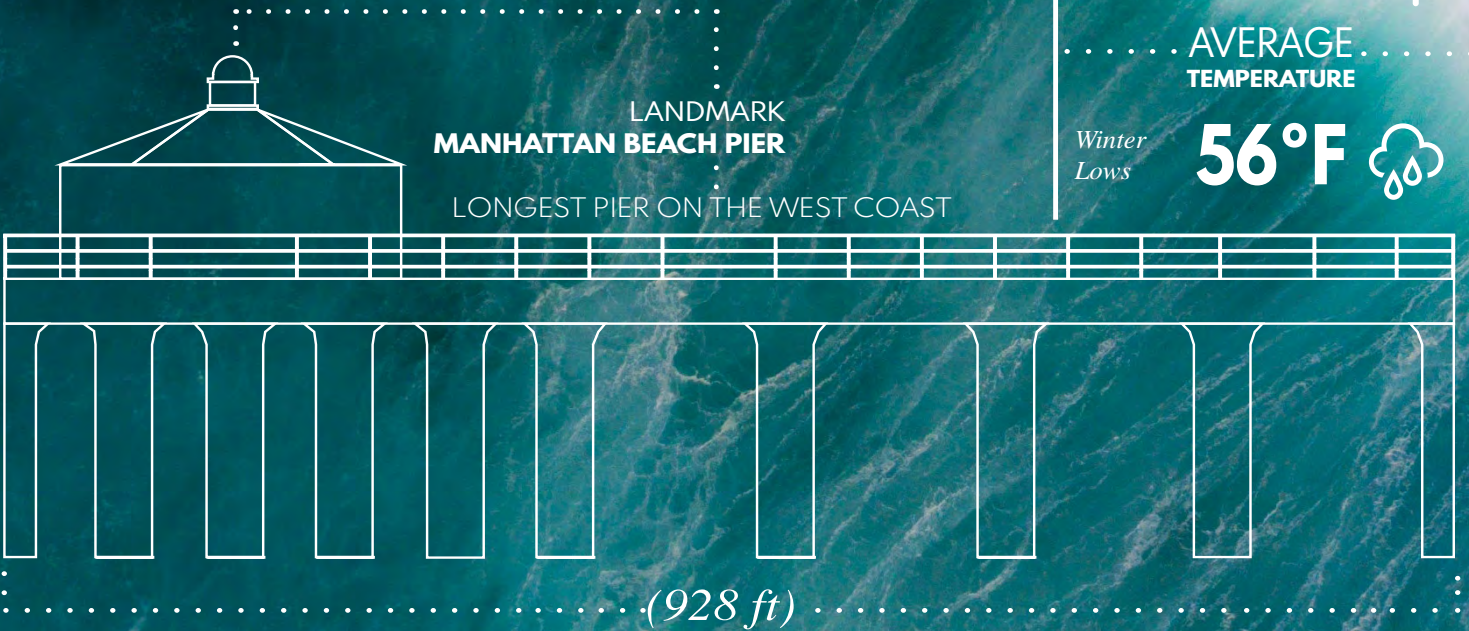
# MANHATTAN BEACH

“The Pearl of the South Bay”

Summer  
Highs **82°F** ☀️

..... AVERAGE .....  
TEMPERATURE

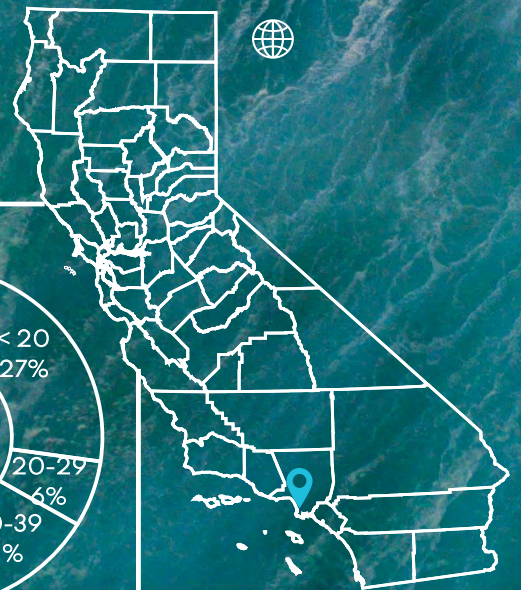
Winter  
Lows **56°F** ☁️



City Population

**35,135** } 60%

OF MANHATTAN BEACH RESIDENTS HAVE MOVED TO THE CITY SINCE 2000 AND 25% OF THE POPULATION HAS BEEN IN MANHATTAN BEACH SINCE 2010.<sup>8</sup>



Households

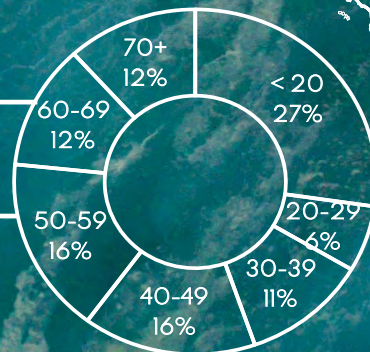
**15,793**<sup>1</sup>

Median Household Income

**\$144,000**<sup>1</sup>

Age Distribution

**73%** College<sup>8</sup> Graduates } **31%** Advanced Degrees



THE MEDIAN AGE OF MANHATTAN BEACH RESIDENTS IS **42**<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 2010 US Census  
<sup>8</sup> 2015 Urban Land Institute Advisory Service Report



Manhattan Beach is well known for its pier, beautiful beaches, restaurants, shops, Hometown Fair, Pumpkin Races, Holiday Fireworks, and the Manhattan Beach Open Volleyball Tournament. The Strand, parks and parkways, recreational programs, community and sporting events, older adult programs, and the arts are key elements that enhance the quality of life for everyone in the city.

Some of our residents' favorite activities include:



**STROLLING, BIKING OR RUNNING ALONG THE STRAND**



**RELAXING AT THE BEACH, SURFING OR TAKING PART IN BEACH VOLLEYBALL GAMES OR LESSONS**



**ENJOYING A FAVORITE PARK OR ATTENDING THE SUMMER CONCERTS IN THE PARK**



**PARTICIPATING IN A SWIM PROGRAM/LESSON OR ONE OF MANY ORGANIZED SPORTS**



**WATCHING THE BEST VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS IN THE WORLD COMPETE IN THE MANHATTAN BEACH OPEN TO HAVE THEIR NAMES ADDED TO THE CHAMPIONS WALK OF FAME ON THE PIER**



**ATTENDING SPECIAL EVENTS THAT ARE UNIQUE TO MANHATTAN BEACH, SUCH AS PUMPKIN RACES, GRAND PRIX, HOMETOWN FAIR, PIER LIGHTING, AND HOLIDAY FIREWORKS**



**SOCIALIZING WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY DURING WEEKLY SENIOR LUNCHEONS OR GATHERINGS**

The City of Manhattan Beach and the Parks & Recreation Department provide diverse programs that make the city unique. Residents continue to rank parks and recreation as a vital resource for the community. Manhattan Beach's public spaces play an important role in the lives of its citizens. Today's community values the outdoors and open space, fitness and exercise, and safe and accessible gathering places to relax and participate in leisure and recreation. Manhattan Beach residents (which include a growing youth and older adult population) expect high-quality, well-maintained and sustainable recreational infrastructure, and programs for their enjoyment.



# MANHATTAN BEACH COMMUNITY

The population of Manhattan Beach is approximately 35,135<sup>1</sup>. The majority of the residents are families (71%). The average age of both men and women is 42. Amongst the South Bay cities, Manhattan Beach has the largest portion of residents under the age of 20 at 27.3% and the largest portion of residents between 60 to 69, at 11.2%<sup>2</sup>. By 2040, over a quarter

of the population of Los Angeles County as a whole is expected to be over the age of 65<sup>3</sup>. The median household income is \$144,868; which is approximately double that of California. The race\* and ethnicity of Manhattan Beach is 84.5% White, 8.6% Asian, 6.9% Hispanic, and .8% Black or African American<sup>1</sup>.

1 2010 US Census/Updated 2017 US Census Bureau \* Percentages may not total 100% due to respondents categorizing themselves as more than one ethnicity  
2 Town Charts  
3 California Department of Finance  
8 2015 Urban Land Institute Advisory Service Report





## TODAY AND TOMORROW

Manhattan Beach's laid back lifestyle and small beach town character continue to attract new residents, with 60% of residents joining the community since the year 2000 and 25% arriving since 2010<sup>8</sup>. The community is expected to continue to change and grow over the next ten years, while the city limits remain fixed. This means opportunities for new parks and recreation amenities will be limited, at best.

Additionally, it is estimated that 3.8 million people visit Manhattan Beach annually, therefore, the City serves a population much greater than its residents.



# 02

## PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The Parks Master Plan recommendations for the future of the parks and recreation system within the City of Manhattan Beach was shaped and developed through a current condition analysis of parks and recreation facilities, review of related policies and previous planning documents, an analysis of programs and benchmark cities, and the establishment of community engagement common themes.









# PLANNING PROCESS TIMELINE

**JUNE 5, 2017**

City Council directed the Parks & Recreation Commission and staff (in conjunction with Public Works) to develop a comprehensive work plan that will serve as a road map to provide future recreational amenities for the community.

**PROJECT LAUNCH, ASSESSMENT, & REVIEW OF PAST DOCUMENTS**

The team conducted a Facilities Assessment to determine the condition of parks and facilities and read existing past documents that outline previous plans.

**MARCH 2019**

**JUNE 2019**

**PRIORITY**

City Council reaffirmed the Parks Master Plan as a top priority of the Parks & Recreation Commission annual work plan.

### COMMUNITY GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS

The team met with local organizations and commissions, including MB Chamber of Commerce; Library, Cultural Arts, and Parks & Recreation Commissions; Senior Advisory Committee; Youth Sports Committee; and Manhattan Beach Unified School District.

NOVEMBER 2019

### COMPLETION

Parks Master Plan presented to Parks & Rec Commission and City Council.

DECEMBER 2020

OCTOBER 2019

### OUTREACH

The team hosted pop-up events at the Hometown Fair, Halloween Carnival, and Pumpkin Races, as well as 2 Community Input Meetings at Manhattan Heights and Joslyn Community Centers.

JANUARY - OCTOBER 2020

### PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The team reviewed and synthesized data garnered from the community outreach process, formulated recommendations, and developed a plan to present to City Council.



# PAST DOCUMENTS

This Parks Master Plan process began with the review and examination of documents noted below.

In addition to past policies and plans outlined in these planning documents and consultant reports, new Parks Master Plan strategies will work hand in hand with City reports that include the City's General Plan, the Downtown Specific Plan, Veterans Parkway Master Plan, the Sustainable City Plan, and the Public Arts Master Plan.

## CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

### **PARKS MASTER PLAN (1988)**

The City's last Parks Master Plan was completed in 1988. It was an ambitious overview and plan that produced very few practical and affordable projects. In following years, other reports and assessments were produced for the City by outside consultants.

## CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

### **CITY GENERAL PLAN (2003)**

The 2003 General Plan is a document that establishes the long-range goals for the physical development of the community. A General Plan is often referred to as the "constitution" for development in the City, reflecting the long term "vision" of the community through its goals, policies and objectives. The Community Resources Element within the General Plan focuses on the vision of Parks and Recreation.

## CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

### **FACILITIES STRATEGIC PLAN (2008)**

In 2008, the City Facilities Strategic Plan (FSP) was completed however, due to lack of funding and project complexity, the eight identified projects have not come to fruition, with the exception of the County Library replacement and installation of the Marine Avenue Skate Spot. The community was highly engaged throughout the development of the FSP and a clear formulation and prioritization of recreation facilities emerged. The top three projects identified were Aquatics, Library, and Multi-Purpose Intergenerational Community Center.

## CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

### **FACILITY CONDITION ASSESSMENT (2013)**

In 2013, the City conducted a Facility Condition Assessment, following physical enhancements at the Joslyn Community Center, Manhattan Heights and Begg Pool. The Assessment outlines one-time maintenance projects and costs with additional emphasis on public safety and ADA compliance. City Council approved \$1 million annually to fund the projects identified in the assessment report, although that amount has been reduced to \$600,000 in the current Capital Improvement Projects (C.I.P.).

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

### **STUDY AREA PROFILE REPORT (2016)**

The 2016 Manhattan Beach Study Area Profile Report as part of the Los Angeles County-wide Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment quantified the need for parks and recreation resources in Los Angeles County, including Manhattan Beach and estimated the potential cost of meeting that need. The County report identified the majority of Manhattan Beach facilities were in poor condition and a total of \$36,541,687 is needed to replace these amenities.

## CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

### **URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN (2020)**

The Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP), adopted in July 2020, provides a framework for the long-term management and preservation of the community urban forest. It's important to understand the role that trees and associated vegetation play in the parks, which are an important element in creating a vibrant, beautiful community and have several tangible and intangible benefits.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

A comprehensive community outreach process was conducted to understand the needs and priorities of the City's residents. The team gathered, reviewed, synthesized and analyzed the qualitative, quantitative and anecdotal information to better understand what people want and need in Manhattan Beach.

Parks serve our residents and visitors and as such, community participation was a cornerstone in the development of the master plan. Our team, made up of Parks & Recreation Employees and Commissioners, utilized multiple engagement techniques throughout the process to encourage participation from a wide range of stakeholders, including residents, Boards and Commissions, and single-interest focus groups. Throughout the process, approximately 1,800 members of the community expressed their voice, values, ideas and needs to the Parks & Recreation Department through an online survey, pop-up events, and voicing opinions during the community workshops and stakeholders meetings. The input received illuminated common themes that will serve as a basis to help guide the future for the Parks & Recreation system.

# 1,800

TOTAL OUTREACH PARTICIPATION

# 600

ONLINE SURVEY RESPONSES  
(18.8 HOURS OF PUBLIC COMMENTS)

# 8

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS & PRESENTATIONS

# 3

COMMUNITY POP-UP EVENTS



# ONLINE SURVEY

An online survey was made available to the community on the City's website "Open City Hall", which is an online forum for civic engagement. The 15 question survey took participants approximately 10 minutes to complete and they had the option to state their name and contact information, or be anonymous. The survey was available to the community for a four-week period and was promoted on social media, during community and pop-up events in local newspapers and to rec program participants. The survey provided insights as to the uses of parks and facilities, key interests, areas for improvement, and infrastructure and program priorities of the community. Ninety percent of respondents were residents and over 70% included households with children under the age of 18. Overall, survey respondents rated the condition of facilities as fair to good, while the pool primarily rated poor to fair. The majority of respondents rated the facilities and parks as secure, fairly clean, and well-landscaped with good signage and descent restrooms. When asked what they would like to see in a 10-year plan, the top five answers included: add nature trails, improve playgrounds, increase public art, create a community garden, and add dog-friendly areas. And finally, if funding wasn't an issue, the majority of respondents stated they would like to see a new aquatics center built in Manhattan Beach, followed by a state-of-the-art community center, then a performing arts center.

# STAKEHOLDER FOCUS GROUPS

Over a six-week period, the team conducted various stakeholder meetings to solicit input on what they like about recreation within the City and how to improve the Parks & Recreation offerings over the next 10 years. Participants were encouraged to be open and honest and provide feedback on all aspects of parks, recreation and cultural arts within the City.

Stakeholder meetings were conducted with the following groups:

- Cultural Arts Commission
- Library Commission
- Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
- Downtown Manhattan Beach Business and Professional Association
- Senior Advisory Committee
- Youth Sports Committee

# POP-UP EVENTS

The team conducted three events, encouraging participants to express their concerns and likes about the Parks & Recreation system and provide a brief description about what could improve their experiences within the system.

- Hometown Fair
- Pumpkin Race
- Halloween Carnival

# COMMUNITY INPUT MEETINGS

Two community input meetings were held at the Joslyn Center and Manhattan Heights Community Center in an effort to reach residents on both sides of town. Attendees were encouraged to provide input on each facility and the feedback included:

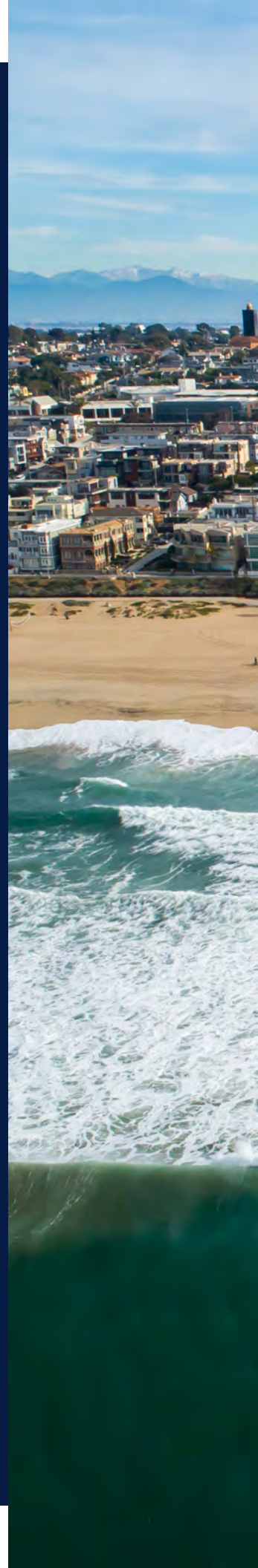
- What they like
- What they would change
- If provided a clean slate on that particular plot of land, what recreation or leisure facility would they want to build on the land

# 03

## OVERVIEW & ASSESSMENT

### PARKS, FACILITIES, & RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

The mission of the Parks & Recreation Department is to create community and enrich the quality of life for its residents. Manhattan Beach's beach, parks and parkways, community and major sporting events, recreation activities, and cultural arts keep residents busy year round and attract many visitors. The parks and community centers provide social meeting areas where community interaction takes place. The city's parks are meant to meet the demands of an engaged demographic by providing outdoor areas for active recreation and indoor facilities for games and passive recreation programs. To best serve residents, our facilities and recreation services must continue to adjust as needed to respond to the community's different age groups and interests. Neighborhood parks offer welcoming open space and places where people can picnic, play tennis, basketball, baseball or soccer, and provide safe play areas for kids. The free Summer Concerts in the Park series at Polliwog Park has entertained residents and visitors since 1978. The beach and Strand draw Southern Californians and visitors from around the world to enjoy sunbathing, swimming, volleyball, surfing, jogging and bicycling, and also the opportunity to view major beach volleyball tournaments and other competitions.











**35,135**  
POPULATION

**3.8** SQUARE  
MILES

**9067.78**

DENSITY  
PERSONS PER SQUARE MILE



**69** OPEN SPACE  
ACRES

**11** PARKS  
(2 PARKETTES)

# PARK SYSTEM

## 10 PLAYGROUNDS



**8** TENNIS COURTS  
**2** PICKLEBALL COURTS  
**1** PADDLEBALL COURT



**7**  
BASEBALL  
FIELDS



**7**  
MULTI-USE  
FIELDS

(2 SYNTHETIC TURF FIELDS)



**6.5** BASKETBALL  
COURTS



**107** BEACH VOLLEYBALL  
COURTS

(27 COURTS SOUTH SIDE OF THE PIER OPERATED BY CITY)



**1** MULTI-USE  
WALKING TRAIL  
**21** ACRES



**3** DOG  
RUNS



**1** AQUATIC  
FACILITY

OWNED BY MBUSD  
OPERATED BY CITY

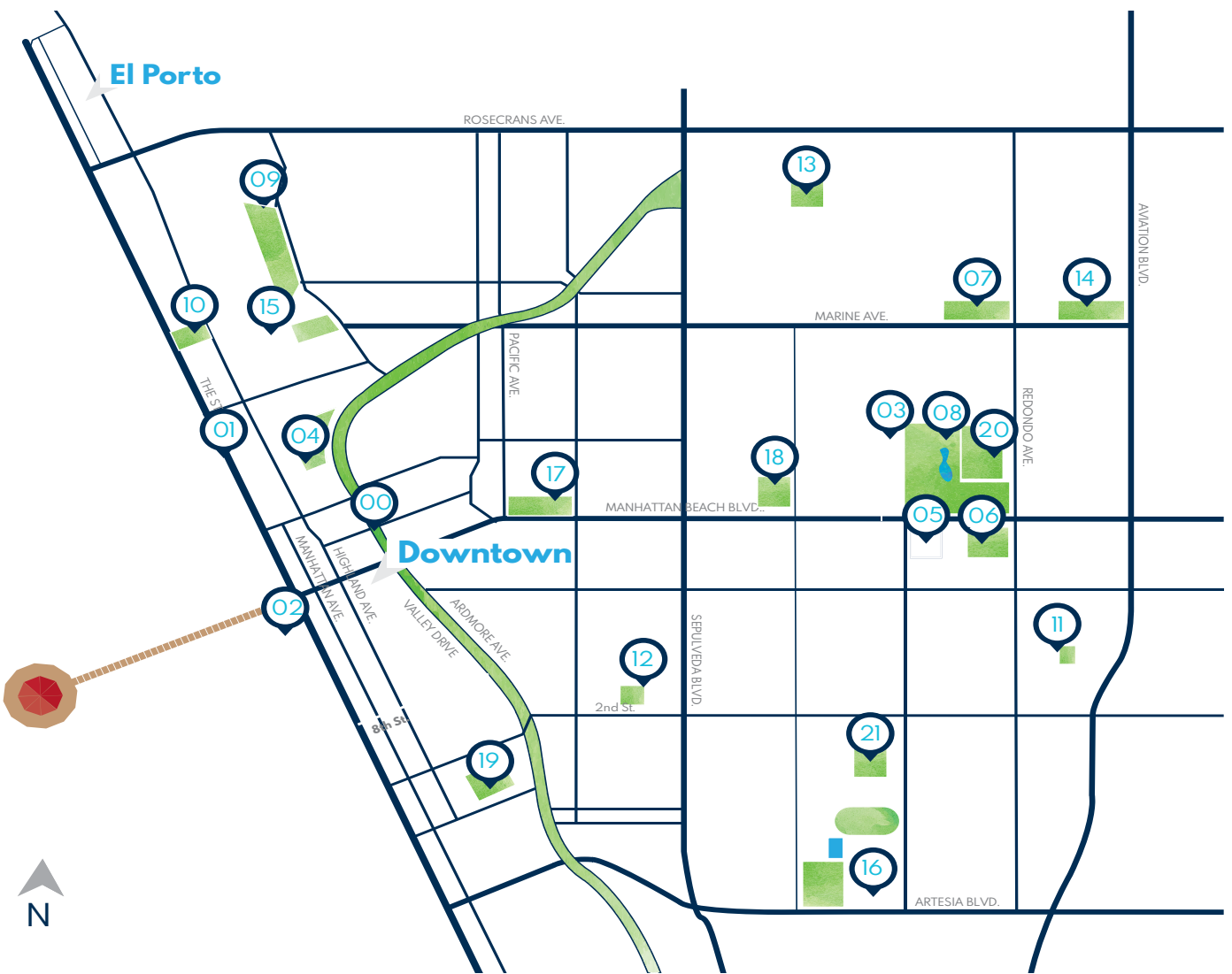


**1** SKATE  
SPOT

**6 COMMUNITY CENTERS, INCLUDING:**

**1** SHARED TEEN CENTER **1** SHARED SENIOR CENTER

**1** CULTURAL ARTS CENTER **1** HISTORICAL CENTER



**Veterans Parkway**

21 acre park crosses the City from north to south along Valley Drive & Ardmore Avenue from Sepulveda to the border of Hermosa Beach, Mariposa Fitness Station



**The Strand**

2.1 mile walkpath along the beach stretching from Hermosa Beach to North Manhattan Beach, Strand Fitness Station



**Southside Manhattan Beach Pier**

27 volleyball courts operated by the City



**Begg Pool**

25-meter shallow pool



**Live Oak Park**

6 lighted tennis courts, 2 1/2 lighted basketball courts, 2 playgrounds, 2 multi-sport/baseball fields, 2 batting cages, several picnic areas, 2 Community Centers, including Joslyn Community Center, Older Adults garden and adjacent Scout House & Live Oak Rec Hall, Ceramics Studio, dog run



**Manhattan Beach Art Center**

Cultural Arts Center



**Manhattan Heights Park**

2 lighted tennis courts, 2 pickleball courts, 1 paddleball court, 2 basketball courts, 1 multi-purpose/diamond field, several meeting rooms, 1 playground, 1 rockwall, teen center garden



**Marine Avenue Park**

2 lighted basketball courts, 1 batting cage, 1 baseball diamond, 1 synthetic turf field, Community Center, Skate Spot, 1 playground, picnic area, ping pong table, privately operated Pay-N-Play racquetball courts, dog run, storage



**Polliwog Park**

18 acres, amphitheater, Botanical Garden, Begg Field (2 multi-sport/baseball diamonds), Premier Field (baseball diamond & batting cage), dog run, 2 playgrounds, 1 fitness station, Historic Red House



**Sand Dune Park**

100-foot sand dune, steps through a nature area, playground, storage facility



**Bruce's Beach**

3-acre park, sloped terraces, small half-court basketball court



**8th Street Parkette**

Large grassy area, picnic areas, 1 playground



**Larsson Street Parkette**

1 playground, small basketball court, picnic areas



**Manhattan Village Park**

Synthetic turf field, playground, picnic area



**Marine Sports Complex**

3 multi-sport/baseball fields, 2 batting cages

**MBUSD FIELDS/PLAYGROUNDS/ BASKETBALL COURTS**



**Grand View Elementary School**



**Mira Costa High School**



**Pacific Elementary School**



**Meadows Elementary School**



**Robinson Elementary School**



**Manhattan Beach Middle School**



**Pennekamp Elementary School**





## PARKS & AMENITIES

The City of Manhattan Beach owns, operates and maintains eleven parks encompassing approximately 69 acres, ranging from pocket parks and small neighborhood parks to community parks and specialized recreation areas, including Veterans Parkway (Greenbelt). Many families come to the parks for events and birthday parties, often reserving a gazebo or picnic pad. Each park has its own unique character that draws families and friends to enjoy the outdoors. The highest ranked survey response to why people visit parks was for fitness and exercise (47.8%), but leisure time and community events are also strong reasons for resident usage.

Manhattan Beach's largest park, Polliwog Park, was created in 1973 when the City and Manhattan Beach Unified School District (MBUSD) approved the location. The City currently operates and maintains the park, which also serves as a retention basin for flood control, and has a pump station operated by Los Angeles County. Also included in the Polliwog Park Agreement are Begg Pool, Begg Field, and Premier Field. The park provides an array of opportunities to support the varied interests of the community including a large dog run, ball fields, picnic tables, an adult fitness zone, playgrounds, and picnic pads. This park is popular for events and birthday parties, and during summer months you will find families and friends gathered here to enjoy Concerts in the Park.

Located between 26th & 27th Street along Highland Avenue, Bruce's Beach park is a beautiful landscape to enjoy the serenity of the beach from above. The park offers a basketball court and an exercise area along the Strand, as well as rolling hills for great picnics. It is the oldest park in the City and over the years has been called City Park, Bayview Terrace Park, Parque Culiacan, and in 2007, it was renamed Bruce's Beach in honor of Charles and Willa Bruce, who established a seaside resort for African-American beachgoers before the land was taken by the City through eminent domain in the 1920's.

When looking for a more strenuous workout, residents can make a reservation to climb up the challenging Sand Dune hill, or walk up the adjacent stairs for no fee. Prior to the reservation system that was implemented in 2010, the dune was a favorite location for exercising for residents and visitors alike. The dune was a popular spot for training and word spread beyond the city limits, resulting in heavy use by athletes of all levels who often arrived by the busload for training. After many community meetings, a reservation system was implemented Monday through Saturday, on an hourly basis till dusk for a maximum of 20 participants per slot, with 30-minute gaps between reservation periods to minimize the adverse impact of excessive use. Consequently, residents were pleased with the decreased traffic in the neighborhood, and dune replenishment cycles were reduced. It should also be noted that a very rare flower, called the Orcutt's Yellow Pincushion, is native to the area and grows along the north side of the dune.

One of the favorite pastimes of our young families is youth sports, with over 6,000 participants playing soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, baseball, softball, basketball, and flag football. The Manhattan Beach AYSO program has the third highest number of participants in the nation. As a result, field space is in high demand. The City owns, operates and maintains seven multi-purpose fields (used for multiple sports), of which two are synthetic turf and partially paid for in return for dedicated field space by the Youth Sport User Groups. In 2001, after the City purchased land from Northrop Grumman, the Marine Sports Complex was built for recreational and adult sports use. In 2013, Marine Avenue Park was converted to synthetic turf, and in 2018, the Manhattan Village Field was re-turfed after reaching its ten-year lifespan. To increase playability for various sports, the new Manhattan Village Field was lined for soccer, lacrosse, and flag football. In addition, the City owns, operates and maintains seven baseball/softball diamonds. As field use and maintenance costs increase, it is becoming more critical to seek options to convert fields to synthetic turf as a viable field maintenance and cost-savings option. The joint-use agreement between the City and MBUSD provides additional limited access to district fields, tennis courts and the Mira Costa High School pool.

Residents can often be found playing tennis at one of the two Manhattan Heights Tennis Courts or on the highly desirable, six Live Oak Tennis Courts. Players can make an online reservation up to five days in advance for recreational play. Courts are also heavily utilized for instructional and competitive league play. The annual Manhattan Beach Open Tennis Tournament is held in mid-July and is a favorite amongst amateurs and open-division players. The courts are resurfaced every three to five years or when usage and disrepair due to rain and inclement weather dictate, specifically at Live Oak. It has been recommended that Courts 5 & 6 be converted to clay courts or completely demolished and rebuilt as Court 5 continues to be impacted with low spots. Additionally, due to the rise in popularity of pickleball, in 2019 after extensive community outreach, two pickleball courts were created at Manhattan Heights, leaving one remaining paddleball court.

There are ten playgrounds available throughout the City for children age 2-12. The play areas are integrated into most of our parks, including the 8th Street and Larsson Street Parkettes. They provide children with the opportunity to socialize, enjoy unstructured play, and develop their gross, sensory, and fine motor skills. Children also gain self-confidence and increase self-esteem while mastering new skills and having fun. Due to the salt-air climate in Manhattan Beach, play equipment often rusts and breaks and ground surfacing compacts faster than the expected equipment and surfacing lifespan. Much of the play equipment is old, although parts have been replaced as needed. Of the 2019 survey respondents, 42% would like to see improved playgrounds.

Due to the population density of the City, houses are often built with little outdoor space. As a result, the City has built three dog runs for residents and their four-legged friends to play and exercise. The dog runs are currently located at Polliwog Park, Live Oak Park and Marine Avenue Park and are in high demand throughout the day.

Lastly, after ten years of research and community engagement, the City received a grant to build a Skate Spot behind Big Marine Baseball Field, which was completed in 2017.



# COMMUNITY CENTERS



The public values a sense of place, health and fitness, arts and culture, and quality of life. The City owns and operates five community centers. Often you will see residents enjoying a ceramics program; youth and teens playing games or doing their homework after school; or older adults engaging in a variety of diverse programs. Manhattan Heights is predominantly used as a youth and teen center after school, thereby, limiting the available space for additional all-age programs. Joslyn Community Center primarily focuses on senior adult programming, thus also limiting the available space for all-age programs. Adjacent to Joslyn Community Center is the Scout House, which is used for older adult programming and scout activities. Both the Joslyn & Manhattan Heights Community Centers were renovated in 2010. In addition, at Live Oak Hall, the ceramics and youth afterschool programs are at capacity. The Marine Avenue Park Rocket Ship Hall is predominantly used for meeting space and summer camps.

The demand for programming exceeds the available space at all parks, fields, and facilities. Furthermore, most spaces are severely inadequate in size and configuration, prohibiting the effective delivery of comprehensive programs and services to the community. In addition, the facilities are at the end of their useful lives, with the greatest number of them being built before 1970. They have received little to no upgrades since then and suffer systems degradation, have serious defects, and do not comply with the current ADA standards and building codes. These defects all affect their usefulness to the community. The constant upkeep and routine repairs/maintenance required to keep aging facilities operational have also created budgetary challenges for the City.

**“I think they should upgrade all of the facilities. Everything around the parks and facilities look great and new, our parks and facilities look...old.”**

-2019 Survey Respondent



# AQUATICS CENTERS



**“There are so many families that would benefit from a great aquatics center for years to come”**

-2019 Survey Respondent

The Begg Pool Aquatics Facility is managed and operated by the City as part of the Joint-Use Agreement with MBUSD, and is the most impacted and utilized facility by users of all ages. Polls indicate that a replacement facility for Begg Pool is a top priority for residents. Programming consists of swim lessons, masters swim, water aerobics and the popular Dolphin Pre-Swim and Swim Teams, all of which fill up within minutes when registration opens annually. The pool currently operates at 100% cost recovery. However, the facility is deemed inadequate to support the needs of the community based on its size and condition.

As one community member states, “Please improve Begg Pool and create an aquatics center. From the horrible parking access to the lockers to the severely limited lack of classes for our kids, our city’s lack of a state-of-the-art swimming facility is shameful. We are supposed to be the premier beach city, valuing the outdoors and aquatic activities...Please think this through. There are so many young families that would benefit from a great aquatics center for years to come.”

In addition to the lack of space for additional programming, the infrastructure is failing. The plaster has failed; the concrete deck has buckled and cracked; the pool equipment is failing; and the locker rooms lack adequate ventilation and daylight. The facility is in a difficult location, and fenced in with chain link fence in a small portion of Polliwog Park. It is served by parking on old basketball courts that were part of the former Manhattan Beach Intermediate School campus and accessed via a substandard and steep driveway.<sup>4</sup>





## CULTURAL CENTERS

The Manhattan Beach Art Center, once a library, was converted in 2001 to the City's Cultural Art Center. The name of the facility was formally changed to Manhattan Beach Art Center to enhance awareness of arts in Manhattan Beach. The facility features a main gallery, two classrooms, office space and private patio. Several temporary walls provide for additional wall space during exhibitions. However, the facility does not have adequate space for performing, literacy, digital and visual art classes.

The Art Center displays works by locally, nationally and internationally renowned artists as well as emerging artists. The Manhattan Beach Art Center also serves as a space for art education and production through visual art classes, camps and programs.

The exhibitions seek to strengthen the exposure and understanding of the visual arts for all residents. The exhibition gallery also serves as a site for artists and art students from Manhattan Beach and the South Bay area to display their artistic talents. Through partnerships with local organizations, the exhibition program develops a network that contributes to establishing a common appreciation for arts in the community.

The Little Red Historical House is owned by the City and managed by the Manhattan Beach Historical Society. The facility stores, preserves, and showcases the City's history through exhibits, artifacts, pictures, and newspaper clippings. However, the House is not a suitable facility in its present condition, to adequately protect the City's historical treasures due to its age, construction and lack of proper access to the general public.

# BEACHES & AMENITIES



The beach, managed by Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors (LACDBH), and the City's two-mile Strand, provide tremendous recreational opportunities to residents of Manhattan Beach and people living throughout the Southland, in particular during the summer months.

Amenities include volleyball courts, biking and walking paths, play areas, an ADA Path to the Sea at 40th Street, and ample public parking. The LACDBH manages the beach, bike path, and various restroom facilities. The LA County Lifeguard Administrative Building is located at 26th Street, adjacent to Bruce's Beach.

It's no wonder the City, also known as the "home of beach volleyball," boasts more outdoor beach volleyball courts\* than any other beach city. It is a favorite pastime for local residents, families and professional athletes. With 107 beach volleyball courts, there is still a high demand for the courts. Oftentimes on weekends, there isn't an open court during peak hours.

A City and County agreement provides an opportunity for the City to operate programs south of the Pier to 7th Street. The City is responsible for the maintenance of 27 beach volleyball courts used for instruction, amateur beach volleyball tournaments and the granddaddy of them all, the city-owned, Manhattan Beach Open (MBO) beach volleyball tournament. In addition, during the summer months, the City coordinates the Aqualetics Beach Camp and several surf and beach volleyball camps for youth.

The Pier, built in 1920, is owned by the State of California and maintained by the City of Manhattan Beach, along with the comfort station on the base of the Pier, upper and lower Pier parking lots and the triangular sand area south of the lower Pier parking lot. Throughout the length of the Pier, bronze plaques, in the shape of volleyballs, are inscribed with the names of past winners of the MBO. At the end of the Pier is the Roundhouse. The City and Ocean Teaching Stations, Inc. (OTS) have an agreement that permits the OTS to operate the Roundhouse as an aquarium, primarily used for teaching youth and the general public about sea life. In 2016, OTS, the Harrison Greenberg Foundation (HGF), and the City entered a cooperative agreement to renovate the Roundhouse Aquarium, which was completed in 2018.

These resources define Manhattan Beach and contribute significantly to its attractive living environment.



# 04

## COMPARATIVE LANDSCAPES

It is important to establish and examine peer cities in order to compare, contrast and plan for the future of Manhattan Beach's parks, recreation, and facilities in a measurable context. The process of benchmarking is to compare Manhattan Beach parks and facilities with similar cities in Southern California in order to analyze similarities, differences, deficits, and surpluses. The comparative analysis along with data and community input, serve to form the basis which will guide the future of Parks & Recreation within Manhattan Beach.









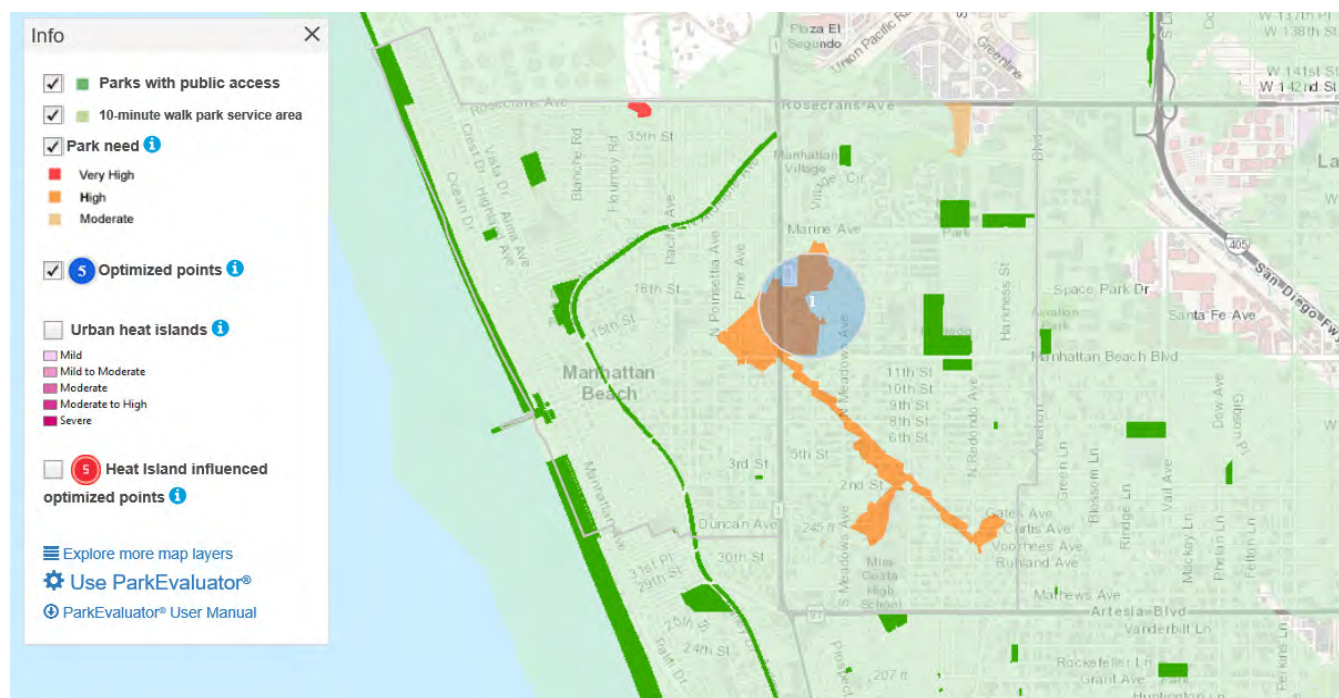
# PARK NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Encompassing a total of approximately 69 acres of park land (including Veterans Parkway), Manhattan Beach has a ratio of 1.92 acres of park land for every 1,000 residents versus a national average of 9.2 acres. As an opportunity to maximize available park land, Manhattan Beach entered into a joint-use agreement with Manhattan Beach Unified School District (MBUSD) to utilize and maintain school athletic fields, tennis courts, and swimming pools, thereby increasing the ratio to 3.2 acres of park land for every 1,000 residents. When the 2-mile long beach is included, open space increases to 179 acres or 5.3 acres for every 1,000 residents. As part of the city's General Plan, Manhattan Beach has established a service standard of providing at least 5.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents, including parks, the beach, and school grounds.

While providing park acreage at or above the established General Plan standard is important, the city must also ensure that all neighborhoods are well served by park locations and that park facilities match resident needs. Ideally, all residents of Manhattan Beach should have access to a park within a reasonable walking distance of their homes. This walking distance is referred to as the park service area. The service area standards recommended by the National Recreation and Parks Association indicate that a park typically should cover a 1/4 to 1/2-mile service area radius, depending on the size of the park. One-quarter mile is approximately a five-minute walking distance. Smaller parks, such as pocket parks, typically have a smaller service area, matching park needs to the immediate neighborhoods. Based on this distance standard, Manhattan Beach neighborhoods are well served by local parks. For those neighborhoods in the southeast portion of the community, school athletic fields provide a local park function outside of school hours.

Both residents of these neighborhoods and city staff have identified very localized needs for pocket parks and small passive open space.<sup>5</sup> The Los Angeles County report identifies an additional need for park space in north Manhattan Beach while Trust for Public Land identifies the need for additional park space in central Manhattan Beach.

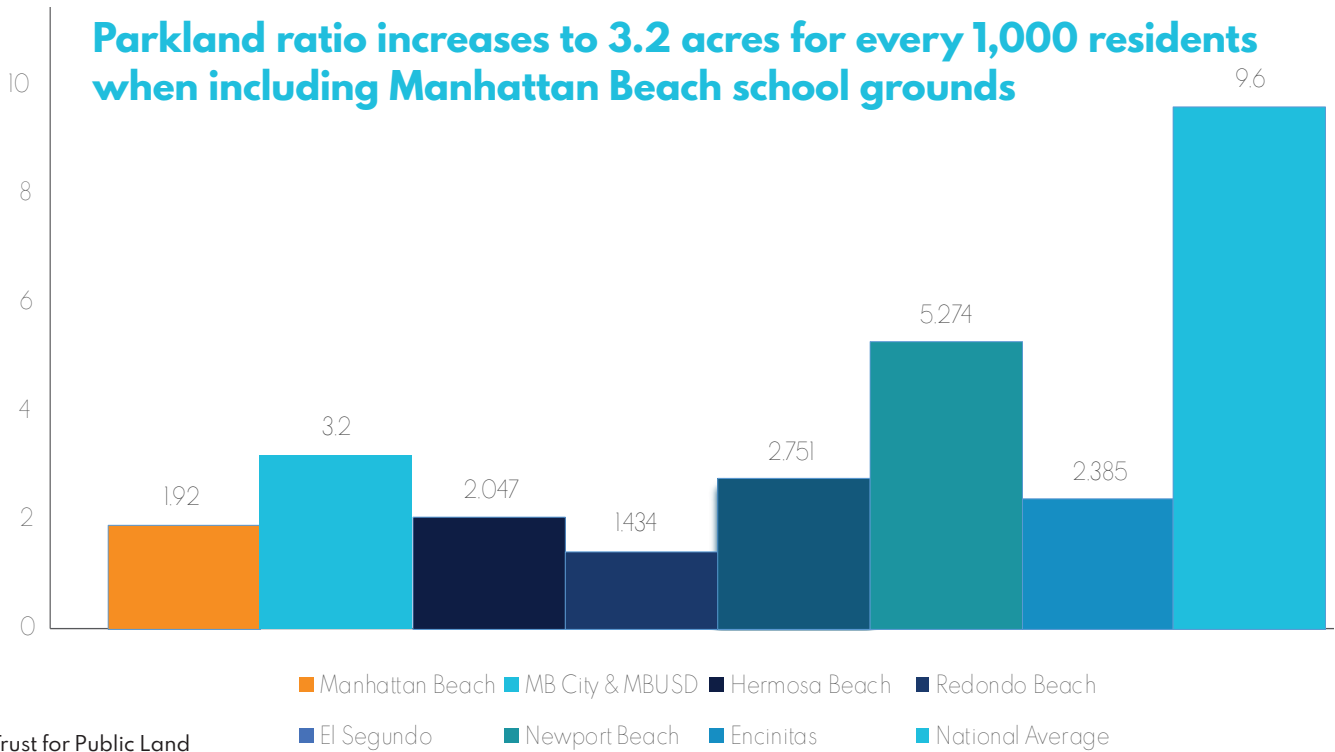
5 City General Plan



# BENCHMARK CITIES

When selecting comparable cities, the team identified coastal California cities with similar populations, demographics and characteristics. The analysis refers to the Trust for Public Land Report, the National Parks & Recreation Agency, and 2016 Los Angeles County Comprehensive Parks & Recreation County-wide Needs Assessment.

## Parkland ratio increases to 3.2 acres for every 1,000 residents when including Manhattan Beach school grounds

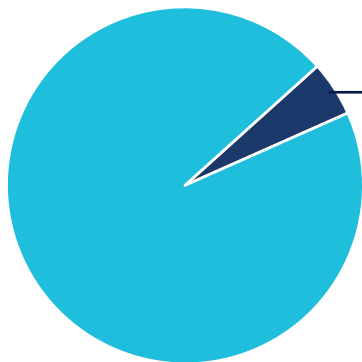


Trust for Public Land

Manhattan Beach encompasses 1.92\* acres of park land per 1,000 people. This is 4.8x less than the national average and lower than all benchmark cities. Los Angeles County averages 3.3 acres per 1,000 people.

# 95%

Live a 10-minute walk to a park



5% of MB is used for park and open space when including the beach

**95% of Manhattan Beach Residents live within a 10-minute walk to a park; that is 40% more than the National Average, even though only 5% of Manhattan Beach is dedicated to park space. Manhattan Beach has the highest population density amongst benchmark cities.**

Trust for Public Land

## SPORTS FIELDS

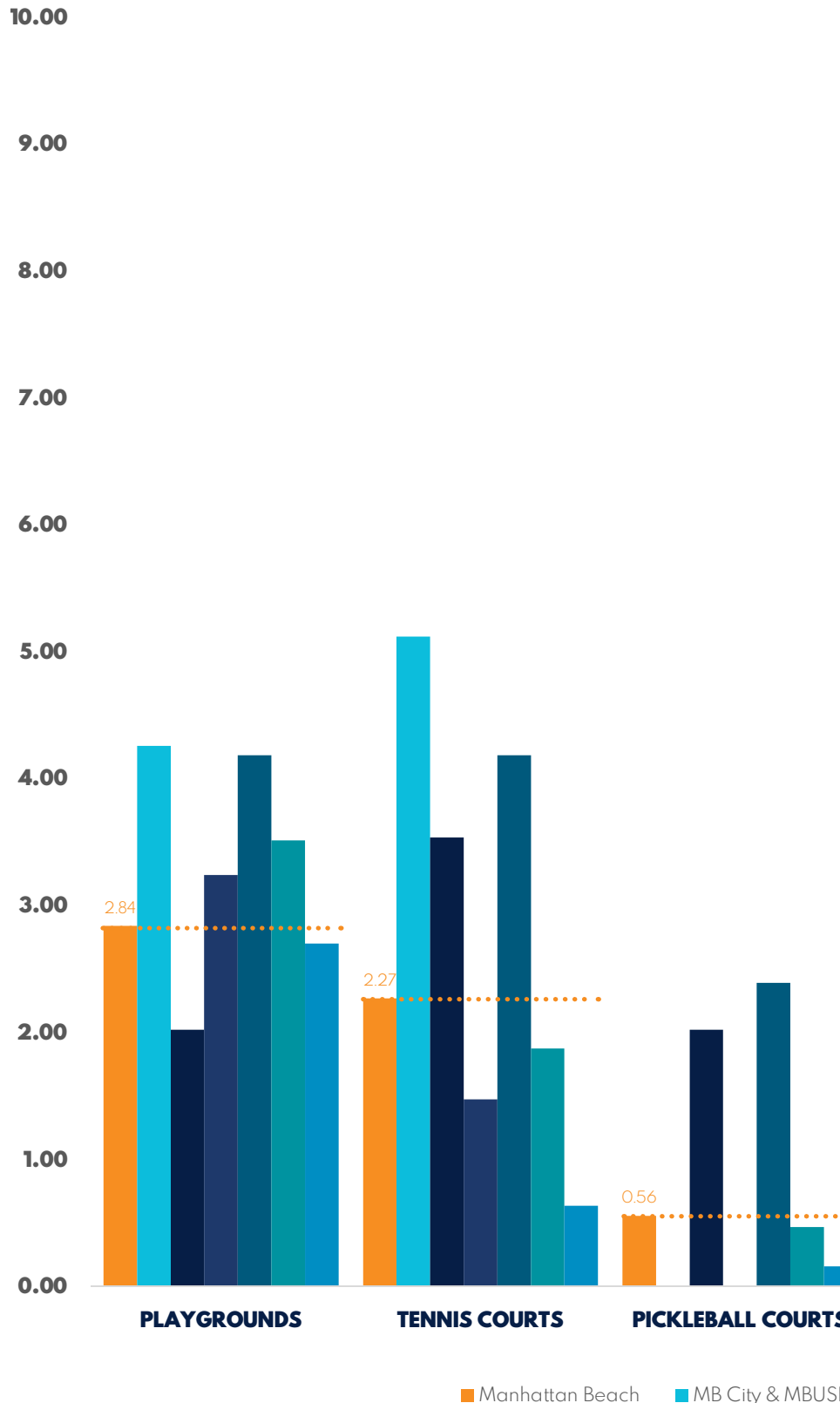
Manhattan Beach is unique in many ways and the recreation and sport amenities reflect the active lifestyle of its residents. With an active youth sports scene, the City operates and maintains eight additional multi-sport fields as part of the MBUSD Joint-Use Agreement; increasing the ratio to 4.26 fields per 10,000 residents, which is above the benchmark cities ratio per 10,000 residents.

## TENNIS COURTS

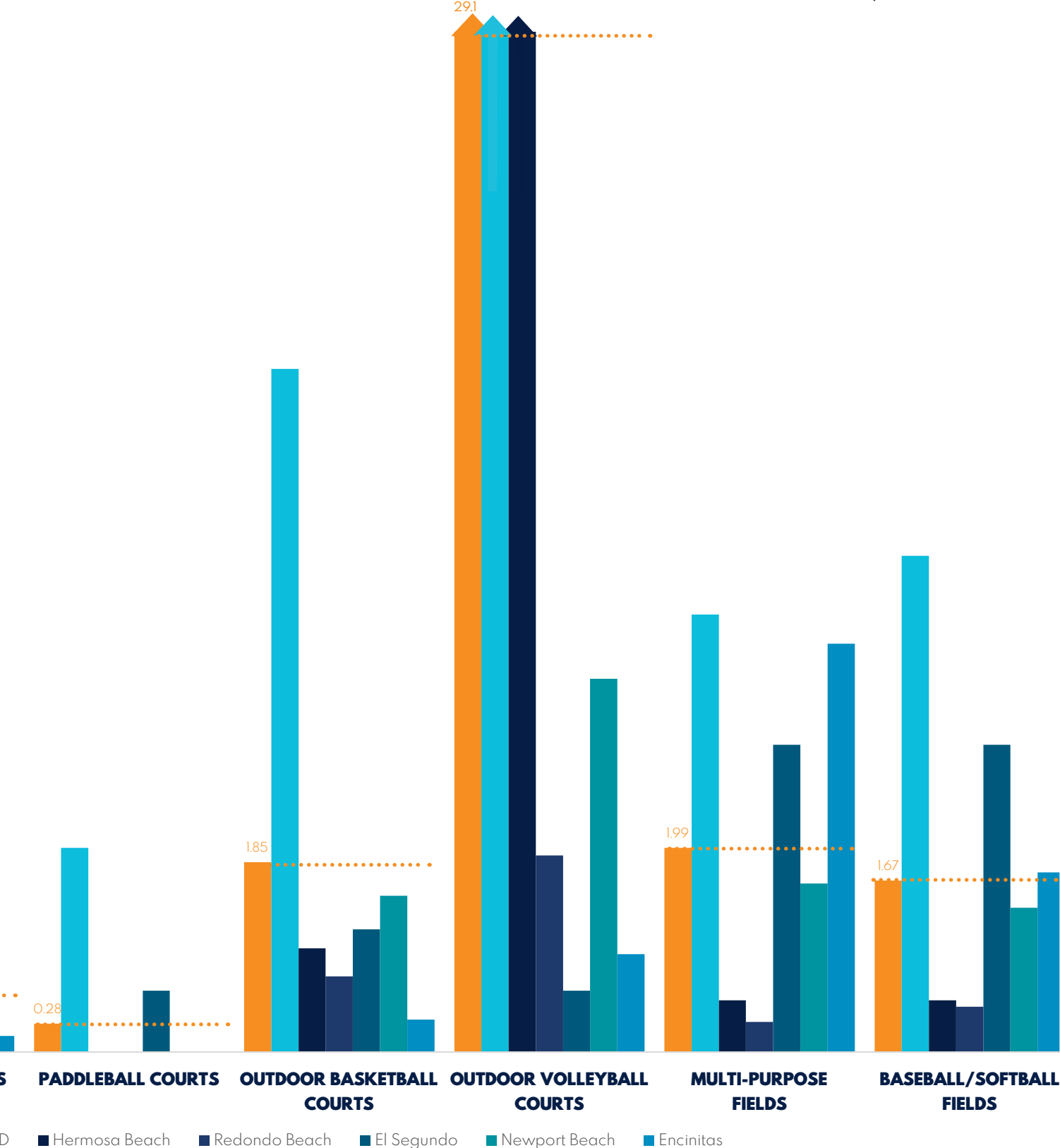
Whether taking a class, competing in league play or a friendly round robin tournament, one of Manhattan Beach residents' favorite active pastimes is playing tennis. Manhattan Beach has eight tennis courts between Live Oak and Manhattan Heights. Due to demand, the City operates and maintains 10 additional tennis courts at Mira Costa High School, bringing the comparison of tennis courts per 10,000 residents significantly higher than the benchmark cities ratio per 10,000 residents.

## PICKLEBALL & PADDLEBALL COURTS

Due to the rise in popularity of pickleball, many cities, including the benchmark cities, have been building pickleball courts or converting underutilized tennis and paddleball courts into pickleball courts. In 2019, the City of Manhattan Beach converted one paddleball court at Manhattan Heights into two permanent pickleball courts. In addition, one tennis court at Manhattan Heights converts to multiple temporary pickleball courts for instruction only. Manhattan Beach is one of just a few cities, along with neighboring El Segundo, where a dedicated paddleball court can be enjoyed.



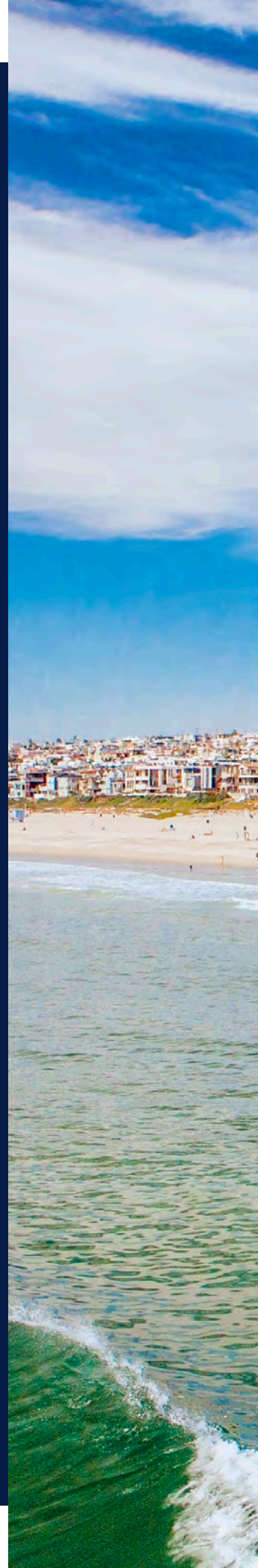
Recreation amenities per 10,000 residents



# 05

## THE PLAN

After synthesizing data received from previous policies and plans, in-depth analysis, and community engagement efforts, a vision and strategies for the future of parks & recreation was developed. This plan is intended to serve as a road map to assist leadership and staff when prioritizing Capital Improvement Projects and in contemplating new amenities.









# COMMON THEMES

Several common themes emerged through the public engagement process. The common themes serve as the basis for project recommendations included in the Plan.



A

## INCREASE & OPTIMIZE ACCESS TO OPEN SPACE

THIS INCLUDES ACQUIRING NEW PARK LAND, UTILIZING CITY-OWNED LAND THAT IS CURRENTLY UNDERUTILIZED.



B

## CREATE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

PARKS ACT AS A HUB FOR THE COMMUNITY, PROVIDING A PLACE FOR RESPITE FROM EVERYDAY LIFE; IN ADDITION THEY BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER TO ENJOY LEISURE AND RECREATION.



C

## OPTIMIZE EXISTING PARK & BEACH EXPERIENCES

WITHIN EXISTING PARK AND BEACH AREAS, WE CAN OPTIMIZE EXPERIENCES FOR USERS WITH FACILITY ENHANCEMENTS SUCH AS IMPROVEMENT TO LIGHTING, PARKING, ACCESSIBILITY, AND OTHER FEATURES.



D

## ENHANCE PLAY FOR ALL

FACILITIES AND PARKS SHOULD BE DESIGNED FOR USERS OF ALL AGES, ABILITIES, AND INTERESTS.

It should be noted, while conducting on-site assessments regarding the condition of the parks, facilities and amenities, there was a clear observation that many areas required additional maintenance and/or were in a state of disrepair. It is recommended that a "replacement schedule and updated maintenance plan" be put in place for annual review. Additionally, the projects that fall into this "plan" may be considered a maintenance or minor capital project. These items can be found on page 51.



## **PROJECTS ARE PLACED INTO THREE CATEGORIES, BASED ON ESTIMATED COST, COMPLEXITY, AND REQUIREMENTS FOR STAFF RESOURCES**

### **“QUICK WINS”**

Projects estimated to cost less than \$60,000 and require limited staff resources. These projects will be typically funded through the General Fund.

### **“MID RANGE”**

Projects estimated to cost between \$60,000 to \$1,000,000 and considered to take additional staff resources and time to complete. Funding may come from a variety of sources including: Capital Improvement Project (C.I.P.) Fund, Measure A grant allocation, donation programs, and small scale sponsorship.

### **“LONG-TERM VISION”**

Larger projects with an estimated cost to be over \$1,000,000 with significant complexity and requirements for staff resources; enhancing the quality of life for residents and requiring a vision for the future. Potential funding for these larger scale projects could come from a bond, community partnerships along with sponsorship naming rights, grants and the City's General Fund.



# INCREASE & OPTIMIZE ACCESS TO OPEN SPACE

## STRATEGIES:

CONVERT CURRENTLY UNDERUTILIZED PUBLIC LAND WITHIN MANHATTAN BEACH TO GREEN SPACE, USABLE PARKS, NATURE TRAILS, PARKETTES, DOG PARKS AND COMMUNITY GARDENS

---

SEEK TO ACQUIRE, THROUGH DONATION OR PURCHASE, PROPERTIES TO DEVELOP PARKETTES IN NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGHOUT THE CITY

---

REMOVE OR REPURPOSE FACILITIES THAT ARE CURRENTLY UNDERUTILIZED

---

INTEGRATE ROOFTOP PARKS INTO FACILITY DESIGNS WHEN BUILDING AND/OR REMODELING COMMUNITY CENTERS AND OTHER PUBLIC BUILDINGS

---



# PROPOSED PROJECTS

We have identified the following prioritized list of projects in support of the themes and strategies identified above. For a quick glance at all projects, please see page 51.



**A.1 EL PORTO POTENTIAL PARK SITE**



**A.1 POTENTIAL PARK SITE**

## QUICK WINS

### A.1 CREATE EL PORTO FAMILY PARK

Acquire the triangular lot east of the bike path from LA County and dedicate it as a local park intended to address the needs of El Porto residents for park space. The El Porto Family Park may include playground equipment, benches, picnic tables, and a shade structure. The 2016 Los Angeles County Parks Needs Assessment Report identified El Porto as the section of the City most severely lacking in park land per resident. Additionally, the residences in El Porto typically lack private yard space due to the small lots. The El Porto Family Park would address these issues and provide the families of El Porto with access to playground equipment without needing to drive their kids to Sand Dune Park or elsewhere.



**A.2 PROPOSED NATURE AREA**

### A.2 DEVELOP NATURE TRAILS AND WELCOMING NATURE SPACE

50% of survey respondents would like to see more nature trails in Manhattan Beach. Currently, there are uncharted and fenced-off locations surrounding Sand Dune Park, and along the western perimeter of Live Oak Park. The City parks have several acres of currently unused land identified by the Parks and Recreation Commission to be repurposed as natural “wilderness” spaces open to the public. This project would simply require the removal of some fencing, addition of entrance gates, development of trails, and perhaps the addition of safety lighting.



### A.3 CREATE A COMMUNITY GARDEN

In partnership with MBUSD, create a community garden utilize the undeveloped/ underutilized nature area adjacent to Begg Field. There is currently a sizable and completely underutilized space on the west side of Begg field that is filled with overgrown brush. This area could be cleared, regraded, and repurposed as a community garden, encouraging multi-generational use.

### A.3 AERIAL VIEW BEGG FIELD



### A.4 EXPAND AREAS FOR OUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS

Conduct additional community outreach to potentially build dog runs at 6th Street & Aviation Boulevard, and in partnership with MBUSD, Voorhees Avenue & Rowell Avenue. Alternatively, the neighborhood may determine a preferred use, possibly as a passive park or parkette, such as 8th Street or Larsson Street.

### A.4 AERIAL VIEW 6TH ST. & AVIATION BOULEVARD



### A.4 VOORHEES AVENUE & ROWELL AVENUE



### A.4 6TH STREET & AVIATION BOULEVARD





# MID-RANGE PROJECTS

## A.5 REPURPOSE THE LAND AND/OR BUILDING CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY THE PAY 'N' PLAY RACQUETBALL COURTS

The building in Marine Ave Park housing the racquetball courts was constructed in 1986 through a partnership and long-term lease agreement (30 years with two 10-year extensions) with Pay 'N' Play Racquetball of America Associates. Since that time, the popularity of racquetball has fallen dramatically and use of the facility has declined consistently over the past several years. The City should actively explore options to reacquire the property, or work with the lessee to repurpose the land and/or building for higher-value recreational activities. The City should identify an optimal use for the park space and building based on current recreational demand patterns, including, but not limited to, a possible new aquatics facility location, subject to identifying appropriate parking facilities.



**A.5 MARINE AVENUE PARK PAY 'N' PLAY**

# LONG-TERM PROJECTS

## A.6 SEEK POTENTIAL LOCATIONS TO BUILD A COMMUNITY AQUATICS FACILITY

While recognizing the cost and complexity of rebuilding a modern aquatics facility on the current site of Begg Pool, the ad-hoc committee has had discussions to explore other potential City-owned locations on which to build an aquatics facility.



**A.6 POTENTIAL LOCATION FOR AQUATICS FACILITY**

## A.7 EXPLORE ACQUIRING ARMORY LAND

The Armory land consists of 4.4 acres that could be used for various potential purposes, including: a new site for aquatics facility, community center, or other athletic facilities (including parking). In 1948, the City donated the land of the Armory facility to the State. The City should open a dialogue with the State about reacquiring the land if, in the future, the State determines that it no longer needs this property. Historical note, in 1989 the National Guard considered closing and eliminating the facility.



**A.7 ARMORY LAND**

## A.8 CONSIDER ACQUIRING THE SMALL LOT LOCATED AT 26TH STREET AND BELL

This property was formerly an SCE transformer station and is currently being decommissioned and remediated. It is suitable for a small dog park, parkette or community garden.



**A.8 26TH STREET & BELL AVENUE**



# CREATE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

## STRATEGIES:

DESIGN SPACES THAT ENCOURAGE MULTI-GENERATIONAL PROGRAMMING

---

EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO FOSTER SOCIAL INTERACTIONS THROUGH DESIGN AND EVENTS

---

RENOVATE FACILITIES TO INCREASE CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES AND PROMOTE MULTI-USE, AND FACILITY RENTALS INCLUDING WEDDINGS, MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND PERFORMING ARTS

---





**B. 1 CONCEPTUAL DESIGN IDEA FOR SUSTAINABLE STAGE**

## PROPOSED PROJECTS

### MID-RANGE PROJECTS

#### **B.1 DESIGN AND BUILD A STAGE WITH A PAVILION IN POLLIWOG PARK AMPHITHEATER**

Thousands of community members come to Polliwog Park on a weekly basis to dance, gather with friends and listen to music during the summer Concerts in the Park. Currently, the City rents a stage and speaker trellis for each concert. A permanent stage designed with sustainable materials blending into the natural environment would provide a protective structure for electronics and stage equipment, as well as enhance the sound. This item is currently identified in the Capital Improvement Plan for funding of the stage and foundation, and the Public Art Trust Fund has been identified to fund the pavilion.

#### **B.2 SEEK TO RENT VACANT SPACES IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA TO UTILIZE AS “POP UP” ART GALLERIES**

In partnership with the Downtown Manhattan Beach Business and Professional Association (DBPA), commercial landlords, and the Cultural Arts Commission, the City has an opportunity to enhance the vibrancy of Downtown and expand the visual arts opportunities in Manhattan Beach for local artist exhibitions. Currently, the Art Center provides four exhibitions per year and has limited visitors primarily due to lack of visibility and awareness.

# LONG-TERM PROJECTS



**B.3 EXAMPLE OF AN UPGRADED SENIOR CENTER IN NEWPORT BEACH**

# COMMUNITY STRENGTHEN

## B.3 RENOVATE OR REPLACE THE JOSLYN COMMUNITY CENTER

If funding was not an obstacle, a state-of-the-art community center continues to rank 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Community Survey. With a state-of-the-art community center adjacent to the planned new Senior/Scout House, the City could provide ample programming for all ages, and host multiple functions and events, such as weddings, meetings, and performing arts activities. In addition, this would be an opportunity to explore an underground parking area to increase parking for use by participants and to serve the downtown area.

The older adult population has increased and there are few affordable health and wellness, fitness and enrichment programs in the South Bay for seniors. According to the Senior Advisory Committee, seniors prefer a “one-stop-shop” location where they can participate in an array of programs, such as luncheons, events, computer classes, arts and crafts, fitness activities, and clubs. Additionally, the Older Adults programs utilize 80% of the total available space at the Joslyn Community Center, leaving little time and space available for preschool, youth, teen and adult programs.



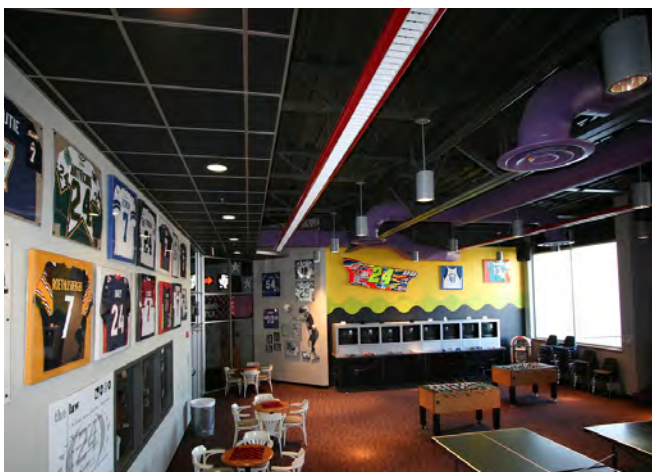


#### **B.4 RENOVATE OR REPLACE MANHATTAN HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER**

Manhattan Heights provides a safe place for kids after school thereby proactively reducing crime within the community. The REC program as well as the MBUSD Extended Day Program are at capacity. The facility design is poor, with no hallways to access classrooms, the auditorium or restrooms. The entry lobby and entry way are perceived to be at the back of the facility. Facility rooms do not have adequate ventilation. Therefore, the facility should be master planned to meet programmatic and community needs.

**“The priority should focus on youth and teen after-school opportunities. Safe hang-out places can provide diversion programs to the teens”**

- 2019 Community Meeting Attendee





# OPTIMIZE EXISTING FACILITIES

## STRATEGIES:

REINVEST IN EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE TO EXTEND USEFUL LIFE

---

UPGRADE BASIC COMFORTS SUCH AS LIGHTS, SHADE, AND SURFACING

---

INCREASE SUSTAINABLE FEATURES INTO FACILITIES THROUGH DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING

---

DEVELOP PROGRAMS TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF MANHATTAN BEACH HISTORY

---

INCORPORATE ART TO TELL THE STORY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

---

DEVELOP AREAS FOR SMALL GATHERINGS BY PROVIDING SEATING AND TABLES IN A VARIETY OF CONFIGURATIONS

---

INCORPORATE LITERACY AND THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY INTO PUBLIC PLACES BY ADDING CHARGING STATIONS INTO BENCHES, VIRTUAL REALITY-BASED INTERPRETIVE EXPERIENCES, AND PARK SPECIFIC MOBILE APPLICATIONS

---

# PROPOSED PROJECTS

## QUICK WINS

### C.1 INSTALL SHADE STRUCTURE AT LIVE OAK DOG RUN

Based on the usage of the Live Oak Dog Run, a permanent shade structure considering sunlight variations will provide for better aesthetics and ample shade for users.



C.1 LIVE OAK DOG RUN

## MID-RANGE PROJECTS



C.2 EXAMPLE OF LIGHTED BEACH VOLLEYBALL COURTS

### C.2 ADD ELEVATED SOLAR LIGHTS ON THE POLES OF THE BEACH VOLLEYBALL COURTS SOUTH OF THE PIER

Due to the popularity and high demand of beach volleyball courts for game play and instructional lessons, in partnership with LACDBH, the addition of solar lights on the poles will increase the play time available during the winter months when daylight is reduced.



C.3 PUBLIC ART IN PARKS

### C.3 INCREASE PUBLIC ART THROUGHOUT PARKS AND STREETSAPES

Public art attracts attention, transforms a landscape, and heightens aesthetic awareness. Art in city parks provides enjoyment and is a form of collective community expression.



C.3 STREETSAPES ART



C.4 MARINE AVENUE PARK COMMON AREA

### C.4 CREATE A COMMON AREA FOR SEATING AT MARINE AVENUE PARK

This area is not effectively utilized and has potential to provide additional seating and act as an extension for classes and camps that are held in the adjacent community center. Alternatively, it could be a suitable location for a skateable art installation.



### **C.5 REPLACE SAND DUNE BUILDING WITH A PREFABRICATED BUILDING**

The Sand Dune Community Center was once used as an afterschool program hub. Due to the lack of space and poor condition of the facility, however, the program was discontinued at that location. In addition, the facility lacks an adequate space for employees to check in dune users, and the restrooms are in poor condition and do not meet ADA standards. The adjacent wilderness area, rich in native plants, trees and flowers, often hosts members of the community for bird watching. A prefabricated community center could provide space for additional youth programming, classes, and serve as a resource to inform the community of the native flora and fauna.



**C.5 INSPIRATION FOR A PREFABRICATED NATURE COMMUNITY CENTER**



**C.6 EXAMPLE OF RETROFITTED SHIPPING CONTAINER (NEW ZEALAND)**

### **C.6 PLACE PREFABRICATED BUILDING FOR HISTORICAL ITEMS AND CREATE A HISTORICAL MUSEUM AT POLLIWOG PARK**

The Little Red Historical House, home to the Manhattan Beach Historical Society, is not ADA compliant and does not meet fire codes. Housing much of the City's history and a small museum, a prefabricated building would provide ample space for the history of the City to be displayed, stored, and accessed. In partnership with the Manhattan Beach Historical Society, the building would be operated and maintained by City employees and staffed by volunteers.



# LONG-TERM PROJECTS

## C.7 RENOVATE PUBLIC SPACES AT THE LIVE OAK HALL COMPLEX TO MAXIMIZE USAGE FOR CERAMICS, TENNIS OPERATIONS AND YOUTH AFTERSCHOOL AND SUMMER CAMP

With a vibrant community active in ceramics, tennis, youth sports and afterschool program activities, the Live Oak Hall Complex is heavily impacted, with a dated design that inhibits growth. In addition, the windows are outdated, the heating and air conditioning system is insufficient, storage is lacking, and there is no directional signage. Renovation of the area would provide options for the Ceramics Studio and the REC Afterschool Program to relocate and expand programming. An upgrade to the aesthetics of the rooms would provide for additional classes and rental spaces.



**C.7 INSPIRATION FOR A MODULAR ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDING (MANTECA, CA)**



# IN PROGRESS

## BEGG FIELD RENOVATIONS

Although located on MBUSD property, Begg Field is not associated with a particular school. Similar to Begg Pool, the field is predominantly utilized by the City as a rental location for youth and adult sports, with little usage by Manhattan Beach Middle School students. Adjacent to Peck Reservoir, Begg Field serves as a multi-sport field, allowing for multiple soccer or baseball games to occur simultaneously. The field is currently sloped and in poor condition, and the drainage creates puddles of water in the outfield and north infield dirt. The bleachers are in disrepair and the field lights are dim. Lacking a sufficient fence, the field poses safety concerns with the south side parking lot. It is prone to people jumping the fence and cars driving on the field after hours.



# ENHANCE PLAY FOR ALL

***“AQUATICS IS AN ALL-AGES PROGRAM, IT’S  
LOW IMPACT AND CAN BE USED BY THE ENTIRE  
COMMUNITY”***

– SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## **STRATEGIES:**

**EXPLORE WAYS TO INCORPORATE MULTI-GENERATIONAL PROGRAMMING**

---

**SEEK TO DEVELOP AREAS FOR UNSTRUCTURED PLAY**

---

**EMBRACE THE CULTURE OF HEALTH AND FITNESS**

---

**INCORPORATE PLAYFUL AMENITIES, WATER FEATURES AND GAMES INTO EXISTING PARKS**

---

**DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS WITH PRIVATE ENTITIES**

---



D.1 INSPIRATION FOR SKATEABLE ART (UTAH)

## PROPOSED PROJECTS

### MID-RANGE PROJECTS

#### D.1 INCORPORATE SKATEABLE ART THROUGHOUT PARKS

Although the addition of the Skate Spot at Marine Avenue Park has provided a gathering place for locals to skateboard, there is still a demand for increased designated areas for youth to skateboard on the west side of town. Skateable art pieces are obstacles with an artistic flair that utilize concrete sculptures to create unique terrain where the innovations of skateboarders can truly flourish.

### IN PROGRESS MARIPOSA FITNESS STATION

There is a current project underway to replace the Mariposa equipment on Veterans Parkway with a National Fitness Court. Project to be completed by the end of spring 2021.



FUTURE FITNESS STATION RENDERING



# LONG-TERM PROJECTS

## D.2 DESIGN AND BUILD AN AQUATICS CENTER

Begg Pool is at program capacity with few opportunities for program expansion. 56 aquatics programs are offered per year with 96% of them at full capacity.

In terms of priority, Begg Pool unambiguously continues to emerge as the communities top priority amongst recreation facilities. ***If funding became available, 53.5% of survey respondents would like to see an upgraded aquatics center.***<sup>6</sup> In addition, consistent with the FSP, Begg Pool received the highest priority ranking by the community in response to, “facilities in need of significant updates, remodel or replacement”.<sup>7</sup> An Aquatics Facility with enhanced amenities, such as a 30-meter pool, water play features and cabanas will provide additional rental opportunities.

6 2019 Parks Master Plan Community Survey  
7 February 2020 Community-wide Budget Survey



# IN PROGRESS

## LOWER POLLIWOG PARK PLAYGROUND RENOVATIONS

The original play area in lower Polliwog Park was built by members of a city service group in the 1970's with a large play area including a sunken wooden galleon. In 2003, the play structure was replaced with the modernized equipment and play surfacing present today.

The existing play equipment and surfacing is in a state of disrepair due to the extensive wear and tear of heavy regular use and periodic flooding. Due to safety concerns, a substantial portion of the existing play equipment is currently closed.

In Spring 2019, the City held community meetings and requested public input on playground equipment designs from four different playground equipment manufacturers. Through this process, the playground equipment design by Kompan, Inc. was selected for a revitalized Polliwog Park playground. Expected project completion: late 2021.

## D.2 EXAMPLE OF AN UPGRADED AQUATICS CENTER AT SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY





**We have identified the following prioritized list of projects in support of the themes and strategies to enhance recreation and leisure opportunities in Manhattan Beach.**

**QUICK WINS**

- Create El Porto Family Park in the triangular lot east of the Bike Path at 45th Street
- Develop nature trails around Sand Dune Park & Live Oak Park
- Create a community garden on the west side of Begg Field
- Expand areas for four-legged friends at 6th Street & Aviation Boulevard or Rowell Avenue & Voorhees Avenue
- Install shade structure at Live Oak Park Dog Run

**MID-RANGE PROJECTS**

- Repurpose the land and/or building currently occupied by the Pay-N-Play at Marine Avenue Park
- Design and build a stage with a pavilion (includes lighting & audio) at Polliwog Park
- Replace Sand Dune building with prefabricated building
- Create a common area for seating at Marine Avenue Park
- Incorporate solar lights on the poles of the beach volleyball courts south of the pier
- Incorporate skateable art equipment throughout parks
- Install prefabricated building for Historical Museum at Polliwog Park
- Seek to rent vacant spaces in downtown to utilize as pop-up art galleries
- Increase public art throughout streetscapes and in parks

**LONG-TERM PROJECTS**

- Design & build an aquatics center
- Renovate or replace Joslyn Community Center (includes increasing parking)
- Renovate or replace Manhattan Heights Community Center
- Renovate buildings at Live Oak Park used for ceramics, tennis and REC
- Explore opportunities for acquiring the Armory land for use as a recreation facility
- Explore opportunities for acquiring the small lot located at 26th Street & Bell Avenue

**IN-PROGRESS**

- Replacement of Mariposa Fitness Station equipment
- Replacement of lower Polliwog Park play equipment
- Begg Field renovations, including upgrading lights, sod, fencing and bleachers (pending agreement with Peck Reservoir contractor)

**ON-GOING MAINTENANCE & REPLACEMENT PROJECTS**

- Replace lights and bleachers at Manhattan Village, Dorsey and Begg Fields
- Set aside funds to replace picnic pads throughout parks
- Develop turf replacement fund
- Replace rubber chips with poured-in-place surfacing at Manhattan Village & Marine Avenue Park
- Relocate Marine Avenue Park ping pong tables to Polliwog Park
- Set aside funds to replace playgrounds on a rotational basis, as needed
- Set aside funds or solicit donations to replace fitness equipment on a rotational basis, as needed

**THEMES**

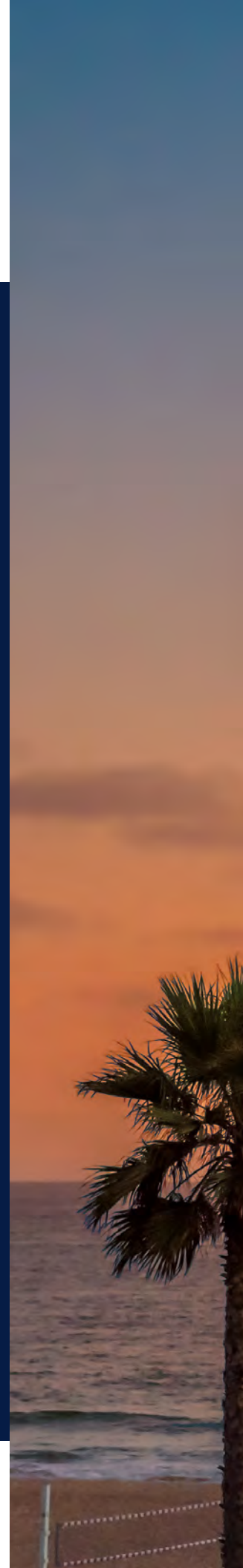
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**PROJETS AT-A-GLANCE**



# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Recommendations in the plan section of the document include operational expenses, maintenance expenses, and larger capital expenses. With a limited annual budget, park systems often need to be creative in finding funding sources. Prioritizing funding sources for ongoing maintenance, much needed renovations and new projects, is key to improving the opportunities, experiences and sense of community for Manhattan Beach residents.







# POTENTIAL FUNDING OPTIONS

## REPLACEMENT FUND

Although the City does not currently have a Parks and Recreation facility replacement fund, it is recommended the City consider developing a dedicated fund for future replacement of deferred maintenance items, such as picnic pads, play and fitness equipment, fencing, lighting, and bleachers. Such funding can be offset by Parks & Recreation facility reservations in addition to the City Facilities Improvement allocations.

## GENERAL FUND/CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FUND

There are dedicated revenue sources for the City's Capital Improvement Fund which provide reliable funds for important projects. Often, these funds have competing interests and there are not enough funds to adequately address all parks and facility maintenance and repair needs. Designating a percentage of the General Fund Surplus or a percentage of a fund dedicated to the C.I.P. allocation for Parks and Recreation will allow funds to accumulate over time to assist in funding projects presented in this document.

## ENTERPRISE FUNDS

The goal of an enterprise fund is to serve as a basis for a future capital project by depositing revenues from designated programs into an account that can only be used to renovate or upgrade an earmarked project. For example, it is recommended a synthetic turf account be established and revenues from synthetic turf field rentals be deposited into this account on an ongoing basis; therefore, when the field needs to be replaced, there is accumulated capital to offset the new turf.

## PUBLIC ARTS TRUST FUND

The Public Art Trust Fund Ordinance (also known as Percent for the Arts) became effective December 18, 2002. It sets aside a 1% development fee on residential developments of four or more units, and every commercial and industrial building project with building valuation exceeding \$500,000. This fee or allocation is also be imposed upon any remodeling project of existing commercial or industrial buildings and any residential building or complex of four or more units whether exterior or interior, when remodeling has a building valuation exceeding \$250,000. The applicant pays the 1% fee directly to the Public Arts Trust Fund at the time the building permit is issued.

## DONATIONS

The City Donation program allows for donations of park amenities, cash donations and sponsorships which may include naming rights for large projects. A legacy gift program may serve to provide space for park opportunities if land is donated to the City, or to honor a longtime Manhattan Beach resident with a one-time gift or estate donation in their name.

## QUIMBY ACT FUNDS

Established in 1975, the Quimby Act authorizes cities and counties to establish ordinances requiring that developers set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay fees for park improvements on projects of four or more residential units. Revenues generated through the Quimby Act are to be used only for the purpose of acquiring new land and improving parks. Funds cannot be used for the operation and maintenance of park facilities. The City collects approximately \$24,000 per year, which goes into the C.I.P. fund supporting recreation capital improvement projects.

## LA COUNTY SURPLUS LIBRARY FUNDS

This surplus is a result of Manhattan Beach property tax contributions exceeding the cost of library services. It is important to note that these funds are held by the County and are not available for any purpose other than library services.



## GRANTS & FUNDING PROGRAMS

### BOND MEASURES

With limited funds available through the City Capital Improvement Fund, the City may need to seek approval of a bond measure to provide funding to develop an Aquatics Center, Community Center or similar large-scale project. This may require voter approval and/or a new revenue source to fund debt service.

### PROP 68

The “California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018” was approved by voters in June 2018 and provides for a one-time allocation of \$177,952 through the Per Capita Grant Program, and an additional \$22,003 through the “Entities with Populations Less Than 200,000 in Heavily Urbanized Counties Per Capita Grant Program.” These allocations will be used to help fund the Polliwog Park Playground replacement project.

### MEASURE A

The “Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks and Beaches Measure of 2016” (Measure A) was approved by 75% of the voters in November 2016 to help meet current and future park needs. It replaces and improves on expiring funding from the voter-approved Propositions A of 1992 and 1996, and is administered by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District. Measure A provides for an annual grant allocation to the City of Manhattan Beach of approximately \$130,000 for projects and \$37,000 for maintenance and servicing of completed grant-funded projects, in perpetuity. Competitive grants are also available through Measure A.



# Park Maintenance Priorities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

November 28, 2022



# Parks Master Plan



- Increase and optimize access to open space
- Create a strong sense of identity
- Optimize existing park and beach experiences
- Enhance play for all

In process projects:

- Quick Wins – Shade Structure at Live Oak Dog Run
- Mid-Range – Develop Nature Trails and Welcoming Nature Space, Increase Public Art, Begg Field Renovations, and National Fitness Court
- Long-Term – Lower Polliwog Park Playground Renovations
- Research Stage – Sand Dune Building Upgrades and Aquatics Center





# Parks Master Plan

Select ongoing maintenance and replacement projects identified in Parks Master Plan:

- Set aside funds to replace picnic pads throughout parks
- Develop turf replacement fund
- Replace rubber chips with poured-in-place surfacing



# Priority Projects for FY 2022-2023

PROJECT	PROBABLE COST
Marine Field Turf Replacement*	\$250,000 + \$500,000 from user groups
Pay N Play Upgrades*	\$200,000
Live Oak Park and Marine Park Basketball Court Resurfacing	\$150,000
Polliwog Park Picnic Pads/Trash Cans/Kiosks Replacement*	\$90,000
Polliwog Park Dog Run Expansion	\$30,000
8 <sup>th</sup> Street Parkette and Larsson Street Parkette Upgrades	\$25,000
Marine Park HVAC Installation	\$25,000
Strand Parcourse Installation	\$10,000
Public Art Installations*	\$10,000
Manhattan Heights Drinking Fountain	\$10,000



# Priority Projects

PROJECTS SUBTOTAL	\$800,000
25% CONTINGENCY	\$200,000
TOTAL	\$1,000,000

\*Probable costs are based on scope of work and are not based on approved designs and construction documents. If actual project costs are less than estimates, remaining funds will be reallocated to additional maintenance priorities.\*

Potential park maintenance projects for FY 2023-2024 if City Council approves additional funding in next year's budget:

- Poured in place installations at playgrounds (mid-range project)
- Fencing and windscreen replacements at all parks (mid-range project)
- Manhattan Heights restroom upgrades (long-term project)



# Marine Field Turf Replacement





# Pay N Play Upgrades



# Basketball Courts Resurfacing



Live Oak



Marine



# Polliwog Park Picnic Pads+





# Polliwog Park Dog Run Expansion





# Parkette Upgrades - Larsson / 8<sup>th</sup>



# Marine Avenue Park HVAC Installation



# Strand Parcourse Installation





# Public Art Installations



*Dragon Tale*  
Rick Randall and  
Jaydon Sterling-Randall  
Manhattan Beach Art Center

*Exuberant Birds*  
Artists Margaret Lazzari and  
Lauren Evans  
Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden





# Manhattan Heights Drinking Fountain



# Next Steps

- Parks and Recreation Commission Discussion and Recommendations
- City Council Direction



**TO:**

Parks and Recreation Commission

**THROUGH:**

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director

**FROM:**

Melissa McCollum, Senior Recreation Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Consideration of a Proposed Polliwog Pavilion to Expand Eastside Library Services and Improve Access to the City's Historical Collection (Parks and Recreation Director Leyman).

**DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATION**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission discuss a concept for a new multifunctional space in Polliwog Park to expand Eastside library services, highlight and improve access to the City's historical collection, and increase programming opportunities for the City, LA County Library, Manhattan Beach Historical Society, and community.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no fiscal implications associated with the recommended action at this time. Once the City Council directs staff on this matter, future funding appropriations may be required.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Polliwog Pavilion concept was developed in response to community requests for a second library location in town as well as the need to improve the management, preservation, and access to the City's historical records, photos, newspapers, and artifacts. The Parks Master Plan includes a mid-range project to "Place prefabricated building for historical items and create a historical museum at Polliwog Park."

The Library Commission's Work Plan for 2022 included a survey to assess East Manhattan Beach Library Services. Survey highlights from the 129 respondents include:

- 48% said a small, satellite location in East Manhattan Beach would improve library services
- 38% said it is difficult to access the Manhattan Beach Library
- Parking (46%) and location (33%) were identified as top challenges to accessing the Manhattan Beach Library
- 62% identified checking out items as their top reason for visiting the library
- 53% reported using digital library services in the past year

City Council directed staff on July 19, 2022 to implement Phases 1 and 2 of an Action Plan prepared by History Associates Incorporated (HAI) to improve the care and management of the City of Manhattan Beach's historical collection. The historical collection, consisting of approximately 1,550 objects and 165 linear feet of archival material, is currently housed at the historical Red House, an external rented trailer, old restroom facilities in Polliwog Park, the Manhattan Beach Art Center (MBAC), and the Manhattan Beach Library. Collection challenges include:

- Lack of collection policy and procedures
- Out of scope material present in collections
- Backlog of uncatalogued materials
- Limited staffing resources
- Inadequate environmental and exhibit conditions
- Lack of formalized roles and responsibilities for fire protection, security, and emergency preparedness

The five phases of the Action Plan are outlined below. Target completion for Phases I and II is spring 2023.

- Phase I      Policy Development
- Phase II     Inventory and Survey Collections
- Phase III    Process, Catalog, Rehouse Collections
- Phase IV    Digitization
- Phase V     Maintain Collections

The City of Manhattan Beach has a branch of the LA County Library system. The property taxes paid into the system by Manhattan Beach residents exceeds the cost of operating the branch, including the debt service on the library building. The surplus funds are accumulated for the benefit of providing Manhattan Beach library services. Currently, there is an accumulated surplus balance of \$9.3 million. LA County Library recently determined surplus library funds may be used to improve access to the City's historical collection and build and operate a second library facility.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

In partnership with City staff, LA County Library developed a conceptual drawing for a 2,970 square foot structure comprised of a glass pavilion and a service core with a 1,840 square foot courtyard in Polliwog Park (see Attachment 1). An existing 1,186 square foot building housing electrical and mechanical elements for the park as well as storage space for the historical collection is currently located on the proposed site.

The preliminary budget estimate for this option is \$5 million, with actual costs to be determined. Ongoing operating costs for the new facility are estimated to be approximately \$638,000 per year. Manhattan Beach's library surplus has averaged over \$1 million per year for the last five years. Funding must be used for library services. It cannot be repurposed.



High impact library services at the new location would include picking up holds, browsing for bestsellers and children's books, book drops for returning items, access to WiFi and other technology, and programming for all ages. Benefits for the historical collection include enhanced care and management of records, expanded staff and volunteer assistance with accessing the collection, digitized newspapers, photos, and select collections, Manhattan Beach Historical Society meeting and programming space, and temporary, permanent, and digital displays.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH:**

The Polliwog Pavilion concept will be presented to the Library Commission on November 14, the Cultural Arts Commission on November 21, and the Parks and Recreation Commission on November 28. It was discussed at the MBUSD Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on November 1 and with representatives of the Manhattan Beach Historical Society on October 6 and November 9. A meeting with Friends of Polliwog Park is planned for December.

**ATTACHMENT:**

1. PowerPoint Presentation

# Polliwog Pavilion – Library, History and Recreation Facility

November 28, 2022



# Existing Facilities



Manhattan Beach Library



Red House





# Polliwog Park – Existing Site Photo

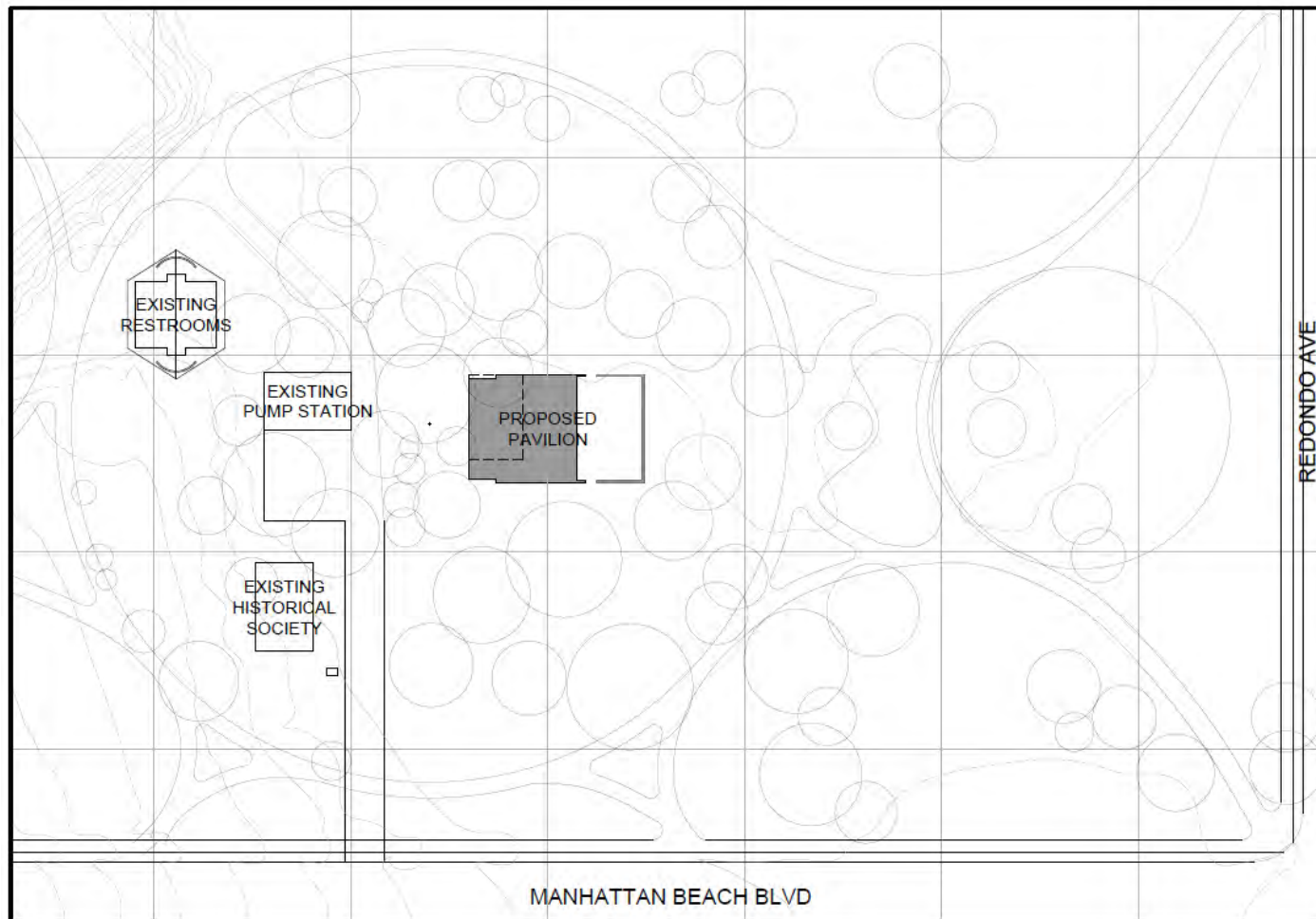




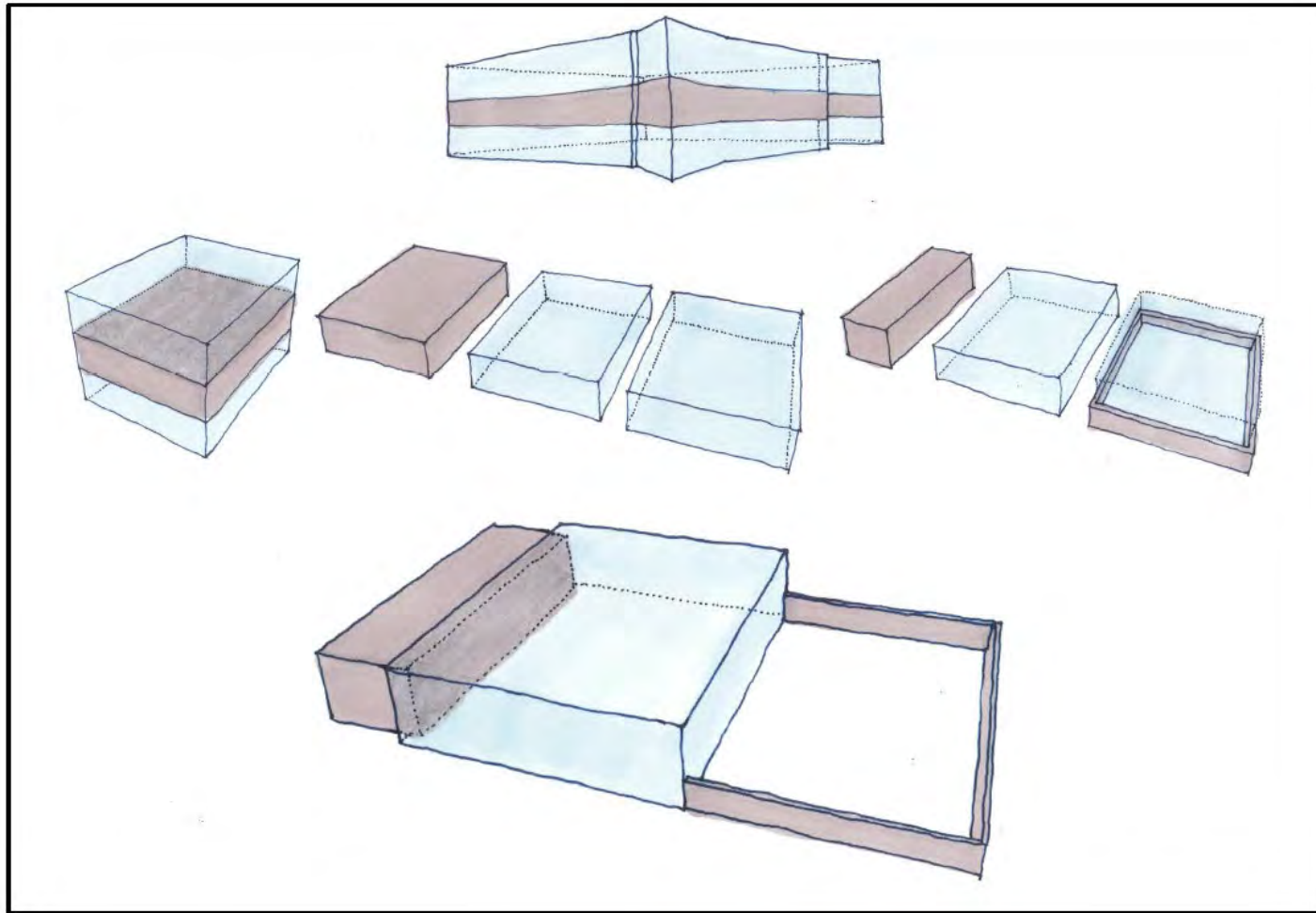
# Polliwog Park – Existing Site Photo #2



# Polliwog Park – Proposed Site

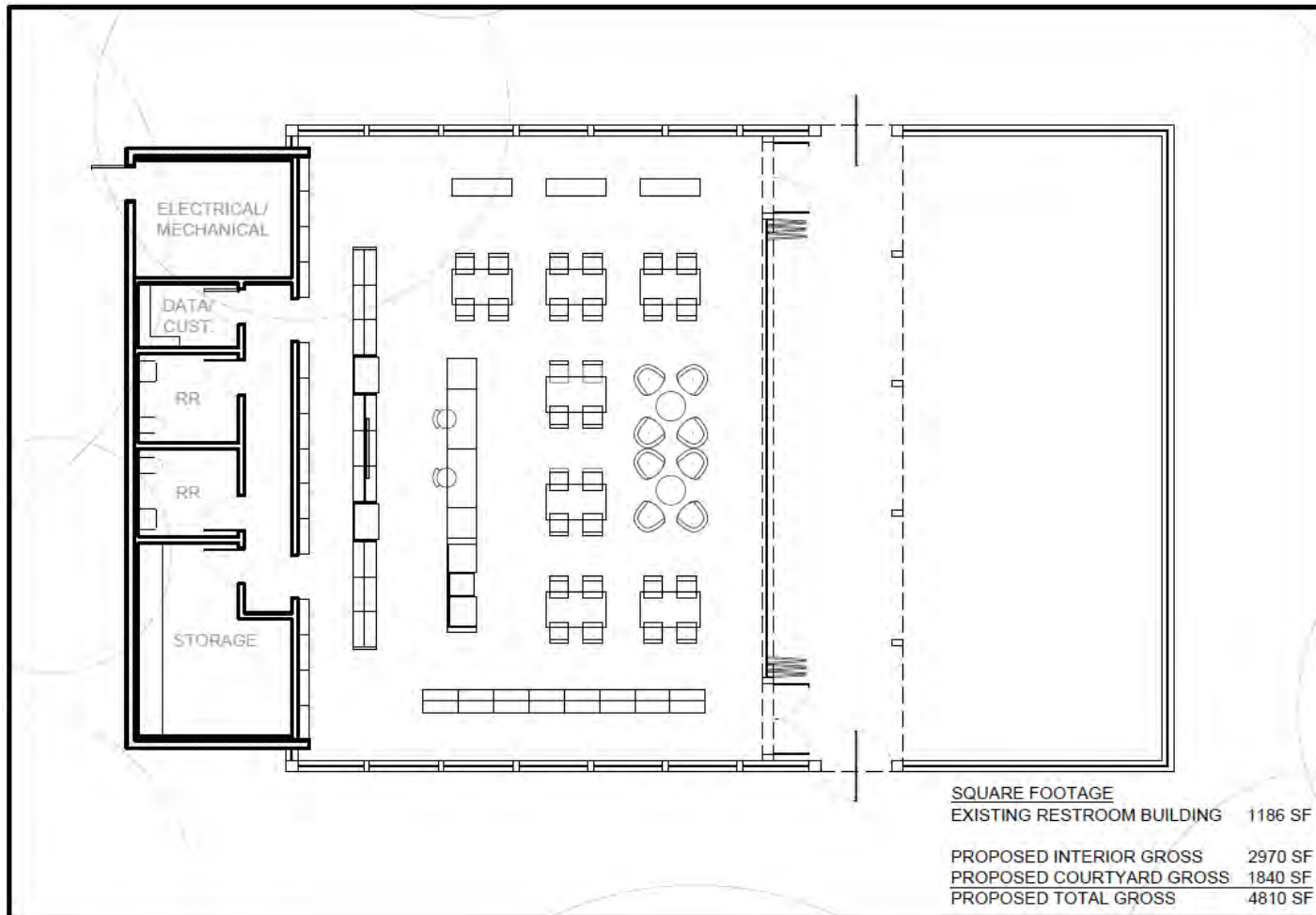


# Polliwog Pavilion – Diagram





# Polliwog Pavilion – Proposed Plan





# Project Highlights

LA COUNTY LIBRARY SURPLUS: \$9.3 MILLION

LIBRARY SERVICES	HISTORICAL COLLECTION
Pick up holds/return library items	Improved care/management of historical records
Browse bestsellers/children's books	Expanded staff and volunteer assistance with accessing collection
WiFi connectivity/access to technology	Digitized newspapers, photos, and select collections
Programming for all ages	Manhattan Beach Historical Society meeting and programming space
Opportunities for innovation/surprise	Temporary, permanent, and digital displays



# Next Steps- Feedback / Direction

- Commissions –Library Commission, Cultural Arts Commission, and Parks and Recreation Commission
- Community Outreach
- Manhattan Beach Unified School District
- City Council



**DATE:** November 28, 2022

**TO:**

Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:**

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director

**SUBJECT:**

Parks and Recreation Commission Work Plan for 2022-2023

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Discuss Parks and Recreation Work Plan items approved by the City Council at the joint City Council meeting on January 11, 2022.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Fiscal implications, if any, will be developed on a project-by-project basis and presented to the City Council as necessary.

**DISCUSSION:**

The City Council met with the Parks and Recreation Commission in a joint meeting on January 11, 2022 to provide direction and approve the following topics for the 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Work Plan.

- Sand Dune Park Master Plan (Nature Areas & Trails, building)
- Dog Parks & Community Parkettes
- Explore repurposing Pay'n'Play Racquetball Land/Building
- Explore Aquatics Facility
- Donation Policy and Programs

Ad-hoc committees will provide updates monthly.