

# [External Email] Resolution No. 24-11R

Abby Myers [REDACTED]

Mon 4/15/2024 3:53 PM

To: Skagway Correspondence <correspondence@skagway.org>;

[ATTENTION: This Email was received from outside the Municipality]

Dear Assembly and The Honorable Sam Bass,

I am reaching out to express my concerns regarding the new proposed fee schedule for the rec center. As a dedicated member of the community who values the services provided by the rec center, I believe it is crucial to ensure that the fee structure aligns with the needs and expectations of all patrons.

One question that arises is whether the adjustments to the fees are intended to primarily generate more revenue or to enhance accessibility to the facility for the community. While I understand the importance of financial sustainability, I would like to highlight a potential oversight regarding the proposed exemption of fees for families with children aged 0-13. While this may appear to be a strategy to attract more visitors, it inadvertently results in the provision of free daycare services during periods like spring break, as evidenced by the need for staff adjustments to accommodate the spring break camp.

I appreciate the efforts to offer engaging activities for children during breaks, but it is essential to clarify whether this aligns with the broader goal of making the facility accessible to all age groups. In this regard, I would like to advocate for the retention of the family plan or something similar, as it serves as a crucial affordability factor for families like mine. The significant price increase (from \$600 to \$950 annually for my family) would pose a significant burden for families with teenagers.

In light of recent discussions, I was surprised to learn that the Rec Center Director asserted that children aged 0 to 13 are less of a financial burden on the Rec Center. However, I respectfully disagree with this assertion. My disagreement stems from observations such as the requirement for staff members to work with children, as evident in every job announcement for the Rec Center.

To address these concerns and ensure a fair and sustainable fee structure, I propose several adjustments to the fee schedule:

1. Implement a student fee for individuals aged 5-18 years and who are enrolled in Skagway School or homeschooled in the community .
2. Offer free access for children aged 0-5 with a parent plan to promote inclusivity for families with young children.
3. Retain the family plan (or something similar) to support affordability for families with multiple members
4. Consider implementing seasonal rates, such as summer and winter rates, to provide flexibility and accommodate varying budgeting needs throughout the year.

I believe these adjustments would better balance the goals of revenue generation and community accessibility while addressing the specific needs of patrons across different demographics.

Thank you for considering my input on this matter.

Abby Myers