

**Recreational Facilities and Programming Assessment Study of Households in the City of  
DuPont, Washington**

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**Executive Summary**

The purpose of this research is to better understand the behavior and perceptions of households in the City of DuPont concerning public recreational facilities and programming. This report summarizes the results of both an externally valid representative survey of households in DuPont and a focus group discussion. Of the 4,191 households in DuPont, valid responses were provided by 567 households. The primary results of this survey are summarized below:

- 83% of respondents at least somewhat agree that the City of DuPont should develop new recreational facilities and programming;
- 87% of respondents would use new facilities or programs at least a few times per month;
- 74% of respondents are at least slightly likely to support the following funding model for new facilities: 80% from user fees, memberships, room rentals, etc. and 20% from public dollars and private donations.

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## Introduction

The City of DuPont desired an assessment study of households for proposed recreational facilities and programming. The results of the City's 2013 Parks Master Plan indicated that a Community Center was ranked #2 as a priority for its citizens; however, lack of funding and staff time has prohibited the city from moving forward until now. Funding from the Nisqually Indian Tribe has enabled the City of DuPont's Parks and Recreation Agency and the non-profit organization, Partnerships Aligning Recreation, Parks, and Community Services-DuPont (P.A.R.C.S.) to initiate a scientific study that gauges the community's interest in developing additional facilities and programming services for recreational activities.

Quality of life is among the core values of the city. As such, there are several individual, economic, social, and environmental benefits of parks and recreation services that are essential to the public good. Determining household needs, interests, and concerns related to recreational facilities and programming will enable the City of DuPont to direct planning and resources for the benefit of the community. The purpose of this study is to understand public perceptions about the City of DuPont's recreational facilities and programs, and particularly the level of support among DuPont residents for new recreational facilities and programming. The intended outcome is for the City of DuPont and respective stakeholders to be well versed on aspects of public opinion associated with the proposed recreational facilities and programming plans and to make informed decisions that meet the community's needs and desires.

The survey is sub-divided into three sections. The first section includes a comprehensive household demographic profile. This section is followed by questions that examine the households' current utilization and awareness of the available programs and activities in DuPont as well as current obstacles that limit utilization of current programs and activities. The last section includes questions that address the level of support for new recreational facilities and programs.

## Project Process

The analysis of the assessment study for the proposed recreational facilities and programming includes a robust community input process. A stakeholder meeting was conducted in May 2018 to determine the scope of the project, including both objectives of the research and the survey instruments to be used. The survey was developed and disseminated during June 2018 in collaboration with city officials and P.A.R.C.S. members. The results of the survey were collected, analyzed, and reported by the authors. The survey produced statistically reliable and valid results of which the findings are included in this report. A focus group was held on July 18 that included a public presentation of the results and a discussion about the results facilitated by the authors. This report summarizes the results of this process.

## Desired Outcomes

The results of the survey will help determine the following for each household in the City of DuPont:

- Comprehensive summary of demographic composition.
- The extent to which current recreational programs and activities provided by DuPont's Parks and Recreation Agency meet a household's needs and what programs are currently being utilized.
- The obstacles that limit a household from utilizing current recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont.
- The level of support and prioritization for developing new recreational facilities and programming.
- The level of support for a proposed funding model that will support the new recreational facilities and programming.

## Community Input Summary

### Public Participation Process

This assessment study aims to understand the current utilization and future preferences for recreational facilities and programming among households in the City of DuPont. To ensure that the results are reflective of the needs and objectives of all stakeholders, a survey was developed by the authors in collaboration with city officials and P.A.R.C.S. Every household in the City of DuPont was invited to participate in the survey. A recruitment letter with instructions to complete the survey and how to access the survey online was mailed to all 4,191 households. A link to the survey was posted on the City of DuPont's website entitled: "Recreation and Community Center Survey 2018". The City of DuPont and P.A.R.C.S. encouraged households to respond to the survey via social media and online platforms. Furthermore, respondents were incentivized to complete the survey with an opportunity to receive a \$200 Amazon gift card, or one of three \$50 gift cards from DuPont businesses based on a randomized drawing.

The survey opened on June 5, 2018 and closed at midnight on June 27, 2018. A total of 567 valid responses were collected. The response rate of 13.5% provided a 95% level of confidence and a confidence interval of +/- 2.6%. Only responses with 50% or more of the survey completed and those completed by respondents 18 years old or older are included as valid responses.

As part of the public participation process, the results were presented to the public in DuPont on July 18 and a focus group with stakeholders was held open to the public discussing the results of the survey.

## Summary of Survey Results

A summary of the results from the survey include the following:

- 53% of respondents at least somewhat agree that the available programs and activities in DuPont meet their household needs.
- 44% of respondents indicated that a lack of facilities or amenities is an obstacle limiting a household from utilizing current recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont.
- 83% of respondents at least somewhat agree that the City of DuPont should develop new recreational facilities and programs.
- The facility with the highest rating is a pool as 58% of respondents indicated it is at least very important to their household.
- 87% of respondents would use new facilities or programs at least a few times per month.
- 74% of respondents are at least slightly likely to support the following funding model: 80% from user fees, memberships, room rentals, etc. and 20% from public dollars and private donations.

## Survey Results

The survey results are divided into three sub-categories.

- Demographics
- Current Utilization and Obstacles
- Program and Facilities Preferences

The full survey is included in the appendix of this report. A detailed discussion of the overall results is provided below. The results report both the frequency in terms of percentage and the number of respondents. For multiple questions the overall scores are provided as well as cross-tabulation of scores with specific demographic groups such as likely voters and household type.

### Demographics

Respondents provided robust demographic information that included gender, age, education, household income, household composition and type, race, employment status, special needs requirements, military status, current residence, and voter status.

#### Gender

Of those who answered the question about respondent gender, 68% indicated they were female, 24% male, and 8% preferred not to answer.

Gender	Percentage	Respondents
Female	68%	386
Male	24%	138
<b>Total</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>524</b>

#### Age

The average age of the respondent is about 45 years old. The range of age for respondents was 18 years old to 85 years old.

#### Education

Of those who indicated the highest level of education attained, 68% answered bachelor's degree or higher. Twenty-six percent of respondents answered some college, 3% are high school graduates, and 3% of the survey respondents did not answer this question.

Education Level	Percentage	Respondents
Bachelor's Degree	39%	219
Graduate Degree	29%	165
Some College	26%	149
HS Graduate	3%	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>550</b>

## Household Income

The question that asks respondents to indicate their annual household income includes the following options:

- 1= Less than \$24,999
- 2= \$25,000 to \$49,999
- 3= \$50,000 to \$74,999
- 4= \$75,000 to \$99,999
- 5= \$100,000 to \$124,999
- 6= \$125,000 to \$149,999
- 7= \$150,000 or higher

The average household income is between \$75,000 to \$99,999 and \$100,000 to \$124,999. The median is \$100,000 to \$124,999. The most frequently responded answer is \$75,000 to \$99,999.

Household Income	
Mean	4.7
Median	(5) \$100,000 to \$125,0000
Mode	(4) \$75,000 to \$99,999

## Household Composition

The average number of people in a household is 3.5, while the minimum amount is 1 person and the maximum are 8 persons.

Number of People in Household	
Mean	3.5
Minimum	1
Maximum	8

## Household Type

Eighty-five percent of respondents indicated that their household includes adults (ages 18-64) (n=482); 51% of households include children (12 and under) (n=289); 28% include teenagers (13-17) (n=159); and 17% include seniors (65+) (n=96).

## Race

For the question that asks respondents to indicate their race/ethnicity, 63% indicated white. The remaining 20% indicated a race/ethnicity other than white, while 17% of respondents did not answer this question.

Race/Ethnicity	Percentage	Respondents
White	63%	359
Hispanic or Latino	5%	28
Asian	5%	26
Other	5%	26
Black or African American	3%	14
American Indian or Alaska Native	1%	7
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1%	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>464</b>

## Employment Status

Of those who indicated their current employment status, 63% answered employed, and 14% of respondents answered retired. The remaining 16% of respondents answered either other, unemployed, or student. Seven percent of respondents chose not to answer this question.

Employment Status	Percentage	Respondents
Employed	63%	355
Retired	14%	78
Other	10%	59
Unemployed	4%	20
Student	2%	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>521</b>

## Special Needs Requirements

For the question that asks, "Does someone in your household have special needs that requires assistance to utilize public services (e.g. wheelchair ramps)?" a total of 6% answered yes.



## Military Status

Of those who indicated their military status, 21% answered as military dependent, 10% are active duty, and 11% are either veterans or retirees. Eighteen percent of respondents are civilians (no military service) and 20% indicated none. Seven percent of respondents did not indicate their military status.

Military Status	Frequency	Respondents
Military Dependent	21%	118
None	20%	114
Civilian	18%	104
Retiree	11%	63
Veteran	11%	60
Active Duty	10%	56
Reserves	1%	5
National Guard	1%	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>525</b>

## Current Residence

Of those who indicated their current residential status, 72% answered that they own, including those who have a mortgage loan. Twenty-four percent answered that they rent, 1% indicated living at home or other, and 3% of respondents did not answer this question.

Current Residence	Frequency	Respondents
Own	72%	407
Rent	24%	134
Living at Home or Other	1%	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>546</b>

## Voting Information

Among all respondents, 79% indicated that they are a registered voter in the State of Washington and 80% indicated that they voted in the 2016 U.S. general election. Respondents that are both registered voters and voted in the previous general election are identified as “Likely Voters”. They represent 72% of all respondents. The remaining respondents answered No, Not Sure, or Prefer Not to Answer.

Voting Information	Percentage	Respondents
Registered Voter	79%	447
Voted 2016 General Election	80%	456
Likely Voters	72%	408

## Current Utilization

The following results describe a households' current recreational behavior and its relationship to the recreational programs and activities that are provided by the City of DuPont's Parks and Recreation Agency. The results are divided into overall respondents and then by demographic composition (likely voter, homeowner, military-affiliated, and household type).

*To what extent does your household agree that the current recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont's Parks and Recreation Agency meet your household needs?*

- 1= Strongly Disagree
- 2= Disagree
- 3= Somewhat Disagree
- 4= Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 5= Somewhat Agree
- 6= Agree
- 7= Strongly Agree

### Overall

Answer	Percentage/Respondents (n)	Mean
At least somewhat agree (5)	53% (298)	4.3

About half (53%) of all respondents indicated a least somewhat agree that the current recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont's Parks and Recreation Agency meet their household needs.

### By Demographic Composition

Demographic	At least somewhat agree (5) Percentage/ Respondents (n)
Likely Voters	54% (213)
Home Owner	52% (205)
<i>Military</i>	
Current Military	60% (19)
Veteran Retired Military	62% (74)
Non-Military	50% (103)
<i>Household Type</i>	
Households Children	51% (143)
Household Teens	47% (74)
Household Adults	54% (252)
Household Seniors	52% (47)

Of all likely voters, 54% at least somewhat agree that the current recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont’s Parks and Recreation Agency meet their household needs. To a similar degree, about 50% or slightly more of homeowners and the various households at least somewhat agree also. The lowest level was among households with teens (47%). Military-affiliated households (about 60%) feel that the current recreational programs and activities provided by the city meet their household needs.

Note, this excludes respondents that did not complete the question. Therefore, the population of the demographic group varies depending on how many responded to the question. For example, in the entire survey there are 408 total “likely voters”, however, 392 provided a response to the question above about current needs being met. Therefore, the 214 that responded at least “somewhat agree” are out of 392 possible responses instead of 408.

*Please indicate whether your household has utilized the following recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont during the past 12 months?*

**Overall**

Utilization of current recreational programs and activities varies greatly from a high of 65% of all respondents indicating that they have attended a special event during the past 12 months while only 3% participate in adult sports. A majority of respondents have attended special events (65%), family events (58%), and concert in the park (50%). Other programs that had relatively high levels of participation are youth sports (24%) and an outdoor nature program (22%).

<b>Program or Activity</b>	<b>Yes Percentage/Respondents (n)</b>
Special Events	65% (366)
Family Events	58% (330)
Concert in the Park	50% (283)
Youth Sports (ages 4-13)	24% (137)
Outdoor Nature Programs	22% (124)
Educational Programming	8% (47)
Teen Activities (ages 13-17)	7% (41)
Senior Programs (ages 50-up)	7% (38)
Trip and Adventures	6% (36)
Art and Culture Classes	6% (31)
Infant/Toddler Programs	4% (24)
Adult Sports (ages 18-up)	3% (13)

## Household Type

Of all household types, the most frequently utilized recreational programs and activities are special events, family events, and concerts. Youth sports are also a popular activity among households with children and teens. Outdoor nature programs are also frequently utilized among households but to a lesser degree. The tables below report the percentage of recreational programs and activities utilized by household type. Note, this excludes respondents that did not complete the question. Therefore, the population of the demographic group varies depending on how many responded to the question.

### Households with Children

<b>Program or Activity</b>	<b>Yes Percentage/Respondents (n)</b>
Family Events	73% (194)
Special Events	71% (191)
Concert in the Park	51% (134)
Youth Sports (ages 4-13)	44% (120)
Outdoor Nature Programs	20% (49)
Teen Activities (ages 13-17)	9% (23)
Infant/Toddler Programs	9% (22)
Educational Programming	8% (19)
Art and Culture Classes	5% (11)
Trip and Adventures	4% (10)
Adult Sports (ages 18-up)	1% (3)
Senior Programs (ages 50-up)	1% (3)

### Households with Teens

<b>Program or Activity</b>	<b>Yes Percentage/Respondents (n)</b>
Special Events	75% (111)
Family Events	70% (106)
Concert in the Park	58% (82)
Youth Sports (ages 4-13)	40% (58)
Outdoor Nature Programs	28% (37)
Teen Activities (ages 13-17)	26% (36)
Trip and Adventures	12% (15)
Art and Culture Classes	8% (10)
Educational Programming	7% (9)
Adult Sports (ages 18-up)	6% (8)
Infant/Toddler Programs	6% (8)
Senior Programs (ages 50-up)	5% (7)

### Households with Adults

Program or Activity	Yes Percentage/Respondents (n)
Special Events	71% (321)
Family Events	66% (301)
Concert in the Park	54% (240)
Youth Sports (ages 4-13)	29% (127)
Outdoor Nature Programs	26% (108)
Educational Programming	10% (38)
Teen Activities (ages 13-17)	9% (38)
Trip and Adventures	8% (31)
Art and Culture Classes	7% (27)
Infant/Toddler Programs	6% (23)
Senior Programs (ages 50-up)	5% (22)
Adult Sports (ages 18-up)	3% (12)

### Households with Seniors

Program or Activity	Yes Percentage/Respondents (n)
Special Events	80% (66)
Concert in the Park	64% (57)
Family Events	57% (47)
Outdoor Nature Programs	34% (25)
Senior Programs (ages 50-up)	31% (25)
Educational Programming	25% (17)
Youth Sports (ages 4-13)	14% (11)
Art and Culture Classes	14% (10)
Trip and Adventures	14% (10)
Teen Activities (ages 13-17)	7% (5)
Adult Sports (ages 18-up)	7% (5)
Infant/Toddler Programs	4% (3)

*What are some of the obstacles that limit your household from utilizing current recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont? (Please select ALL that apply.)*

**Overall**

Among the list of obstacles that limit a household from utilizing current recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont, the most frequently selected obstacles are the lack of facilities or amenities (44%) and desired programs are not being offered (40%). Other commonly selected obstacles include not being aware of the programs or facilities available (32%), programs are not offered at desired times (20%), and lack of time or due to other personal issues (19%). The least selected obstacles among the list include prefer other recreation providers (8%), hours of operation (8%), quality of equipment (5%), safety concerns (3%) and accessibility (3%).

<b>Obstacle</b>	<b>Percentage/Respondents (n)</b>
Lack of facilities or amenities available	44% (250)
Programs I want are not being offered	40% (226)
Not aware of the programs or facilities	32% (183)
Programs are not offered at times I want	20% (111)
No time or other personal issues	19% (106)
Hours of operation	8% (44)
Prefer other recreation providers	8% (43)
Quality of Equipment	5% (28)
Accessibility	3% (19)
Safety concerns	3% (18)

## Program and Facilities Preferences

The following results describe household preferences for new recreational facilities and programming provided by the City of DuPont. The results are divided into overall respondents and then by demographic composition (likely voter, homeowner, military-affiliated, and household type).

*To what extent do you agree that the City of DuPont should develop new recreational facilities and programming?*

- 1= Strongly Disagree
- 2= Disagree
- 3= Somewhat Disagree
- 4= Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 5= Somewhat Agree
- 6= Agree
- 7= Strongly Agree

### Overall

Answer	Frequency/ Respondents (n)	Mean
At least somewhat agree (5)	83% (469)	5.9

The average response for this question was agree. Eighty-three percent of respondents indicated a least somewhat agree that the City of DuPont should develop new recreational facilities and programming. Notably, 48% (n=276) of all respondents indicated strongly agree.

### By Demographic Composition

Demographic	At least somewhat agree (5) Percentage/ Respondents (n)
Likely Voters	84% (337)
Home Owner	85% (341)
<i>Military</i>	
Current Military	93% (166)
Veteran Retired Military	77% (92)
Non-Military	87% (187)
<i>Household Type</i>	
Households Children	90% (257)
Household Teens	89% (141)
Household Adults	86% (409)
Household Seniors	85% (77)

Of all likely voters, a vast majority (84%) at least somewhat agree that the City of DuPont should develop new recreational facilities and programming. Similarly, 85% of homeowners, 93% of current military, 77% of veterans, 87% of non-military, 90% of households with children, 89% of households with teens, 86% of households with adults, and 85% of households with seniors at least somewhat agree also. Note, this excludes respondents that did not complete the question. Therefore, the population of the demographic group varies depending on how many responded to the question.

*To what extent do you agree that new recreational facilities and programming should be a priority for the City of DuPont?*

- 1= Strongly Disagree
- 2= Disagree
- 3= Somewhat Disagree
- 4= Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 5= Somewhat Agree
- 6= Agree
- 7= Strongly Agree

**Overall**

Answer	Frequency/Respondents (n)	Mean
At least somewhat agree (5)	79% (445)	5.6

The average response for this question is between somewhat agree and agree. Seventy-nine percent of all respondents indicated a least somewhat agree that new recreational facilities and programming should be a priority for the City of DuPont. Notably, 40% (n=228) of all respondents indicated strongly agree.



## By Demographic Composition

<b>Demographic</b>	<b>At least somewhat agree (5) Percentage/ Respondents (n)</b>
Likely Voters	79% (316)
Home Owner	80% (321)
<i>Military</i>	
Current Military	88% (161)
Veteran Retired Military	79% (95)
Non-Military	80% (171)
<i>Household Type</i>	
Households Children	89% (255)
Household Teens	85% (135)
Household Adults	82% (389)
Household Seniors	77% (71)

Of all likely voters, 79% at least somewhat agree that new recreational facilities and programming should be a priority for the City of DuPont. Eighty percent of homeowners, 88% of current military, 79% of veterans, 80% of non-military, 89% of households with children, 85% of households with teens, 82% of households with adults, and 77% of households with seniors at least somewhat agree as well. Note, this excludes respondents that did not complete the question. Therefore, the population of the demographic group varies depending on how many responded to the question.

*If the new recreational facilities and programming had the programs and offerings that are important to your household, how frequently would members of your household utilize them?*

- 1= Never
- 2= Annually
- 3= Less than once per month
- 4= Monthly
- 5= A few times per month
- 6= Once per week
- 7= Several times per week

### Overall

<b>Answer</b>	<b>Frequency/Respondents (n)</b>	<b>Mean</b>
At least a few times per month (5)	87% (491)	6.1

Eighty-seven percent of all respondents indicated that they would use new recreational facilities and programming at least a few times per month if the programs and offerings are

important to their household. Notably, 50% (n=284) of respondents indicated that they would use the new recreational facilities and programming several times per week.

**By Demographic Composition**

<b>Demographic</b>	<b>At least a few times per month (5) Percentage/ Respondents (n)</b>
Likely Voters	91% (351)
Home Owner	95% (172)
<i>Military</i>	
Current Military	86% (101)
Veteran Retired Military	94% (195)
Non-Military	97% (277)
<i>Household Type</i>	
Households Children	94% (146)
Household Teens	94% (436)
Household Adults	86% (74)
Household Seniors	80% (281)

Of all likely voters, 91% indicated that they would use new recreational facilities and programming at least a few times per month if the programs and offerings are important to their household. Ninety-five percent of homeowners, 86% of current military, 94% of veterans, 97% of non-military, 94% of households with children, 94% of households with teens, 86% of households with adults, and 80% of households with seniors also answered at least a few times per month. Note, this excludes respondents that did not complete the question. Therefore, the population of the demographic group varies depending on how many responded to the question.

*How important are the following items to your household for the City of DuPont to develop as part of future recreational facilities and programming?*

- 1= Not at All Important
- 2= Slightly Important
- 3= Moderately Important
- 4= Very Important
- 5= Extremely Important

**Overall**

The facility or program that has the highest frequency of at least very important to respondents is a pool with 58%. A slight majority (53%) of respondents overall feel that a youth center is at least very important to them. A multi-purpose court/gym (46%) a splashpad/spray park (46%), and an expanded library (43%) all rank greater than 40% as at least very important. Somewhat

lower on the list of items that are very important ranging between 33% and 25% are: a music and arts center (32%), facilities and equipment for those with special needs (31%), space for meetings/parties (30%), and a senior center (28%). The remaining facilities were identified as very important among less than 25% of all respondents: classroom space (21%), tennis courts (20%), and a skateboard park (16%).

<b>Facility or Program</b>	<b>Very Important (4) or Greater Percentage/Respondents (n)</b>
Pool	58% (327)
Youth Center	53% (299)
Multi-Purpose Court / Gym	46% (260)
Splashpad / Spray Park	46% (259)
Expanded Library	43% (245)
Music and Arts Center	32% (182)
Facilities and Equipment for those with special needs	31% (175)
Space for Meetings / Parties	30% (168)
Senior Center	28% (157)
Classroom Space	21% (121)
Tennis Courts	20% (113)
Skateboard Park	16% (91)

### **Household Type**

Among households with adults, teens, and children the items that had at least 50% identified as very important are: a pool, youth center, and a multi-purpose court/gym. Also, a splashpad / spray park was identified by at least 50% of households with adults and children as very important. Among households with seniors, only a senior center received at least 50% identified as very important, but a youth center was second highest receiving 49% at least very important. Note, this excludes respondents that did not complete the question. Therefore, the population of the demographic group varies depending on how many responded to the question.

**Households with Children (n=289)**

<b>Facility or Program</b>	<b>Very Important (4) or Greater Percentage/Respondents (n)</b>
Pool	76% (219)
Splashpad / Spray Park	68% (195)
Youth Center	66% (189)
Multi-Purpose Court / Gym	57% (161)
Expanded Library	43% (121)
Music and Arts Center	37% (103)
Facilities and Equipment for those with special needs	31% (90)
Space for Meetings / Parties	30% (84)
Classroom Space	24% (66)
Tennis Courts	20% (57)
Senior Center	20% (55)
Skateboard Park	17% (48)

**Households with Teens (n=159)**

<b>Facility or Program</b>	<b>Very Important (4) or Greater Percentage/Respondents (n)</b>
Youth Center	69% (108)
Pool	67% (107)
Multi-Purpose Court / Gym	57% (89)
Splashpad / Spray Park	44% (69)
Expanded Library	41% (64)
Music and Arts Center	41% (61)
Space for Meetings / Parties	34% (53)
Facilities and Equipment for those with special needs	31% (45)
Tennis Courts	29% (46)
Classroom Space	28% (41)
Senior Center	25% (37)
Skateboard Park	24% (36)

**Households with Adults (n=482)**

<b>Facility or Program</b>	<b>Very Important (4) or Greater Percentage/Respondents (n)</b>
Pool	63% (298)
Youth Center	57% (268)
Splashpad / Spray Park	51% (239)
Multi-Purpose Court / Gym	50% (232)
Expanded Library	44% (202)
Music and Arts Center	35% (164)
Facilities and Equipment for those with special needs	35% (156)
Space for Meetings / Parties	30% (141)
Senior Center	28% (129)
Classroom Space	23% (102)
Tennis Courts	22% (104)
Skateboard Park	18% (81)

**Households with Seniors (n=96)**

<b>Facility or Program</b>	<b>Very Important (4) or Greater Percentage/Respondents (n)</b>
Senior Center	51% (46)
Youth Center	49% (43)
Expanded Library	46% (38)
Space for Meetings / Parties	44% (39)
Multi-Purpose Court / Gym	42% (37)
Pool	41% (36)
Music and Arts Center	33% (27)
Splashpad / Spray Park	32% (27)
Facilities and Equipment for those with special needs	32% (26)
Classroom Space	27% (23)
Skateboard Park	22% (19)
Tennis Courts	18% (15)

*Typically to support the costs of new recreational facilities and programming, cities use the following funding model: 80% from user fees, memberships, room rentals, etc. and 20% from public dollars and private donations. How likely would you support this funding model?*

- 1= Extremely Unlikely
- 2= Moderately Unlikely
- 3= Slightly Unlikely
- 4= Neither Likely nor Unlikely
- 5= Slightly Likely
- 6= Moderately Likely
- 7= Extremely Likely

**Overall**

Answer	Frequency/Respondents (n)	Mean
At least slightly likely to support funding model (5)	74% (n=421)	5.5

A majority of respondents are at least slightly likely to support the 80/20 funding model. The average response for this question was between slightly likely and moderately likely. Seventy-four percent of all respondents indicated that they are at least slightly likely to support the 80/20 funding model. Notably, 66% (n=354) of all respondents indicated that they are at least moderately likely (6).

**By Demographic Composition**

Demographic	At least slightly likely (5) Percentage/ Respondents (n)
Likely Voters	80% (314)
Home Owner	79% (309)
<i>Military</i>	
Current Military	82% (146)
Veteran Retired Military	82% (97)
Non-Military	79% (162)
<i>Household Type</i>	
Households Children	82% (228)
Household Teens	84% (125)
Household Adults	80% (369)
Household Seniors	80% (281)

Of all likely voters, 80% indicated that they are at least slightly likely to support the 80/20 funding model. Seventy-nine percent of homeowners, 82% of current military, 82% of veterans, 79% of non-military, 82% of households with children, 84% of households with teens, 80% of

households with adults, and 80% of households with seniors also answered at least slightly likely. Note, this excludes respondents that did not complete the question. Therefore, the population of the demographic group varies depending on how many responded to the question.

# Focus Group

## Methodology

The purpose of the focus group is to disseminate the results among stakeholders and the public, validate the results, and to draw conclusions among stakeholders about the results. The focus group was conducted on July 18, 2018 at the Council Chambers in DuPont, Washington. The public was invited to attend. The focus group consisted of two components. The first component was a PowerPoint presentation given by the primary investigator, which covered the purpose, methods, and the results including demographics, current utilization, and future preferences. The second component included a discussion of the results of the survey among stakeholders facilitated by the primary investigator.

The focus group included 10 local stakeholders, the primary investigator, and the research assistant. The primary investigator facilitated the discussion based on six open-ended questions that drew from the survey results, during which the research assistant took notes. After a short break, the stakeholders were presented a concluding statement associated with each question. These were then discussed, and a consensus was reached among the stakeholders about the conclusions being made. The list of stakeholders and their affiliated organization are listed below.

<b>Individual</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Susan McBride	Supervising Librarian, DuPont Pierce County Library
Jessica Fester	Secretary of Board, P.A.R.C.S. - DuPont
Amy Walker	Parks & Recreation Coordinator, City of DuPont
Melanie Stone	President, P.A.R.C.S. - DuPont
Renee Buck	Parks & Recreation Agency Chair, City of DuPont
Larry Ackerman	Director, Northwest Landing ROA/COA
Georgia Lomax	Executive Director, Pierce County Library System
James E. Smith III	Blue Zone Committee Chair
Rich Demaree	Citizen at Large
Ryan Bruce	Teen League, City of DuPont

Six questions were asked of the participants that reflect the results of the survey. These questions are:

1. Are the current household needs in the city of DuPont being met for recreational programs and facilities?



2. Are there systematic obstacles to the current recreational programs and facilities that are being offered?
3. Why are special events, family events, and concerts so well attended?
4. What conclusions can we draw from the fact that greater than 80% of respondents indicated that they agree that new recreational programs and facilities should be developed?
5. What recreational programs and facilities should be a priority for the City of DuPont to develop?
6. What conclusions can we draw from the fact that greater than 70% of respondents are at least slightly likely to support an 80/20 funding model?

## Results

The results of the conclusions drawn and agreed to by the stakeholders are presented below along with the associated question.

Discussion Question	Conclusions among Stakeholders
1. Are the current household needs in the city of DuPont being met for recreational programs and facilities?	About half of households indicate that their current recreational needs are being met, but many households do not share this sentiment. Households with teens in particular do not feel that their recreational needs are being met.
2. Are there systematic obstacles to the current recreational programs and facilities that are being offered?	Obstacles to utilizing current recreational programs and facilities include: insufficient space for mixed-use activities that welcome all ages; minimal security in knowing that the youth are safe during their travels to facilities; few transportation options; and, times that programs are offered are not congruent with schedules.
3. Why are special events, family events, and concerts so well attended?	Special events, family events and concerts are very well attended. Factors that influence attendance include: no entry fee to participate; higher levels of awareness and advertising; they have become a community tradition; there is limited competition in relation to other events; there is a perception of increased safety and security; and, they unify people across generations.
4. What conclusions can we draw from the fact that greater than 80% of respondents indicated that they agree that new recreational programs and facilities should be developed?	Respondents showed a high level of support for developing new recreational programs and facilities because they would provide a tangible benefit to community members that embody a communal good not only for current residents but for future generations as well.
5. What recreational programs and facilities should be a priority for the City of DuPont to develop?	Prioritized facilities should support activities that are multi-generational, community-based, safe, and physically engaging. In particular, water-based facilities are highly desirable. Also, a community center would provide space for a range of activities.
6. What conclusions can we draw from the fact that greater than 70% of respondents are at least slightly likely to support an 80/20 funding model?	There is widespread support for a funding model that is primarily user-based, while also investing in the larger community's wellbeing.

## Conclusion

The purpose of this report is to summarize and present the results of a scientific study that aims to better understand the issues of recreational facilities and programming in the City of DuPont. This was achieved through a meeting among stakeholders, an externally valid representative survey of the households in the City of DuPont, a public presentation, and a focus group with stakeholders. The research finds that there is a high level of support among households for developing new recreational programs and facilities, and this should be a priority for the city government. The identification of specific facilities will depend on a future planning and feasibility study, but water-based facilities and a community center that would provide space for a range of activities are both highly desirable. Ultimately, the development of facilities should embody a communal good that is inclusive of all residents, and one that shows a commitment and investment to the community's well-being.

# Appendix

## Survey

Thank you for agreeing to complete this 7-10 minute survey. Your responses will help the City of DuPont's Parks and Recreation Agency understand public perceptions about proposed Recreational Facilities and Programming. Please enter only one response per household and respond to questions as a representative of your household.

In return for completed responses, you will be entered into a drawing in which four respondents will be randomly selected to win one of four gift cards including: a \$200 Amazon gift card, a \$50 McNamara gift card, a \$50 Emerald City Smoothie gift card, or a \$50 Bruceski's gift card. At the end of the survey, you will have the opportunity to include your mailing address if you would like to be entered into the random drawing.

Your individual information is confidential and will never be used in any public dissemination of the data. The results from the survey will be reported in aggregate, not associated with individual responses. This study is supported by funding from the City of DuPont and is being conducted in cooperation with Partnerships Aligning Recreation, Parks, and Community Services, (P.A.R.C.S.- DuPont), a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit. If you have any questions about this survey, please call Amy Walker at (253) 912-5245 or email: [AWalker@dupontwa.gov](mailto:AWalker@dupontwa.gov).

To what extent does your household agree that the current recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont's Parks and Recreation Agency meet your household needs?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat agree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Don't know

What are some of the obstacles that limit your household from utilizing current recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont? (Please select ALL that apply.)

- No time or other personal issues
- Programs are not offered at times I want
- Programs I want are not offered
- Not aware of the programs or facilities
- Lack of facilities or amenities available
- Prefer other recreation providers
- Safety concerns
- Accessibility
- Hours of operation
- Quality of equipment

Please indicate whether your household has utilized the following recreational programs and activities provided by the City of DuPont during the past 12 months?

	Yes	No	Not sure
Youth Sports (ages 4-13)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adult Sports (ages 18-up)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Senior Programs (ages 50-up)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teen Activities (ages 13-17)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family Events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infant/Toddler Programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outdoor Nature Programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Special Events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educational Programming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Art and Culture Classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trip and Adventures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Concerts in the Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

To what extent do you agree that the City of DuPont should develop new recreational facilities and programming?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat agree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not sure

To what extent do you agree that new recreational facilities and programming should be a priority for the City of DuPont?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat agree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not sure

How important are the following items to your household for the City of DuPont to develop as part of future recreational facilities and programming?

	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important	Not sure
Pool	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Splashpad / spray park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skateboard park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tennis courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Senior center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Multi-purpose court/gymnasium	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Space for meeting/parties	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Music and arts center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Classroom space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expanded library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilities & equipment for those with special needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



If the new recreational facilities and programming had the programs and offerings that are important to your household, how frequently would members of your household utilize them?

- Several times per week
- Once per week
- A few times per month
- Monthly
- Less than once per month
- Annually
- Never
- Not sure

Typically to support the costs of new recreational facilities and programming, cities use the following funding model: 80% from user fees, memberships, room rentals, etc. and 20% from public dollars and private donations.

How likely would you support this funding model?

- Extremely unlikely
- Moderately unlikely
- Slightly unlikely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Slightly likely
- Moderately likely
- Extremely likely
- Not sure

Please indicate your gender.

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to answer

Please indicate your age.

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Please indicate the highest level of education you have attained.

- Less than high school
- High school graduate
- Some college / Associate degree / Technical degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree or Ph.D.
- Prefer not to answer

Please indicate your annual household income.

- Less than \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$124,999
- \$125,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 or higher
- Prefer not to answer

Please indicate your race/ethnicity.

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

Please indicate your current employment status.

- Employed
- Unemployed
- Student
- Retired
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

Please indicate your current military service status. (Select one)

- Active duty
- Reserves
- National guard
- Veteran
- Retiree
- Civilian: No military service
- Military dependent
- None
- Prefer not to answer

Does someone in your household have special needs that requires assistance to utilize public services (e.g. wheelchair ramps)?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Prefer not to answer

How many people currently reside in your household?

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Please indicate whether your household includes the following:

	Yes	No
Children (ages 12 and under)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teenagers (ages 13 - 17)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adults (18 - 64)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Seniors (65+)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Do you own or rent your current residence? For the purposes of this survey, you own your home even if you have a mortgage loan.

- Own
- Rent
- Living at home
- Other
- Not Sure
- Prefer not to answer

Are you registered to vote in the State of Washington?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Prefer not to answer

Did you vote in the previous general election in November 2016?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Prefer not to answer

Please include your mailing address if you would like to enter into the random drawing for gift cards.

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If you have any additional comments, please let us know.

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