

# COUNCIL DECISION REQUEST

SUBJECT: Non Resident Rates—Parks and Recreation

MEETING DATE: June 5, 2007

PAYSON GOAL: NEW:           EXISTING:

ITEM NO.:

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

SUBMITTED BY: Rick Manchester,  
Parks and Recreation Director

AMOUNT BUDGETED:

SUBMITTAL TO AGENDA

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED:

APPROVED BY TOWN MANAGER

CONT. FUNDING REQUIRED:

  
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EXHIBITS (If Applicable, To Be Attached):

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## POSSIBLE MOTION

I move to send this issue to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a recommendation prior to Town Council.

## SUMMARY OF THE BASIS FOR POSSIBLE MOTION:

The P&R department has limited data regarding the number of non-resident participants in recreation programs and event center programs. The department does not have records of park use by non-residents.

I reviewed the past registrations of current customers. Based on these numbers about 9% of the recreation programs customers are non-residents. This number is probably low since there are likely non-residents that list either their ZIP or mailing address as Payson but they do not actually reside within town limits.

About 74% of event center programs are non-residents.

There are several ways of implementing a non-resident rate for park rentals, recreation, aquatics, and event center programs. Some are administratively difficult and expensive such as a "member/resident" park pass. Others are relatively simple such as a fee and a resident discount. The rationale behind charging a non-resident rate is that non-residents do not contribute any property taxes to support the Town of Payson operations. Therefore residents are paying more through sales and property tax to support town services. County residents contribute to sales tax; however do not pay any Town of Payson property tax.

The non-resident rate criteria can be based on the proportional difference paid in property tax between a resident and a non-resident or it can be a flat rate such as being proposed.

My recommendation is to charge a program or facility fee and then give a resident discount for recreation programs and rentals. Due to costs of administering a membership program for the use of the parks we should not charge county residents for everyday park use.

The P&R department will be generating a comprehensive fees and charges and revenue policy for council consideration in the next 9-12 months.

## PROS:

- A town resident is paying more for public services like Parks and Recreation than a NR using the towns P&R department. A resident discount for P&R programs/facilities will give town residents financial consideration for also paying town property tax and supporting the town's general fund.
- Town residents should not have to subsidize public services for non-residents.
- Most towns and cities charge a resident and non-resident rate for P&R facilities and programs.

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## ***COUNCIL DECISION REQUEST***

- Several P&R programs have waiting lists due to insufficient facilities, staff, and/or equipment. Residents will receive registration priority with early access to the programs.
- A message will be sent to county residents and county government that there is significant benefit of improved public services to living within the town limits. And that the town should not be responsible for providing these services to county residents without adequate compensation.

### **CONS:**

- The parks and recreation department is only one public service that non-residents have access to when they are in Payson. Non residents also have access to emergency services, public safety, and public works while they are conducting business, visiting, or shopping in Payson.
- The cost to administer and develop non resident rates may exceed the additional fees collected.
- The P&R department staff will receive numerous complaints by non-residents regarding the fee difference. Some of these complaints will choose to take it to the council level.
- Politically, additional “ill will” may be perceived between the county and the town.

**PUBLIC INPUT (if any): None**

**BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (if any) (give dates and attach minutes):**