



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
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June 29, 2026

Grove City City Council
4035 Broadway
Grove City, OH 43123

Dear Mayor Stage and Grove City Council Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the City's evaluation of the future of community recreation opportunities in Grove City. We appreciate your time and thoughtful consideration as you contemplate both the YMCA's legacy of service in this community, as well as the best path forward to meet the long-term needs of those who live, work and invest in Grove City. **We believe this path is a formalized partnership with the YMCA.**

We look forward to attending this evening's Special Council Meeting, where the discussion items on the agenda include the proposed Community Center and report from Pizzuti. We have seen some preliminary data from Pizzuti, and in preparation for tonight's discussion, we have some fundamental questions. In the spirit of a collaborative partnership, we are asking these questions in advance regarding the "side-by-side comparison." These are questions we have as dedicated partners with Grove City for the last 20+ years, as well as questions we have received from Grove City taxpayers and Grove City YMCA members.

- **What are the operating cost projections for both options?**
 - Based on what was shared previously by Grove City Parks and Recreation Department, the City will subsidize at least \$1.07 million a year in operating costs, and in actuality, that number will likely be more than \$1.2 million annually based on results of other comparable municipalities.
 - By entering into a joint venture with the YMCA, the City would save \$13.4 million from operations alone in the first 10 years. With these significant dollar savings, the City could increase public safety and accomplish any of the other desired capital projects with funding challenges outlined during your meeting on April 20, 2026.
- **What are the projected membership costs for both options?**
- **Is there a reason a true identical comparison was not used for the presentation?**
 - For the capital comparison provided by Pizzuti, we ask these questions or offer additional helpful context.
 - Council's resolution instructed Pizzuti to prepare a comparison between a fully new facility built at Pinnacle and a modernized and expanded facility at the current Grove City YMCA. A mirrored comparison should have two facilities that are equal in square footage. The comparison that we saw in preliminary data from Pizzuti doesn't align with this, as one facility — the Grove City YMCA — is 13,000 square feet larger than the other.
 - If estimating a true comparison and Pizzuti reconfigured the design to have equal square footage between the two options, the results would demonstrate significant capital savings from partnering with the YMCA on an expansion.



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Grove City Council has the opportunity to partner with a trusted, committed organization in the YMCA, at an ideal and central location in Fryer Park, and with a 20-year projected cost savings of \$40 million for the City of Grove City and taxpayers, encompassing all expenses. And yet, the path that keeps moving forward by Council is city-owned and city-operated at Pinnacle Park.

In summary,

- A City + YMCA partnership **saves significant taxpayer dollars** (\$40.15 million over 20 years) and minimizes taxpayer burden and risk in the decades ahead.
- A partnership **frees up taxpayer dollars to be used on other City priorities and critical safety needs, allowing City Council to deliver more for residents.**
- **An expansion at Fryer Park offers residents an ideal, accessible and inclusive location** where all feel welcome, in comparison to Pinnacle Park. **The YMCA is also willing and able to partner to provide additional programs and services at Brookpark** as part of this partnership.
- We have submitted 546 signatures in support of a collaborative partnership between the City of Grove City and the Grove City YMCA for a community center at Fryer Park. These signatures represent the many **residents, families and community members who believe Grove City has an important opportunity with the YMCA to expand access to high-quality recreation, wellness, youth development and multigenerational programming** through a partnership model that builds on an existing community asset.

As we've expressed over the past months and years, **the YMCA desires a formalized partnership with the City of Grove City** to expand the foundation we started together in 1998 for multigenerational recreation for residents. This desire emerges from experience seeing the transformational impact of City + YMCA partnership models for the long-term viability, well-being and prosperity of cities and their residents.

We remain ready to work with City leadership to create a solution that serves Grove City residents today and for generations to come. I look forward to seeing you this evening.

Respectfully,

Tony Collins
President & CEO
YMCA of Central Ohio