

City of Annapolis Leisure & Learning Transition Team

Report

April 22, 2018

Team Chair:

Jessica Pachler

Committee Chairs:

Lorie Stout

Dave van den Arend

Shalom and Isabelle Fadullon

Members:

Victoria Barstow

Stephanie Beardmore

Alice Johnson Cain

Ava De Bovis

Phyllis Emmett

Shalom Fadullon

Isabelle Fadullon

Frances Fadullon

Bumper Moyer

Ellen Moyer

Andrew Muller

Diana Muller

Lisa Rodvien

Erin Snell

Lorie Stout

Dave van den Arend

Betka Yates

Leisure and Learning, recreation, and education, are integral aspects of a healthy vibrant city. They are the underpinnings of quality of life and yet often undervalued and even ignored. Leisure and learning, recreation and education, are crucial elements of Mayor Buckley's shared vision for his administration and for the city, "Annapolis must continue to be an active and vital community which respects its' past while embracing a future that ensures a high quality of life for all residents as well as providing the economic opportunity for its' diverse citizenry to thrive".

The Leisure and Learning transition team aimed to explore the role of recreation and education in the city of Annapolis as a whole – age inclusive, cross cultural, socio-economically diverse. The team looked in to the structures that currently define recreation and education both here and in similar cities and communities around the country.

In the city of Annapolis, particularly in 'governmental discussions,' recreation is often minimized to just one aspect, the Pip Moyer Rec Center, often even more simply the fitness center aspect of the rec center. But recreation is so much more than that and so much more important than many, especially those in previous administrations and councils, acknowledge. Recreation is the PMRC, but it is also the Stanton Center, the Senior Center, the Maritime Museum, the Children's Museum, and other such sites. It is the Fitness center at the PMRC, but it is also the open courts, the indoor track, the classrooms, the dance studios, the playgrounds, and fields outside. It is the trails, parks, and open spaces. It is the waterways and their access points. It is the pool, the fields, and the facilities of other organizations. It is the bike paths, the streets, and sidewalks. It is, namely, everything that affects and/or creates the opportunity for leisure, for recreation, for the enjoyment of life in the city. Similarly, education is often minimized to just what is provided by AACPS, but it, too, is more than that. It is early learners, critical skills, adult education, private education. It encompasses art, music, and language skills. Moreover, although AACPS does provide the education and facilities for the Public K-12 students in the city, those students are city residents, their families are city residents, their teachers and staff are often (and should be more often) city residents and their level of satisfaction with the education they receive, the facilities in which they receive it, the opportunities they are given within it, the accessibility to it, are crucial to their quality of life, and to the quality of life of the city as a whole.

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Quality of life metrics are not so easily defined as some other factors – and there is no inherent monetary value placed upon these metrics – so they are often dismissed. It is clear, though, that by dismissing the role that recreation and education plays in quality of life for city residents, we are dismissing the residents themselves. Repeatedly, through interview after interview, a familiar refrain was heard – some variation on “I just wish it wasn’t so hard [to live here].” Regardless of age, cultural background, almost any factor (except in certain socio-economic cases), the barriers that arise in terms of access to recreation and education, and enjoyment of and satisfaction with, are many. Among those that have a ‘choice’, few, if any, Annapolis residents do not know someone who has moved because of “the schools” in our city. The fact that the City does not manage the public schools means nothing when it comes to the choices of residents on where to live, especially those with, or planning to have, children. They want to be able to send their children to schools that they can trust will provide strong, supportive educations. If they do not think that the schools in the Annapolis cluster offer that, they will either move out of the city or choose a private school. For those city residents who do not have a ‘choice,’ the situation is even more dire, as the spiral of choice leads to fewer opportunities and (often inaccurate) reputations devalue what is available.

The same can be said for recreation – city residents move out of the city for better, easier access to parks, to water, to safer streets and play spaces. Those residents who do not have the option to move, only have access to what is offered – and, especially for lower income or English language learners, those options are few outside of the non-profit offerings, which can be difficult to find and access. In both recreation and education, the city does have a role to play in making it easier, making it better for the residents. Moreover, it is important. It is crucial that our city – the administration and the council, the departments and the businesses and the organizations - recognize the importance of recreation and education in residential quality of life – and the importance of quality of life in the city.

While neither recreation or education have distinct income producing line items in the budget – and therefore do not get the attention they might if they did – their role in the economic prosperity of a city has been proven through many studies. Proximity to well-run parks and recreation spaces has a direct effect on property values and the overall collective wealth of a community. In terms of education, particularly public-school education, the role that quality, high-scoring schools play in property values is clear. According to an article from Brookings “Across the 100 largest metropolitan areas, housing costs an average of 2.4 times as much, or nearly \$11,000 more per year, near a high-scoring public school than near a low-scoring public school. This housing cost gap reflects that home values are \$205,000 higher on average in the neighborhoods of high-scoring versus low-scoring schools. Near high-scoring schools, typical homes have 1.5 additional rooms and the share of housing units that are rented is roughly 30 percentage points lower than in neighborhoods near low-scoring schools.” Our schools are wonderful, but our ratings are horrible. They don’t reflect the education being offered within, but they do keep at bay many of the residents who would otherwise send their children to them. This is something the city must work to change. It must be a city priority.

It was much discussed within the transition team as well as in the interviews with stakeholders, residents, staff, etc., that residential quality of life is a much-neglected facet. The overwhelming focus of the city is on tourists and businesses, often at the expense of the very citizens of the city. The Leisure and Learning Transition Team implores this administration, this council, and the city to revisit this focus, to recognize the benefits that come with refocusing overall efforts on residential quality of life,

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especially in terms of recreation and education. This is not to say that tourism or business in the city should be neglected. It is the opinion of all that were interviewed that a focus on improving residential quality of life would in turn improve tourism and business development within the city – not just in downtown, but throughout the City. As was often refrained – tourists don't visit and ask, "where do the tourists go?" They come to town and ask, "where do the locals go?" However, increasingly in Annapolis, the answer for the locals is a list of tourist focused activities and businesses and the ones for residents are few and far between – or at the very least not as well known.

Within recreation, the shortsighted approach of seeing ARPD as no more than a fitness center does a great disservice to the residents of the city as a whole, and at greater consequence to the lower income residents. It is quite clear that the City has a strong role in providing access to recreation to residents in a number of ways, far beyond the fitness center at PMRC. The summer camps that APRD offers, for example, are a phenomenal resource for a diverse spread of families, offering affordable, safe day camp options for working parents, getting kids swimming, active, and having fun. The evening adult softball leagues, pickleball and tennis courts provide exercise and fitness for many, in addition to creating an overall sense of community, networking and shared enjoyment. Opportunities such as these need to be expanded, with additional offerings included, to ensure access to programs for all residents, to improve the quality of life for all residents.

Similarly, the approach of seeing education as solely a facet of the County and AACPS does a disservice to Annapolis residents. If the City does not champion our public education, does not support our students and our schools, our city as a whole loses out. If programs such as before and after care, early education, educational alternatives, adult and senior education, language learning, life skills, and other non-academic programming are not supported and encouraged, our City as a whole loses out. If the low income, English language learner, and other challenged communities are ignored, our City as a whole loses out. To "embrace a future that ensures a high quality of life for all residents," the Administration and Council must focus on how best to serve the recreational and educational needs of all our citizens.

Given the broad structures of Leisure and Learning, it was necessary to narrow down the focus of the group to some primary issues, with the knowledge that an administration could spend all four years exploring how to better the quality of life through recreation and education – and perhaps should. The primary themes that came out of the research are:

- 1. RECREATION AND EDUCATION WITHIN THE CONSTRUCTS OF CITY GOVERNMENT**
- 2. PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES**
- 3. WATER AND WATERWAYS**
- 4. EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONNECTIONS**

Within each of these themes a number of needs, immediate, short, and long term, were identified. We've condensed them into four short term goals and four long term goals on which the administration should focus. Following these goals is a further explanation and identification of the needs within each theme, as well as theme specific items that can be done immediately, to effect immediate positive change, and those that can be done as a function of and to affect the goals identified. Throughout all suggestions, an underlying commitment to support of all residents and the environment is required. Recreation and education programs should be made accessible to all, regardless of income or language, and protection and support of the environment should be a critical element.

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SHORT TERM GOALS

1. Examine and redefine, where necessary, the role and function of the Recreation Advisory Board and the Annapolis Education Commission, as well as their relationship with ARPD, City Council, and other organizations.
2. Increase accessibility to the parks, both physically, through creation, improvement, and completion of trail connections and public accessways, and digitally, through mobile accessible, multilingual maps and marketing materials.
3. Create water access programs for summer 2019 through partnerships with existing organizations and programs.
4. Improve education connections with city residents through campaign to boost stature and reputation of public schools within city using AHS and other resources

FOUR YEAR GOALS

1. Identify, source, and establish funding for recreation and education programs and needs, including renegotiation of Open Space Funding access and creation of education funding and grant office.
2. Develop a comprehensive long-term plan for recreational facilities and parks utilizing resident, business, and government input
3. Create a robust boating center that offers water access and education for all residents of Annapolis
4. In conjunction with to be created Office of Community Development, expand ARPD as an umbrella for education efforts in the city, including early education, education non-profits, etc.

***In the time since the Transition Team was formed, there have been movements within the city and by some of the Council members to affect change such as was concurrently being discussed in the L&L Team. Some of that has been included below, where appropriate.*

RECREATION AND EDUCATION WITHIN THE CONSTRUCTS OF CITY GOVERNMENT

As discussed, recreation and education are two of the more neglected areas within the confines of city government. The recent four-year action agenda put forth by City Council in late January made no mention of education and only barely touched on recreation, including it under the Transportation standing committee and referring solely to the physical plant (buildings, parks, trails) and hours of operation. Recreation does not fall under the transportation department, the transportation Committee, or the Transportation board, per city code, so it was ostensibly placed there because otherwise, there is no direct connection between City Council and Recreation. This is likely one of the reasons it is oft-ignored, and must be addressed. With education, the situation was even worse. Other than a brief mention of job skills and literacy under the city/county partnership heading under the Housing and Human Welfare Committee, education is not mentioned at all, even though it is an integral part of life for many of our residents. When this issue was raised with various alderman, the long-used adage of “the city doesn’t have anything to do with education, because it is provided through AACPS” was brought up. While it is true that AACPS provides education for our public-school PK – 12 students, it is also true that these students and their families are city residents and the city has a role to play with this. Ignoring this is to our detriment. Additionally, education is much larger than simply the public-school education. Within our city, there are numerous private schools including nursery schools,

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elementary, middle, and high schools. Additionally, there are two colleges, multiple non-academic learning facilities (such as Maryland Hall), and, yes, workforce and literacy programs. The L<T recommends that immediate steps be taken to better include both Recreation and Education within the structures of City Government to both inform the Mayor and Council about issues and opportunities occurring within both and to provide the Mayor and Council the opportunity to work to better the access, availability, quality and function of both recreation and education within the city.

RECREATION WITHIN CITY GOVERNMENT

Currently, there are two structures that focus on education within City Code. One is the Annapolis Recreation and Parks Department, the other is the Recreation Advisory Board.

ARPD (from City Code):

- (1) Maintains, operates, and controls parks, athletic, community and recreational facilities and activities for the people of the city in general- and youth and seniors of the city in particular- and to have charge and control of all such property and activities belonging to, or conducted by, the city.
- (2) Charges and collects fees for admission, services and the use of facilities and rentals for the use of property controlled by the department of recreation and parks; provided, that no lease of such facilities shall be made for a period of more than thirty (30) days, or for successive periods aggregating more than thirty (30) days, without the prior approval of the city council. All monies received from the collection of such fees and rentals shall be remitted by the director, at least monthly, to the director of finance, who shall credit the remittances to the miscellaneous receipts of the city.
- (3) To adopts and enforces rules and regulations for the management, use, government, and preservation of order with respect to all land, property, and activities under the control of the department of recreation and parks.

The Recreation Advisory Board (from City Code):

- (1) Acts in an advisory capacity to the Department of Recreation and Parks and the director of recreation and parks, and shall review and make recommendations to the department and director with respect to:
 1. The budget of the department;
 2. The programs and activities of the department;
 3. The recreational facilities of the department; and
 4. Cooperative programs between the department and other public or private organizations.
- (2) has the responsibility of informing the public as to the availability of the department's facilities and programs.

RECREATION WITHIN CITY GOVERNMENT DO IT NOWS

1. It has become apparent that the relationship between ARPD staff and the RAB has become strained even though the goals of both are similar. The L<T recommends mediation between these entities to occur immediately with a goal of creating a working relationship. Involved in the mediation should be members of the RAB, the Director of ARPD, and all department heads within ARPD.

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2. As required by City Code, the Director of Planning and Zoning and the Director of ARPD should attend each monthly meeting of the RAB, which should be held in a publicly accessible location.
3. All terms of RAB members are currently expired. The City should immediately move to review their applications and appoint members.
4. All projects currently under review by ARPD and the City regarding recreational land and facilities should be brought to the RAB for review and discussion
 - a. Pool
 - b. Tennis Courts
 - c. Pickleball Courts
 - d. Pumping buildings being added to the Newman St recreation site
 - e. Navy Stadium dog park
 - f. Public Works / Weems Whalen Field
 - g. Any additional ongoing or forecasted projects
5. The RAB should create committees to review each specific project, holding a public hearing, and presenting findings and recommendations to the department, director, and city council
6. THE RAB should work with ARPD to create a short and long-term marketing plan as provided in City Code

RECREATION WITHIN CITY GOVERNMENT SHORT TERM GOAL

Examine and redefine, where necessary, the role and function of the Recreation Advisory Board and the Annapolis Education Commission, as well as their relationship with ARPD, City Council, and other organizations. Examine the role, function and structure of ARPD.

1. Update Code regarding the RAB to provide more structure, purpose, intent, and action
 - a. The city should mandate that the Recreation Advisory Board to have a key role in developing a long-term plan for recreational facilities and parks that includes the pool, courts for tennis and pickleball, playgrounds, basketball courts, etc.
 - b. Assign at least two aldermen to the RAB or, alternatively, to create a direct link between the RAB and Council through a standing committee to which the RAB chair reports – either an existing one (possibly Housing and Human Welfare) or a new one that represents Recreation and Education given the many links between the two.
 - c. Delineate membership of the RAB so that each ward of the City is represented, as well as at large members
 - d. Require twice yearly in person reports to City Council
2. Determine and specify the role of ARPD in maintaining waterways, water access from public access points, and other issues
 - a. Define the relationship between ARPD, RAB, Harbormaster, Port Wardens, and the maritime advisory board, especially in the latter's relationship with pleasure boating activities.
3. Currently, monies paid to ARPD go into the general fund. It is recommended that this be changed into either a revolving fund or an enterprise fund
4. Create within ARPD a Director of Natural Resources Position. This position would encompass the duties of the current office of environmental policy as well as natural resource management that includes vegetation surveys and natural resource inventories and assessments throughout the City's parks, natural areas, open space, wetlands, and waterways for the purposes of planning, management, and resource protection. It would

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- also involve providing environmental review, technical assessments, Best Management Practices, and reports to City staff and consultants, as well as assistance to federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and individuals concerned with natural resources in Annapolis.
5. Consider creation of a Rec Council within ARPD or RAB that focuses on programming within each Ward.
 6. Accessibility to programs is crucial for all ages. The Transportation department should revisit all bus routes to ensure convenient access for residents to all city recreation facilities, including Ellen Moyer Back Creek Park, Weems Whalen and Waterworks, if possible.

RECREATION WITHIN CITY GOVERNMENT LONG TERM

Identify, source, and establish funding for recreation and education programs and needs, including renegotiation of Open Space Funding access and creation of education funding and grant office.

1. Currently, City access to Program Open Space Funding is through the County. The city needs to work with the State to provide direct access to Program Open Space funding similar to Baltimore City. If this is not feasible, the City and County need to create a firm agreement that better delineates the amount available and does not give the County the right to deny projects based on competitiveness with county projects.

EDUCATION WITHIN CITY GOVERNMENT

Education is not currently considered a function of City government, other than the Annapolis Education Commission. City Code provides the Annapolis Education Commission, which consists of at least one Alderman or Alderwoman from the City Council and one resident from each of the eight Wards of the City and an additional four at-large members who reside in the Annapolis cluster schools as defined by Anne Arundel County Public Schools and possess a demonstrated interest or expertise in education. The purpose of the Education Commission shall be to make recommendations to the Anne Arundel County Board of Education and the Superintendent and to the State Board of Education concerning the Annapolis School feeder system, serve as the primary liaison between City and the County Board of Education and elected officials, and work with other governmental, private, and non-governmental organizations to obtain educational opportunities, resources and facilities for the citizens of Annapolis. This commission has become an important voice for City students. Under the current structure, however, there is very little opportunity for the Commission to take input from or give input to the City Council on matters affecting students within the city. Additionally, given a recent change from AACPS, participation from AACPS teachers and personnel is much more limited than it was previously. As such, the transition team makes the following recommendations:

EDUCATION WITHIN CITY GOVERNMENT DO IT NOWS

1. Increase the required number of aldermen on the Commission to three and/or to create a direct link between the AEdC and Council through a standing committee to which the AedC chair reports monthly - either an existing one (possibly Housing and Human Welfare) or a new one that represents Recreation and Education given the many links between the two.
2. Add five new positions to the commission, to include one of the two Annapolis cluster CAC members, one of the two Annapolis cluster PIAC representatives, and a student representative from Bates, Annapolis Middle and Annapolis high. The CAC and PIAC reps will

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- create a better linkage with existing structures within AACPS and the students will provide a much-needed voice.
3. Require that any legislation discussing education, educational facilities, or any other topic in this field be brought to the Commission for discussions and recommendations.
 4. Pass the updated Adequate School Facilities ordinance to better protect city resident students against overcrowding and lack of resources.
 5. Require twice yearly in person reports to City Council. From these, the Mayor will make recommendations regarding Education priorities in the City to the Superintendent, meeting at least twice a year.

EDUCATION WITHIN CITY GOVERNMENT SHORT TERM GOALS

Examine and redefine, where necessary, the role and function of the Recreation Advisory Board and the Annapolis Education Commission, as well as their relationship with ARPD, City Council, and other organizations. Examine the role, function and structure of ARPD.

1. Create a committee that meets biannually and is comprised of the AEdC chair or representative, representatives from AACPS (preferably principals), USNA, St. John's, St. Mary's E/M and HS, St. Martin's, AACS, Aleph Bet, and any other school providing academic education within the City of Annapolis, as well as the aldermen on the AEdC or the appropriate standing committee
 - a. The purpose of this committee would be to create a network of educational opportunities and communication and foster the reputation of education within the City of Annapolis.
2. Create and run a comprehensive survey of families in Annapolis regarding opinions on education opportunities and needs within the City.
3. Create the Office of Community Development and Violence Prevention within the Mayors office as created and described by Alderwoman Pindell-Charles, with connections to the recreation Department, to provide a permanent place within city government for access to programming, non and for-profit organizations, and educational resources. Alderwoman Pindell-Charles has a plan in place for this which will serve all our students but focus especially on the needs of our most challenged students.
4. Increase funding of the Community Ambassador program so that every school or low-income housing community within the Annapolis cluster has a Community Ambassador. Additionally fund at least three Community Ambassador positions for the Hispanic families in the Annapolis Cluster, one at each education level.
5. Accessibility to programs is crucial for all ages. The Transportation department should revisit all bus routes to ensure convenient access for residents to all education facilities, including Annapolis High School, Annapolis Middle, Bates, libraries, and community centers.

EDUCATION WITHIN CITY GOVERNMENT LONG TERM GOALS

Identify, source, and establish funding for recreation and education programs and needs, including renegotiation of Open Space Funding access and creation of education funding and grant office.

1. Use the results of the survey to effect long term change and progress for all students in the City.
2. Recognizing the many challenges that face our diverse and growing student body, find or create a funding source for public education programs in the city to be used by the Mayor in

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- conjunction with the Superintendent and BOE to provide resources as needed for Annapolis cluster schools, teachers, staff, and students.
3. Create a grants office (perhaps in conjunction with AACO/AACPL/other organizations, possibly through the office of CD&VP) to facilitate grant discovery, applications, writing, and receipt for Annapolis cluster programs such as schools, PTAs, non-profits, etc.

COMMUNITIES AND CONNECTIONS

One of the most important roles of both recreation and education, aside from the obvious, is creating communities. Through sports, through play, through classes, through walking, running and biking, communities are not made, they are built, through connections. In 2016-17, AACPS redistricted the Annapolis cluster of schools. In doing so, they returned the school districts to a more neighborhood-based type of school district, cutting back on the bussing, creating walkable and bikeable schools' districts. It is now up to the City to capitalize on this, by creating safe pathways, by encouraging programming that builds upon those districts and communities and encourages the connections to be made. Among the youth, community sports are an integral part of this. Among the adults, it is streets and trails, parks and benches, and, yes sports as well. Support of the individual neighborhoods and wards that make up our city is crucial to creating an integrated, functioning, liveable city

PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES DO IT NOW

1. Begin laying the guide work with fall sports organizations to encourage community, neighborhood-based youth sports programs. ARPD does not need to run all the City sports programs but can be the umbrella under which they run, rather than forcing city kids to go out into the county for fields.
 - a. Recreation department should meet with all city based or co-located fall sports programs (Annapolis Soccer Club, PAL Football, Hawks Lacrosse, etc.) and ask them to consider using a neighborhood-based player placement system, where kids are placed on teams comprised primarily of other kids that live within their neighborhood, as defined by the public-school district.
 - b. All City based sports programs – basketball, baseball – should immediately move to a neighborhood-based player placement system.
 - c. Add tams to all programs for middle school students.
 - d. Create all material in English and Spanish and distribute at all elementary and middle schools
 - e. Allow for online registration
 - f. Provide easily accessible information about scholarships and cost reduction opportunities
2. Ensure that all development in the city adheres to Adequate Recreation Facilities Chap 22. 20
3. Increase hours at PMRC to allow access for more groups, teams, community opportunities
4. Improve direct communication with community groups using recreational and park facilities. Explore technology (i.e., real-time calendars) for communication
5. Fix or replace the ARPD computer system so that users can register for, and pay for, programs without having to go to the PMRC. (*this is a do it yesterday, or last month. It is 2018, online payment should be a given, not a question*).
6. Provide immediate additional training of the customer service staff at Pip Moyer to improve the public's perception of their interactions.

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7. Continue with the already approved construction of the off-leash dog park at the Navy Stadium. Re-open Turner Park to dogs as per the terms of the Letter of Understanding in place already.
8. Require all ARPD staff to take a diversity training program asap.
9. Develop a more visible means of communication with the public about the locations of our parks, water access points and opportunities available to the community. While this information is on the ARPD website, it isn't as apparent as it could be. Additionally, a large portion of our community does not have computer access. Short-term this might be brochures in boxes at each park on the park sign.
10. Improve trail safety; for example, the homeless living along Spa Creek Trail.
11. Work with the County to increase monitoring of the dog park area regulations at Quiet Waters. There have been many complaints of dog attacks and consequently people unwilling to take their pets there, as they feel it is no longer safe. Though Quiet Waters is outside of the city, there are currently no places within City limits to have dogs off-leash, and thus it directly affects the residential quality of life for city residents.
12. Find alternative parking for the ARPD vehicles along Truxton Park Road so that more waterfront open space / picnicking / recreational area can be made available to city residents
13. Provide kayak/dinghy/SUP racks at Truxton Park Boat Ramp
14. Publish the RFP for Truxtun Park Court Renovations - Open Space Grant has been approved.

PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES SHORT TERM GOALS:

Increase accessibility to the parks, both physically, through creation, improvement, and completion of trail connections and public accessways, and digitally, through mobile accessible, multilingual maps and marketing materials.

1. Create a mobile accessible map of the parks and the bike, running, hiking, and walking trails in the city.
2. Complete the Spa Creek Trail loop and connect with other loops
3. Survey plats to ensure all public access ways are accessible to the public
4. Increase the number of dog bag stations, trash and recycling receptacles at all parks and trail heads.
5. Install trail map boards and possibly water stations for humans and pets (if source water is nearby) at trail heads.
6. Increase/improve the maintenance of the parks and playing fields, including Bates Athletic and Annapolis Sports Complexes.
7. Make all ARPD information accessible in a mobile app
8. Have at least one person on staff, in front office, who is bilingual at all times
9. Create bilingual versions of all ARPD materials.
10. Work towards creating more learning and hobby programs, both for seniors and youth, including evenings.
11. Increase pickleball courts and playtime, given the growth in popularity in our community.
12. Revisit membership or visit fees at Pip Moyer for seniors on fixed income and members of the low-income population. Develop pricing programs to better address what is currently an exclusionary issue for so many.

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13. Complete the Truxtun Park Court Renovations by end of 2018- benefits both the tennis and pickleball communities
14. Institute measures to encourage more consumer orientation within the Recs and Parks Dept., i.e. incentives for staff to feel they have a reason for being there.
15. Explore more fee options for PMRC, i.e. punch cards. These can be marketed to B&B's.
16. Market PMRC so it does not continue to be under-utilized.
17. Create and allow easier access to Waterworks Park

PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES LONG TERM GOALS:

Develop a comprehensive long-term plan for recreational facilities and parks utilizing resident, business, and government input

1. Create a comprehensive pathway of walking and biking trails throughout the city utilizing existing trails, public access pathways and adding more as needed/available
 - a. Work with other city departments to ensure that Master Bike plan is implemented to ensure safe streets
2. Continue to increase the marketing of what is available in our City in an across the board basis. Ideally this may require a dedicated website where notice of upcoming events, Rec and Parks, educational events, parades, special events, City meetings, etc. could be posted. Currently to discover something takes a bit of searching and a variety of websites. Develop one main site to bring it all together that would be a huge benefit in helping people. For example, many were unaware of all of the trails or even the Recreation and Parks page on the City's website.
 - a. If pickleball continues to grow at the current pace, it may be necessary to find a "home" apart from tennis. Preferably in or near Truxtun Park.
3. Develop Waterworks Park into a City destination
4. Develop the long-term plan for recreational facilities and parks that includes the pool, courts for tennis and pickleball, playgrounds, basketball courts. Ideally, families and citizens could enjoy multiple activities (playground, trails, pickleball, basketball, pool nearby) from one area.

WATER AND WATERWAYS

Access to water in Annapolis is limited in many aspects, most notably by socioeconomic status. As many have said, Annapolis is a great place to live if you have the money. ARPD and the city can provide access to the water in a low cost, quality of life enhancing way, utilizing the resources and organizations already within the city. One of our team members, Lorie Stout, previously ran Annapolis Community Boating and is willing and excited to work with ARPD to provide better water access for city residents by 2019.

WATER AND WATERWAYS DO IT NOW

1. Talk with the City to measure their enthusiasm for developing more affordable and better water access for the residents.
 - a. Lorie has already spoken with Katy Owings, Recreation Director, and she has indicated excitement for the concept.
 - b. There are a great many people who have an interest but do not have resources to afford a boat. This could involve boat rentals, more boat slips and racks, a community sailing program such as is in Baltimore, Charleston, and Norfolk, boating safety classes and education with on-water training, etc.

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WATER AND WATERWAYS SHORT TERM

1. Create programs for summer 2019 through partnerships with existing organizations and programs.
 - a. Programs should be set by January for enrollment and organization purposes
2. Purchase low cost vessels for community water access such as paddleboats, kayaks, etc. Offer access initially through Truxton Park, eventually through other city owned waterfront spaces such as City Dock, Back Creek, etc.
3. Explore possible venues for boating center

WATER AND WATERWAYS LONG TERM

1. Create a robust boating center to incorporate rentals, classes, slips, racks, and more.
2. Do a comprehensive survey of plats for public waterways access to ensure that all are open and available to the public
 - a. Map all public access waterways once survey is complete

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONNECTIONS

As mentioned previously, education goes far beyond that what is provided by AACPS. Within the city there are numerous non and for-profit organizations that provide educational opportunities, resources, grants, and facilities. Often, the main thing lacking is access to and knowledge about these programs. Additionally, the Pip Moyer Rec Center once played an important role in providing low cost early education for Annapolis families. This important function is often overlooked but is crucially important. ARPD is also in charge of the Latchkey (before and after school daycare) programs in the City of Annapolis. These programs are important for families of public school children and should be accessible to all. The same can be said for the middle and high school programs offered by PMRC for Annapolis students. These programs are valuable tools for giving kids educational resources and after school entertainment. Where needed, ARPD should work with the HACA and other organizations regarding use of community centers and meeting spaces.

AHS CONNECTIONS

One of the key educational components of our city that is often overlooked is the phenomenal resource offered by our high school. Because it is physically located within the County, not the City, it is often thought of as separate from the city. But the majority of the 2000 students live within the City and are integral members of our community. Two of those students were on our committee and spoke to the disconnect that they feel as well from the city. Reconnecting this community is a key factor for improving quality of life and overall community engagement.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONNECTION DO IT NOW

1. Create a page on the ARPD website that contains links to the numerous resources, organizations, and opportunities that are available within the city
 - a. Lists have already been compiled by the Volunteer Center and other organizations. Compile and include on ARPD / COA site.
 - b. Can utilize a volunteer from Annapolis High to help with this
2. Create a bimonthly networking meeting for non-profits in the education sphere
3. Ensure access to the latchkey program for elementary students at all Annapolis city schools.

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- a. If enrollment is not high enough at any school, provide transportation to programs at other schools
- b. If necessary, create cluster programs by location (i.e. Tyler Heights, Georgetown East, Eastport)
4. Meet with HACA leadership to determine programs offered at HACA Community Centers and address any overlap or needs
5. Work with AHS
 - a. Work with the Key Club and other volunteer and leadership organizations to provide needed help
 - b. Help the City create the website described above – the list of available learning and leisure resources in the City (city run, city sponsored, non-profit, for profit, etc.).
 - c. Designate a partnership leader to act as a go between(?) For AHS and the council -- could be student or in student
 - d. When doing AHS/Key Club doing service/community events, take pictures and send to the Mayoral office. Have Mayor Gavin or City Annapolis Social Media retweet/republish info in order to show the good things AHS is doing.
 - e. Connect students who are interested in giving back to the City/learning more about the opportunities Annapolis provides
 - f. Identify the role that the city wants/can take in local school improvements and outreach
 - g. Meet up with Mayoral office and Recreation and Parks to learn about upcoming events and how AHS can help.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONNECTIONS SHORT TERM

Improve education connections with city residents through programming and a campaign to boost stature and reputation of public schools within city using AHS and other resources

1. Reinstate the early education, art and movement programs such as Goobily Goop, Musical Mystery Tour, Princess Party and Squiggles & Giggles Art, My First School, Preschool Pretenders, On the Go and Tiny Tumblers either directly through the ARPD or through relationships with non-profits or other organizations
2. Create a searchable, updatable database version of the web page in Do It Now
3. Work with other city departments and organizations to provide safe transportation for the middle and high school afterschool programs at PMRC
4. Connect students with job training and scholarship opportunities in the local community
5. Recognize and utilize students as a resource in needed functions and events
6. Connect the local schools with the community

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONNECTIONS LONG TERM

In conjunction with to be created Office of Community Development, expand ARPD as an umbrella for education efforts in the city, including early education, education non-profits, etc.

1. Reimagine ARPD as an umbrella for the educational non-profits in the city. Perhaps in conjunction with the Office of Community Development and Violence Prevention. ARPD and the City do not need to reinvent the wheel – there are already plenty of great organizations offering programs across the city. What ARPD (and PMRC, Stanton, etc.) can be is the umbrella under which these organizations find their resources, their spaces, their communities, and networks.

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LEISURE AND LEARNING ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

In addition to interviews with ARPD staff, city employees, council members, residents and visitors, the Leisure and Learning committee conducted a survey seeking input from the community regarding our Recreation and Parks Department and their Centers, Parks, Trails, and water access. The survey was posted via Social Media on Facebook, specifically the “Friends of Annapolis” and “Eastport Neighborhood Forum” pages. The current enrollment on each page is 12,925 and 9,224 respectively. There were 117 respondents. A complete listing of the responses can be found at the end of this report. Based on the number of similar responses in that survey, several topics seemed to be the most important to the community. The biggest issues seem to be, and are further discussed below:

- A need for more recreational areas for pets and a great dissatisfaction with ARPD closing of the Turner Park to dogs and stopping the already approved construction of the Stadium Dog Park without community input.
- A great percentage were unaware of all the parks we have and how to find them.
- A want for better public water access and water-based programs
- A desire for more classes and programs, both youth and adult, at Pip Moyer and Stanton Centers.
- Better maintenance and safety of the parks, trails, water access points and playing fields

How often do you take advantage of the City’s 40 parks and trails?

- 14.5% Daily
- 13.7% Several times a week
- 17.1% Weekly
- 19.7% Several times a month
- 17.1% Monthly
- 17.9% Rarely
- 0.0% Not at all

How often do you take advantage of the Annapolis City Community, Recreation and Senior Centers?

- 2.6% Daily
- 7.8% Several times a week
- 6.9% Weekly
- 5.2% Several times a month
- 12.1% Monthly
- 27.6% Rarely
- 37.9% Not at all

How often are you involved with recreation on local waterways (meaning rivers, creeks, and the Chesapeake)?

- 7.3% Daily
- 18.8% Several times a week
- 12.5% Weekly
- 19.8% Several times a month
- 16.7% Monthly

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18.8% Rarely

6.3% Not at all

Which parks and trails do you and your family use?

49 Quiet Waters

30 Truxton

29 Street end parks

10 Spa Creek Trail

10 Go out of area

9 Ellen Moyer

8 Turner

7 Susan Campbell

5 Amos Garrett

5 Neuman Playground

4 Acton

4 Lafayette

4 Poplar Trail

3 Jonas Green

3 Marine Corps Trail/Stadium

3 St. Luke's restoration

1 Hawkin's Cove

1 Waterworks

NOTE: Street end parks were bundled for brevity; also comments of "Eastport" were catalogued as street end. "Back Creek" is presumed to be Ellen Moyer.

Which Community, Recreation and Senior Centers do you and your family use?

49 Pip Moyer

11 None

3 Out of area/other

3 Truxton pool

2 Bates Heritage Senior Center

1 Maritime Museum

1 Stanton Center

How/where do you gain your water access?

25 Private dock/community marina

14 Truxton

14 Waterfront/street end parks

10 Yacht clubs/Sailing schools

8 Public marinas

7 Amos Garrett

5 Marina/club outside of the city

4 N/A

4 Quiet Waters

4 Watermark/Woodwinds

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3 Susan Campbell/City Dock

3 Ellen Moyer

2 Acton Cove

1 Jonas Green

1 St. Lukes

How satisfied have you been with our parks and trails during your experiences?

17.1% Extremely satisfied

43.6% Satisfied

23.1% Somewhat satisfied

8.5% Somewhat dissatisfied

4.3% Dissatisfied

3.4% We never use them

How satisfied have you been with our community, recreation and senior centers during your experiences?

12.1% Extremely satisfied

31.0% Satisfied

12.9% Somewhat satisfied

3.4% Somewhat dissatisfied

2.6% Dissatisfied

37.9% We don't use them

How satisfied are you with the water access in Annapolis?

8.3% Extremely satisfied

24.0% Satisfied

21.9% Somewhat satisfied

17.7% Somewhat dissatisfied

18.8% Dissatisfied

9.4% We don't use any

What type of vessels do you use on the water?

59.4% Kayak, canoe, rowing shell or rowboat

42.7% Stand Up Paddleboard

38.5% Other People's Boats

28.1% Powerboat under 26'

21.9% Sailboat over 26'

17.7% Powerboat over 26'

14.0% Sailboat under 26'

6.3% Charter

8.3% None

NOTE: Some respondents use more than one method.

If you are not currently involved in water recreation, would you be interested in being involved?

88.2% Yes

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11.8% No

The following is a compilation of the answers people submitted in the survey. In many responses, the statements made were appropriate to several questions, so they were split to the appropriate question as best possible.

What do you feel our Recreations and Parks Department does very well with our parks and trails?

- 45 Well marked, safe
- 19 Landscaping/ maintenance
- 12 Keeping them clean
- 7 Yes, everything, decent, does well
- 7 Easy/open access
- 4 N/A, don't use enough to judge
- 2 Appreciate the trash cans
- 2 Quiet Waters is exceptional; dog swim park there
- 2 Nice remodel of Turner Park
- 1 Appreciate the playgrounds
- 1 Number of them scattered around the city
- 1 Surprised to hear there were so many
- 1 Lots of activities
- 1 Our family enjoys biking, the concerts and other events
- 1 Water access docks and piers are nice

What do you feel our Recreations and Parks Department does very well with our Community, Recreation and Senior Centers?

- 11 Clean, safe, well maintained
- 8 Great equipment, activities and classes
- 7 N/A, don't use enough to judge
- 6 Yes, fine facilities
- 5 Great meeting areas
- 4 Affordable, accessible to the community
- 2 Owns the property/ having a rec center is a good start!
- 2 Great trainers
- 2 Environmentally conscientious
- 1 Programming
- 1 Communication
- 1 Front desk at Pip Moyer friendly and courteous
- 1 Open basketball courts are great

What do you feel our Recreations and Parks Department does very well with our water access and waterways?

- 8 N/A
- 1 Keeps it public

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1 Many access points

How well do you feel our parks and trails meet the overall needs of you, your family and pets?

26 Don't meet the needs of my pet/not pet friendly/allow dogs in all parks and playgrounds; part of our family/Turner park back for dogs/more dog water access/more off leash parks

10 Very well/well

7 Need more trash receptacles, recycling bins, doggie bags and disposals

6 They are kept unknown; would like more /better info

3 Lack of bike and walking trails

2 Upgrade maintenance

2 Not well- Spa Creek isn't safe; homeless people living along Spa Creek Trail

1 What happened to the Stadium dog park?

1 Minimal parks near Admiral Heights

1 Need more public access like St. Luke's new open space

1 Trails should be interconnected

1 Safety on the Truxton trails

1 No parks for low income people; Quiet Waters they have to pay

1 Shame the downtown parking lot is not a park

How well do you feel our Community, Recreation and Senior Centers meet the overall needs of you and your family?

11 Satisfactory/ good/ quite well/ great

5 Need more classes, classes after 6pm, learning and hobby opportunities for adults, more teen space, homeschool space

3 Front desk customer service at Pip Moyer is poor/chip on their shoulder/reticent to help/rude

3 Terrible job/ lousy/ not so well

1 Truxton needs to be run better (but not privatized)

1 Stanton Center needs some upgrades and attention

1 Offer youth programs

1 Not enough support

1 Hard to find out about

1 Back office staff @ Moyer extremely disappointing, with exception of John, who works weekends

1 Publicize for new people

1 The City shouldn't be running a rec center. Taxes are too high already. Privatize it

1 Transportation to the Sr. Center won't help the elderly on/off the bus

How well do you feel our water access and waterways meet the overall needs of you and your family?

3 Very little water access and ease of parking besides Truxton

2 Only access/know of one water access- via Truxton

1 More dinghy access to streets in Eastport and Annapolis

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What would you like to see the Recreation and Parks Department do to improve your experience within our parks, trails, Community, Recreation and Senior Centers, water access and waterways?

- 18 Better marketing/communication to improve awareness to the community of access points, trails, water access, programs, events.
- 17 More public water access
- 12 More open and off leash space for dogs/allow dogs into all parks within the city/dog bag stands at all parks
- 7 Consistent/ better maintenance of street ends, trails and water access points, better marked along trails
- 7 More programs to get on the water/boat rentals/boating classes & education/community sailing program like in Baltimore and Norfolk
- 6 Connect trails and bike paths through the city
- 2 More family friendly events/ parent-kid classes/ community gatherings/ more activities
- 2 Update/more playgrounds
- 1 More dinghy docks for boats up to 17'
- 1 Increase handicap parking at Centers
- 1 Better senior prices and offerings
- 1 Lower fees or allow annual memberships to be paid monthly
- 1 Longer hours on Fridays at Moyer
- 1 Don't shut down the basketball courts for hours when nothing else is going on in that space
- 1 More affordable meeting spaces in Centers
- 1 Fix up the parks in the Clay St. community so perhaps they would be used more
- 1 Help clean up the waterways
- 1 Make them safer
- 1 Water stations for people and pets on trails/trail heads
- 1 Adult day camp

Do you have any suggestions that you feel would be improvements to the City's existing parks, trails, Community, Recreation and Senior Centers, water access and waterways?

- 1 Stream restorations are a good place to provide access to trails
- 2 Add more street end parks to manage storm water runoff and provide cleaner waterways
- 1 More activities within city limits vs. having to go to Quiet Waters
- 1 Create kayak/canoe/paddleboard racks at water access points that people can rent on a monthly basis
- 2 More hiking trails/ parks/better connecting various neighborhoods
- 1 Seems to be overstaffed at Pip Moyer; large number with nothing to do at any given time! 1 1
- 2 Equipment needs to be kept cleaner, better maintained
- 3 Make them more affordable and safe
- 1 Having the "ball room" open at all times would be great for people with younger kids
- 1 More pickleball courts and play time
- 1 More vertical surfaces to practice tennis solo
- 1 Better maintain Quiet Waters dog park/ not safe for dogs
- 1 Better maintain ball parks and playing fields, barely maintained, lousy condition

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1 Create a position of expertise in Bay restoration best management practices who interacts with funding agencies and the private sector to facilitate ease of permitting new areas that provide clean water to the Bay while also providing public greenspace and water access.

1 New management

1 Sign onto National Recreation & Parks and the Trust for Park Land's 10-minute walk to park initiative

1 Educate Harbor Patrol on better handling of situations with human powered craft

2 Re-do or put out to bid to re-invent the Children's Museum; it's disgusting

1 New pool to be year-round, with access for all

1 Improve tree planting standards; no mulch volcanos

1 Children's bounce/activity room needs better hours and to include weekends.

1 Indoor toddler area at Moyer for toddlers to use scooters, tricycles, etc.

1 More programs for kids, especially in the summer

Do you have any other comments that you would like to share regarding our City's parks, trails, Community, Recreation and Senior Centers, water access and waterways?

3 Fix the dogs open space problem/ make all parks dog friendly

2 Parks, trails, other recreational resources are vital for quality of life/physical and mental health

2 Please let us have our dogs back at Turner

1 I was very pleased until the dogs were banned. Now I am very upset with Parks Dept. It is upsetting that one or two people can stop a group of neighbors with well-behaved dogs from enjoying this park (Turner). We all clean up and if small children come in to play the dogs leave. Now the park is empty and unused.

1 I lived in NYC for 15 years before I moved to Eastport and never felt unsafe. Now I don't feel safe walking my dog at night.

1 We need an easily accessible county-wide nature center

1 I would like to see little Free Libraries in our parks and throughout our city

1 Please keep an eye on large developers taking away our water access

More public water access is needed. SAYC promised to keep a little area open for public water access but they will not put it into writing. The City should mandate that they keep the promise the developer used to gain public approval for once! The same goes for the proposed Chesapeake Grove townhomes that will be built on Bembe Beach Road. Make the developers provide a public benefit to us--instead of allowing them to use up our public assets!

The Annapolis Environmental Commission has suggested to the Mayor and received support for creating a Greenway Master Plan that would connect all the parks, conservation easements and trails so that as development takes place we have a plan to ensure that we retain these important parcels to create green space connectivity which increases the quality of life for all Annapolitans. Parks and Recreation, OEP, Annapolis Environmental Commission and Annapolis Conservancy are working on this very issue and had our first meeting at the beginning of March. I would like to add P & Z to our group as we move forward as well as one or two planning commissioners, parents of school aged children and other stakeholders.

It would be ideal if we could continue seeking out ways to make City Dock a grassy, relaxing area. To have this wonderful area taken up with parking takes away from many family activities that could take

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place locally. It should be an area where musicians can play while families listen. We take advantage of all the concert series Londontown Gardens makes available. They also have outdoor yoga events. With more room for recreating instead of pavement the city would benefit.

We need a City government engage in the great outdoors since we are centered in the Bay's watershed, a national treasure for outdoor activity. Parks & Recreation seems a good spot for a position, where projects, which mitigate storm water pipe system outfalls by creating natural streams and walking trails would better fit the knowledge base of the department than DPW. In Eastport, St. Luke's and Hawkins Cove are perfect examples of hiking trails and water access with DNR funded Bay restoration projects. Bay restoration inherently carries greenspace and water access within DNR funded projects. DPW with its engineering affinity for storm water pipe systems, which do not serve nature or clean water is an awkward place for permitting and has resulted in costly delays for Bay restoration projects. Parks & Recreation is a place where one would naturally find people with expertise in subjects at the center of Bay restoration biology, geology, hydrology, and human health, which are inter-related subjects to hiking, water health safety and access, waterway recreation, native habitat along nature trails, etc. This Environmental Policy position would be the final arbiter over DPW while working directly with Critical Area Commission, Planning/Zoning. This would better facilitate state funders and private sector sponsors of these projects. Annapolis is a city which should be ahead of the curve on Bay restoration and not catching up. Let's make it easier to make access points to waterways and parks.

Marketing. Using small spaces for visual and performing arts, creative recreation opportunities for outdoor venture for the active as upgraded skate park, Zip line., creative collaboration to initiate new paths and small parks for sitting and or innovative play areas

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SURVEY OF RESIDENTS INTERESTED IN LEISURE AND LEARNING TRANSITION TEAM

At the beginning of the formation of the Leisure and Learning Team, I surveyed all those who expressed an interest in the Team or who were recommended. We are including their responses here to better inform the readers of the myriad of opinions, not all of which we could address in this report.

I would most like to see the L& L Transition team:

- Create partnerships with already existing groups
- Better educated our citizens about the educational needs in our community and ways they can help.
- I would like to see more Oyster Restoration on our water ways. It is an easy program & Funded by Marylanders Grow Oyster program however the difficulty is the "Cleaning and Maintenance" of the cages. Which a "Learning" team could be employed to help.
- Work with downtown businesses to promote and highlight the city
- Help the City bring some new and exciting activities/places for hanging out to the city.
- Set up a transparent framework to interact with City residents about funding and recreation programs. I would like to see a City-County partnership that fully benefits the City. I would be interested in seeing the 5-10-year plan for L and L in the City and a pathway to accomplish it.
- Address the community ambassador issue, find ways the city, county, and AACPS can better coordinate their efforts on behalf of students and schools
- Figure out how to get the Board of Education to truly understand the special needs of Annapolis city schools.
- Make Annapolis a place people come to enjoy art/music/food.
- Advocate for L&L as a core value for city funding and attention
- Develop a comprehensive plan for creating opportunities for all youth in Annapolis to partake in recreation.
- Playground behind the Eastport Fire station
- Make sure ALL kids have access to meaningful out of school activities.
- Connect Hispanic youth to leisure activities in the city including sport, arts, physical fitness.
- Safe transportation routes for youth and adults

My favorite thing about 'Leisure' in Annapolis

- Parks on the water, downtown
- Rec Center offerings
- Water Recreation
- Varied things to do
- Access to the water
- Walking, running around town and parks
- Our setting
- Quiet Waters and Pip Moyer rec center
- Access to the water!
- I love downtown and would love to see it become more "local".
- The wide range of activities available

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- Quality of life...sociability, inspiration
- Access to green space and water
- Walkable city
- Opportunities for art, dance, sports, physical activity through Annapolis Parks and Rec.
- Water everywhere

Annapolis' biggest 'Leisure' need

- Indoor recreation facilities for wintertime
- Water Access for lower income communities
- A city-wide calendar that is checked before new events are allowed
- More inexpensive cold weather activities - museums, indoor play spaces; more accessibility for low-income folks - for example, downtown doesn't currently feel that welcoming to kids in public housing; more community gardens; an outdoor water fountain park (one of those very small ones that kids can play in easily)
- Activities downtown for families... that will keep both residents and visitors occupied and drawn to that area.
- Places where people can congregate and enjoy our town.
- More open space
- Creativity, coordination, collaboration, communication
- Youth programming for all, across neighborhood and socioeconomic levels
- More open spaces
- Better bikeability/walkability
- See above. Connect Hispanic parents to resources in city for their children (during summer, in particular).
- Access to all that water

My favorite thing about Learning in Annapolis

- Library system
- Library offerings
- The plethora of non-profit organizations focused on educating our cities residences
- A lot of opportunities
- Statues and plaques by the water; Maritime Museum
- Free talks, museums, art galleries
- Not sure what this includes under the new committee definition
- A great community with some wonderful schools
- The diversity of our population
- This is a dynamic community with great stories to share....350 yard of stories to learn, lead and inspire us
- Access to career professionals to inspire learning
- EES
- Public schools, diversity!
- Many options

Annapolis' biggest 'Learning' need

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- Connecting kids who need resources with those that are available
- Water Quality and the importance of clean water
- Promote the good in the schools more widely
- More art to learn about
- Better environmental education, outdoor education- we are not reaching the adults. Technology
- Integrating its African American Past within colonial heritage
- Equity
- More families of varying socioeconomic levels sending their kids to Annapolis public schools. There is such a divide between public and private and it makes for a less cohesive community.
- Our history.
- More substance in "community talk"
- Rebuild reputation regionally and support teacher retention and growth
- After school programs and care
- Collaboration
- Access for all to take advantage of options

Why do you want to be a part of the Leisure and Learning Transition Team?

- Better connect our city with education and volunteer opportunities
- To use the power of our Capital SUP community to further the clean water movement
- I would like to see a city-wide calendar of events that is up to date and all-inclusive. I think this a great chance to bring many facets of the city together, to work for the common good. Too often we are working against each other and spreading resources thin
- To help make Annapolis a more vibrant and forward-looking city that is accessible and welcoming to people of ALL backgrounds
- I would love to play a pivotal role in expanding leisure and learning programs in Annapolis and its communities
- My original interest was to be part of the Recreation Advisory Board to better understand how decisions are made in the City, and I am curious now how the Transition Team will proceed.
- Would like to help with the two issues I identified as needs (better coordination collaboration between the City government and AACPS and County Council and the community ambassador issue
- I support Gavin and our city, and I want his tenure to be exceedingly successful.
- I love this town and would be honored to be a part of making it even better!
- This is a disrespected civic value that Needs help.
- Support Annapolis development and growth for future generations. Make Annapolis a world class community people want to live and raise a family because of leisure and learning opportunities.
- I love Eastport kids
- It connects to my concern for youth in public schools.
- I'm passionate about helping the Hispanic community in Annapolis. I see a major need for connecting parents with the resources in Annapolis. I young children who are involved with structured leisure activities in the City.
- Be a voice from environmental community