

The City of Merriam Parks and Recreation Department would like your input to help determine park and recreation priorities for our community. This survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your survey in the enclosed postage-paid, return-reply envelope. We greatly appreciate your time.

**1. Have you or members of your household visited the Merriam Aquatic Center, located in Vavra Park on Slater Street in the past two summer seasons?**

- \_\_\_ (1) Yes [Please got to Question #2.]
- \_\_\_ (2) No [Please go to Question #3.]
- \_\_\_ (3) Don't Know or Not Sure [Please go to Question #3.]

**2. About how often did you visit the Merriam Aquatic Center in the past two summer seasons?**

- \_\_\_ (1) Daily
- \_\_\_ (2) A few times per week
- \_\_\_ (3) Weekly
- \_\_\_ (4) Monthly
- \_\_\_ (5) Once or twice a season
- \_\_\_ (6) Don't know

**3. Due to the aging infrastructure of the Merriam Aquatic Center and increasing operating costs, the City of Merriam is studying options for the future of the facility. Regardless if you have visited the Merriam Aquatic Center over the past several years, we would like your opinion on the following questions.**

On a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Very Interested," and 1 means "Not at All Interested," please indicate your interest in each of the following potential amenities.

Potential Amenities	Very Interested	Interested	Neutral	Not Interested	Not at All Interested	Don't Know
1. Outdoor pool lap lanes	5	4	3	2	1	9
2. Zero depth entry pool	5	4	3	2	1	9
3. Water slides	5	4	3	2	1	9
4. Lazy river	5	4	3	2	1	9
5. Spray pad	5	4	3	2	1	9
6. Diving boards	5	4	3	2	1	9
7. Concessions	5	4	3	2	1	9
8. Sun decks	5	4	3	2	1	9

**4. Which THREE of the items listed in Question 3 do you think would be most important to include in the design of a new or redesigned aquatic center for our community? (Write your top 3 choices below using the numbers from the list in Question 3; if you do not think any of these are needed, circle "NONE.")**

1st: \_\_\_ 2nd: \_\_\_ 3rd: \_\_\_ NONE

**5. If a new aquatic center is developed which included the features you chose as most important in Question 4 how often would you or other members of your household use the facility?**

- \_\_\_ (1) Daily
- \_\_\_ (2) A few times per week
- \_\_\_ (3) Weekly
- \_\_\_ (4) Monthly
- \_\_\_ (5) Once or twice a season
- \_\_\_ (6) Don't know

The City currently operates the former Merriam school building as the Irene B. French Community Center, located at 5701 Merriam Dr. The facility was initially built in 1911, with expansions in 1937, 1951 and 1989. As a result of its age, the City faces major costly repairs to continue to keep it operational. In addition, the facility was not originally designed to function as a community center and that limits the City's ability to provide all of the programs and services the community desires.

**6. Have you or members of your household visited the Irene B. French Community Center (Merriam Community Center) in the past year?**

- \_\_\_ (1) Yes [Please got to Question #7.]
- \_\_\_ (2) No [Please go to Question #8]
- \_\_\_ (3) Don't Know or Not Sure [Please go to Question #8.]





15. The City would also need to plan for the costs associated with the operation, maintenance, and long term care of a new or renovated community recreation center. From the following list of options, please check up to TWO options you would most support the City using for this purpose.

- (1) A local sales tax increase
- (2) An increase to local property taxes
- (3) User fees paid by patrons to the center
- (4) Don't know or not sure

16. If a **NEW** community center is developed with the facilities and programs you prefer most, would you or other members of your household be willing to pay to use the services and facilities?

- (1) Yes [Please go to Question #16a.]
- (2) Maybe [Please go to Question #16a.]
- (3) No [Please go to Question #17.]

16a. **Per Visit. What is the maximum amount per person per visit that you would be willing to pay to use the services and facilities at a **NEW** community recreation center?**

- (1) Up to \$5 per visit
- (2) Up to \$7 per visit
- (3) Up to \$10 per visit
- (4) I would pay a reasonable amount over \$10 per visit depending on the services offered.

16b. **Per Month for an Individual. What is the maximum amount per MONTH that you would be willing to pay for an individual pass (or membership) to use the services and facilities at a **NEW** community recreation center?**

- (1) Up to \$25 per month
- (2) Up to \$35 per month
- (3) Up to \$45 per month
- (4) I would pay a reasonable amount over \$45 per visit depending on the services offered.

16c. **Per Month for a Family. What is the maximum amount per MONTH that you would be willing to pay for a family pass (or membership) to use the services and facilities at a **NEW** community recreation center?**

- (1) Up to \$35 per month
- (2) Up to \$45 per month
- (3) Up to \$55 per month
- (4) Not applicable (I live alone)

17. Which of the following organizations provide leisure and recreation facilities that are used by you and other members of your household? (Check all that apply.)

- (01) School District
- (02) Churches or other religious organizations
- (03) Private youth sports teams
- (04) Local colleges
- (05) Non-profit organizations
- (06) Private clubs (tennis, fitness & dance)
- (07) City of Merriam Parks and Rec.
- (08) Other cities', county, or state parks and facilities
- (09) Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- (10) None. Do not use any organizations.

18. How far do you currently travel to use these types of leisure and recreation facilities?

- (1) Up to 3 miles
- (2) 3 to 5 miles
- (3) 6 to 10 miles
- (4) More than 10 miles

19. Please rank the importance of the following potential improvements to City of Merriam parks, trails, arts, and recreation facilities, on a scale of 1 to 6, where **"1" is "most important", and "6" is "least important"**.

- \_\_\_\_\_ (1) Development/improvement of indoor facilities (Rec Center, indoor track, fitness centers, art center, gyms, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Redevelopment of the Merriam Aquatic Center
- \_\_\_\_\_ (3) Construction of new outdoor park amenities (shelters, amphitheater, playgrounds, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (4) Acquisition of new park land and open space
- \_\_\_\_\_ (5) Acquisition and development of walking and biking trails
- \_\_\_\_\_ (6) Maintenance of existing parks and recreation facilities

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

20. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_ years

21. Counting yourself, how many people in your household are:

Under age 5: _____	Ages 15-19: _____	Ages 35-44: _____	Ages 65-74: _____
Ages 5-9: _____	Ages 20-24: _____	Ages 45-54: _____	Ages 75+: _____
Ages 10-14: _____	Ages 25-34: _____	Ages 55-64: _____	

22. Approximately how many years have you lived in the City of Merriam? \_\_\_\_\_ years

23. What is your total household income?

____(1) Under \$35,000	____(3) \$60,000 to \$99,999	____(5) \$150,000 or more
____(2) \$35,000 to \$59,999	____(4) \$100,000 to \$149,999	

24. Have you voted in the past two years? \_\_\_\_ (1) Yes \_\_\_\_ (2) No

25. What is your gender? \_\_\_\_ (1) Male \_\_\_\_ (2) Female

27. Which of the following best describes your race/ethnicity? (Check all that apply)

____ (1) White/Caucasian	____ (5) African American/Black
____ (2) Asian	____ (6) Native American
____ (3) Pacific Islander	____ (7) Other: _____
____ (4) Hispanic/Latin	____ (8) Prefer not to answer

28. Please share any additional comments that could assist the City of Merriam Parks and Recreation Department in improving parks, trails, open space, or recreational facilities and services.

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**This concludes the survey. Thank you for your time.**

Please return your completed survey in the enclosed return-reply envelope addressed to:  
**725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061**

Your response will remain Completely Confidential. The address information on the sticker to the right will ONLY be used to help identify areas with special interests. Thank you.