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FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR A  
**POTENTIAL NEW INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY**  
IN ELMHURST, ILLINOIS

OCTOBER 6, 2016







October 6, 2016

Ms. Laura Guttman  
Strategy and Planning Coordinator  
Elmhurst Park District  
375 W. First Street  
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Dear Ms. Guttman:

Conventions, Sports & Leisure International (CSL) is pleased to present this draft report related to a feasibility study for a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst, Illinois. The overall study involves the analysis of the market, programmatic, financial and economic feasibility of a new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst for the purpose of driving new revenue and economic impact to Elmhurst, as well as enhancing rental, practice and other special event facility alternatives available for residents. The attached report presents our research, analysis and findings and is intended to assist the Elmhurst Park District, the City of Elmhurst, and other stakeholders in evaluating the viability of developing and operating a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst.

The analysis presented in this report is based on estimates, assumptions and other information developed from industry research, data provided by the study's stakeholders, surveys of potential facility users and local representatives, discussions with industry participants and analysis of competitive/comparable facilities and communities. The sources of information, the methods employed, and the basis of significant estimates and assumptions are stated in this report. Some assumptions inevitably will not materialize and unanticipated events and circumstances may occur. Therefore, actual results achieved will vary from those described and the variations may be material.

The findings presented herein are based on analysis of present and near-term conditions in Elmhurst as well as existing interest levels by the potential base of users of a new Indoor Sports Facility. Any significant future changes in the characteristics of the local community, such as growth in population, corporate inventory, competitive inventory and visitor amenities/attractions, could materially impact the key market conclusions developed as a part of this study. As in all studies of this type, the estimated results are based on competent and efficient management of the potential Facilities and assume that no significant changes in the demand markets or assumed immediate and local area market conditions will occur beyond those set forth in this report. Furthermore, all information provided to us by others was not audited or verified and was assumed to be correct.

This report has been prepared for the internal use of the Elmhurst Park District and the City of Elmhurst and should not be relied upon by any other party. The report has been structured to assist stakeholders in evaluating market demand, supportable program and the potential cost/benefit characteristics of a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst and should not be used for any other purpose.

We sincerely appreciate the assistance and cooperation we have been provided in the compilation of this report and would be pleased to be of further assistance in the interpretation and application of our findings.

Very truly yours,

CSL International

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Conventions, Sports and Leisure International (CSL) was engaged by the Elmhurst Park District and the City of Elmhurst (City) to study the feasibility of a new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst, Illinois. The attached report presents a summary of feasibility study findings, involving the analysis of the market, programmatic, financial and economic feasibility of a potential new facility in Elmhurst. The full written report should be reviewed in its entirety to gain an understanding of the study's methods, limitations and implications.

### Introduction and Background

The purpose of this study is to:

*Analyze the market, programmatic, financial and economic feasibility of a new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst for the purpose of driving new revenue and economic impact to Elmhurst, as well as enhancing rental, practice and other special event facility alternatives available for area residents. Such facilities would offer one or more of the following programmatic components: gymnasium space, indoor turf, pool/natatorium, indoor ice rink.*

Specifically, the envisioned facility products would serve to: (1) provide a public resource for local residents (by accommodating local sports and recreation activities); (2) enhance the ability to drive additional revenue for local sports and recreation programs and facilities; and (3) generate new economic impact (through attracting tournaments, competitions, and meets with non-local participants and attendees).

The study process consisted of detailed research and analysis, including a comprehensive set of market-specific information derived from the following:

- ✓ Experience garnered through more than 500 sports, recreation and event facility feasibility, planning and benchmarking projects throughout the country.
- ✓ Local market visits at the outset of the project, including community and facility tours, and discussions with study stakeholders.
- ✓ In-person and telephone interviews, meetings and focus groups with more than 50 local Elmhurst area individuals, including representatives and individuals affiliated with Elmhurst Park District, City of Elmhurst, DuPage County Convention and Visitors Bureau, local educational institutions, local sports and nonprofit organizations, potential funding partners, municipal government representatives, and other local area individuals.
- ✓ Research and analysis of local market conditions, existing facilities and infrastructure and amateur sports and recreation trends.
- ✓ Benchmarking research and analysis of facility data and interviews conducted with management of nearly 100 competitive and comparable sports and recreation complexes located throughout the region and country.
- ✓ Comparative analysis of socioeconomic data from competitive/comparable facility markets.
- ✓ Completed telephone interviews with more than 50 representatives of sports & rec organizations/governing bodies with state, regional and/or national tournament/meet scope.
- ✓ Online survey of more than 750 Elmhurst and area residents.

## Local Market Conditions

The strength of a market in terms of its ability to support and utilize sports and recreation facilities is measured, in part, by the size of the local and regional market area population and its age, income and other characteristics. Other local market characteristics have relevance when considering the attractiveness of a particular community as a host for major amateur sports facilities, including transportation accessibility, climate, existing local inventory of athletic facilities, and visitor amenities.

In addition to the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the local and regional market, transportation access to and from a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility represents a key element of the viability of any potential facility. Convenient local access to any potential new facility will be paramount to the local and regional sports participants who will represent the majority of users of a potential new facility, while regional access characteristics will likely influence the ability of the venue to attract tournaments drawing teams from throughout Illinois, the Midwest and beyond. Industry research indicates that participants in youth and adult sports tournaments are willing to travel, on average, up to 200 miles to participate in regional tournaments. The population within a 180-minute drive time of Elmhurst is nearly 17.2 million, providing a significant population base from which the proposed facility could draw tournament participants. Additionally, large metropolitan areas such as Milwaukee, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Detroit are located just outside of the 180-minute “driving” distance, though well within a day’s drive. Further, Elmhurst’s proximity to O’Hare International Airport opens access to markets throughout the country and the world. These communities represent potential sources of teams for regional and national tournaments, meets or competitions held at a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

While a number of sports and recreation facilities, pools and fields exist throughout Elmhurst, the area is lacking a significant concentration of such facilities in a single location. Many communities have seen that developing new sports facilities benefits the local sports market by consolidating activities and facilities at one single site, and such developments have assisted in recreational activity participation growth in a given area. While York High School and Timothy Christian Schools offer five and four indoor courts, respectively, the greatest single concentration of courts is the three available at York’s fieldhouse. Additionally, while there are three 25-yard pools in Elmhurst, pools at Courts Plus and the YMCA are somewhat limited by the membership-driven operations of their venues. Further, while elementary, middle and high schools accommodate a significant amount of indoor gym-space and swimming pool demand, shrinking school budgets and booking priorities that reserve gym and pool space for school-related functions first, reliable access to these venues is becoming increasingly sparse.

With respect to ice rink and indoor turf facilities, the facilities available are not capable of hosting regular league play. Collectively, these facilities were originally envisioned to accommodate local demand, and have thus far accomplished that goal. However, with the continued growth of the Elmhurst market, the existing local facilities are increasingly limited in their ability accommodate existing local demand.

Moreover, any envisioned indoor Elmhurst sports facility designed with appropriate quality and volume standards would allow the area to be a more marketable tournament/competition destination—in terms of offering a quality indoor competition gymnasium with a critical mass of courts would serve as the central tournament location, rather than spreading games across a number of limited court facilities (which tends to be much less desirable, particularly for major traveling tournaments).

Non-local participating teams at any potential indoor sports facility would have a positive impact on the Elmhurst economy by supporting area hotels, restaurants and other establishments during their visit to the area. Economic impact generated by non-local participants and their families is typically a critical reason for the consideration of public investment in these types of larger sports and recreational facilities. Offering an appropriate number of facilities to attract a critical mass of non-local tournament, meet or competition

participants is an important factor in generating this economic impact. However, the ability of the local market to provide an adequate number of hotels that are within reasonable driving distance from the potential facilities is also a key element for ensuring that the economic benefit created by hosting amateur sports events is maximized within the local community and a key consideration for sports organizations selecting potential tournament, meet or competition destinations.

The overall area hotel room inventory (approximately 830 rooms in Elmhurst and 10,000 throughout DuPage County) is believed to be sufficient for the types of tournaments that could be accommodated by a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility, while still accommodating business and other leisure travelers. Participants and family members traveling to attend tournaments, meets and competitions at indoor sports facilities tend to prefer more affordable, limited service hotel properties. The existing hotel inventory in Elmhurst and DuPage County is of a sufficient level and diversity of products/price points to support potential new indoor sports facility development.

Non-local tournament, meet and competition organizers and participants can focus, in part, on the appeal of a destination when making a decision on whether to attend. The variety and number of attractions available throughout Elmhurst and the greater-Chicago metropolitan area may serve as a foundation on which to increase the economic benefits associated with increased non-local attendance at tournaments, meets and competitions held at a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. Overall, the Elmhurst area's array of attractions and general destination appeal is considered to be relatively strong for a community its size, with the destination's greatest strengths lying in its accessibility, affordability and strong local demographic and socioeconomic base.

### Competitive and Comparable Facilities

The viability of any potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst is dependent, in large part, on its position in the competitive sports complex landscape, which will directly influence its ability to attract league play and tournaments/meets from the regional market. While there are a significant number of facilities throughout the greater Chicago metropolitan area, the Libertyville Sports Complex is the only facility within 40 miles of Elmhurst that offers more than four courts at one single location (the Libertyville Sports Complex offers eight indoor basketball courts). Similarly, there are currently no 50-meter indoor pools throughout the Chicago metropolitan area; however, plans are in place to develop a 50-meter pool, with a warm-up/leisure pool and seating for competitions in Westmont, just south of Elmhurst. This would be a significant competitor to any new aquatics-oriented Indoor Sports Facility developed in Elmhurst.

Conversely, there are moderate levels of competition throughout the market for both indoor turf and ice facilities. As such, it will be critical for Elmhurst to determine whether there is sufficient local demand for these facilities, as the competitive environment for non-local tournaments, meets and competitions is considered moderate.

More than 40 indoor sports facilities offering dedicated or combined use facilities throughout the country were reviewed, including 13 gymnasium facilities, 9 indoor turf facilities, 11 indoor ice rinks and 11 natatoriums. These venues were targeted to provide comparative market context for a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility, as well to assist in formulating hypothetical utilization of any new facility product in Elmhurst.

The population, average household income and corporate base levels of the primary market area surrounding Elmhurst compares favorably to the markets offering comparable indoor sports facility components. Data was collected regarding estimated construction costs, financial operations and event levels among a critical number of these venues. The implications of these metrics vary greatly depending on the ultimate facility program of event space and operational mandate (i.e., privately owned/operated

for-profit, municipally-run with the goal of serving the community; run with the goal of attracting economic impact generating events, etc.). It will be important to carefully consider facility program development options and operational mandates when identifying supportable facility programming and funding opportunities for facility development and operations.

## Market Demand

The results of the market demand analysis conducted for this study suggest that strong estimated local and non-local demand exists for a gymnasium sports and recreation facility and for an ice sports and recreation facility. The largest accumulation of indoor court spaces is at York High School's fieldhouse, and they are becoming increasingly difficult to access. Developing a minimum four-court facility would be able to accommodate latent local demand. However, in order to attract the larger, non-local tournaments for which demand was also noted, a larger facility (minimum six courts) would be required.

In terms of demand for ice rink space, the only existing local facility is the outdoor rink at the YMCA. All locally-based club hockey, figure skating, learn-to-skate and other ice rink user groups are forced to utilize facilities outside of Elmhurst. Demand was noted for a two-sheet ice facility to accommodate both local and potential non-local tournament, camp and/or clinic activity. Clubs such as York, Fenwick and the Chiefs would all welcome an opportunity to practice and play home games in Elmhurst.

An important consideration in the site selection process for an ice facility, should the decision be made to move forward with developing an ice arena, will be to allow for potentially developing a third sheet of ice at some point in the future. Current demand indicates a two-sheet facility; however, anticipated future growth in local club, figure skating and other programs may eventually require access to a third sheet of ice.

Moderately strong local and non-local demand was noted for an indoor turf facility, as well as for an indoor pool/natatorium. The only existing indoor turf facility in Elmhurst is not large enough to accommodate practice, game, training and other demand. York High School's fieldhouse has served demand well; however, increasingly organizations are looking for a turf field experience for practices and games, and try to avoid practicing on hardwood. As such, these organizations are currently forced to seek indoor turf space outside of Elmhurst city limits.

The Elmhurst and greater Chicago metropolitan area also both presently have limited facility options for swimming. Specifically, there are three 25-yard pools in Elmhurst, but no competition-ready 50-meter pool. Increasingly swim clubs and programs seek out 50-meter pools to be able to host long-course events, as well as short-course by swimming cross pool, rather than along the long axis. York High School currently offers an indoor 25-yard pool that is fairly well maintained and capable of hosting many locally-based events.

Importantly, there is a proposed aquatic center project in Westmont, Illinois that is currently being considered. The development would consist of a 50-meter competition pool and supporting leisure pool at in conjunction with an apartment complex. Should this project move forward, it would present a significantly competitive venue for attracting high-profile state, regional and national meets and competitions. However, even if this project were not to move forward, the local demand was not identified as being sufficient to be able to support operations of a 50-meter pool. York High School swimming and Elmhurst Swim Club did not indicate an interest to relocate to a new facility, even if the facility was of a higher quality than their pool. Other swim clubs and programs have noted a desire for additional pool space and time; however, none of these organizations likely have the financial wherewithal to contribute significantly to construction costs and/or ongoing operations.

## Supportable Program & Scenarios

Based on the results of the market analysis, it is recommended that any potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst focus on one or more of the following three types of facilities:

### 1. Ice Arena Facility

- Two sheets (NHL-sized, 200' x 85'), seating for 1500 and 250.
- Four to six locker rooms.
- Basic additional characteristics/amenities:
  - Pro-shop with available emergency necessities.
  - Concession facilities.
  - Warm-up areas.
  - Approximate 60,000-square foot facility.

### 2. Gymnasium Facility

- Six hardwood courts (6 basketball courts, 12 volleyball courts).
- Concession facilities.
- Bleachers, netting equipment, scoreboards, and other standard amenities.
- Approximate 80,000-square foot facility (with approximately 60,000 square feet of floor space).

### 3. Indoor Turf Facilities

- Two full sized fields (185' x75' or 180' x 80', configurable down to smaller fields).
- Minimum 30' ceiling height.
- Dropdown batting cages for baseball/softball.
- Approximate 40,000-square foot facility.

Building on these market supportable program findings and based on conversations with the study group (representatives of the Elmhurst Park District and the City of Elmhurst), the following three facility scenarios were identified for further analysis:

- Scenario 1: Hardcourt Sportsplex
- Scenario 2: Hardcourt Sportsplex Plus Turf
- Scenario 3: Ice Complex

Scenarios 1 and 2 involve a potential Indoor Sports Facility that is focused around a facility with a hardwood sports surface, with Scenario 2 consisting of a larger facility with an added area of turf space. Scenario 3 would represent an ice complex only, with two sheets of ice.

## Utilization and Attendance

A detailed utilization model was developed to consider a large number of variables and inputs to analyze each sport/use for each facility development scenario under review. For instance, when considering different types of usage (i.e., use from local leagues/clubs versus non-local tournaments/meets versus clinics/camps/lessons versus open recreation, etc.), separate assumptions were used for the development of usage and attendance (participants and spectators).



The following exhibit presents a summary of total estimated attendance and attendee origin associated with the three identified development scenarios. As shown, upon stabilization (assumed fourth year of operations), the potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility is estimated to attract between 214,000 and 297,000 attendees annually, depending on scenario. While each scenario is expected to generate significant visitation and new hotel room nights for Elmhurst through non-local activity, more than half of the estimated attendance under each scenarios is expected to consist of utilization by Elmhurst residents.

### Total Estimated Attendance by Scenario

	SCENARIO 1 Hardcourt Sportsplex	SCENARIO 2 Hardcourt Plus Turf	SCENARIO 3 Ice Complex
<b>ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE</b>			
Local:			
Elmhurst Residents	116,532	161,201	138,561
Non-Local:			
Non-Resident Day Trippers (Tournaments)	15,120	21,168	6,350
Non-Resident Day Trippers (Other)	54,810	76,338	79,600
Non-Resident Overnight Stay	<u>27,918</u>	<u>38,185</u>	<u>14,891</u>
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>214,380</b>	<b>296,892</b>	<b>239,402</b>
<b>ESTIMATED HOTEL ROOMS</b>			
<b>Total Hotel Room Nights</b>	<b>11,167</b>	<b>15,274</b>	<b>5,956</b>

Note: 'Other' Day Trippers refers to non-Elmhurst resident attendees of leagues, lessons, clinics, etc.

## Costs/Benefits

A cost/benefit analysis was conducted relating to potential construction and operating costs and estimated economic impacts associated with each of the three identified scenarios for a new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

### Annual Operating Costs

In terms of annual operating costs, upon stabilization of operations (assumed to occur by the fourth year) and not including debt service, a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility (under Scenarios 1 and 2) is estimated to generate an operating profit of approximately \$149,000 and \$270,000 per annum, respectively. This projected financial performance would be consistent with or better than that of the average comparable facility located throughout the country. Under Scenario 3, a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility (consisting of a two-sheet ice complex) is estimated to generate an annual operating loss of approximately \$202,000 per annum. This type of annual operating loss is also consistent with or better than the average comparable ice arena facility located throughout the country.

### Construction Costs

In terms of construction costs, order-of-magnitude construction costs (excluding site costs) for a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility are estimated to range between \$22.8 million and \$32.2 million (in 2016 dollars). Construction costs tend to vary widely among comparable sports facility projects. Many variables exist that influence actual realized construction costs, including type of facility, size, components, level of

finish, integrated amenities, costs of goods and services in the local market, location and topography of the site, ingress/egress issues, and other such aspects. Importantly, a detailed architectural concept, design and costing study would be required to specifically estimate construction costs for a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

### Economic Impacts (Quantifiable)

The estimated total output (direct spending plus indirect/induced spending) for a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility in a stabilized year of operations (assumed fourth full year of operation) is estimated to range between approximately \$11.9 million and \$16.5 million per annum (in 2016 dollars), depending on the scenario. Additionally, this spending is estimated to annually support between \$5.9 million and \$8.2 million in earnings (or personal income) in the local Elmhurst economy, along with between 153 and 212 full and part-time jobs throughout the Elmhurst economy.

### Economic Impacts (Non-Quantifiable/Intangible)

Some benefits related to the operations of a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility cannot be quantitatively measured. Firstly, the estimated quantitative impacts of the potential Facility in Elmhurst do not include benefits that may be generated from other private sector developments surrounding the Facility such as hotel, restaurant, other retail, and entertainment establishments. Additionally, other potential qualitative benefits for Elmhurst and its residents could include:

- Enhanced sports and recreation opportunities for local youths and adults;
- Reduction in the need for residents to leave Elmhurst for sports and recreation activities;
- Synergy with the other sports, recreation, entertainment and leisure facilities leading to increased tourism activity;
- Enhanced community pride, self-image, exposure and reputation; and,
- Enhanced regional exposure.

### Funding Options

Conversations with City of Elmhurst and Elmhurst Park District representatives have indicated that General Obligation bonding is likely the most viable source of funding for developing a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst. This funding would be backed by the full faith and credit of the City and/or the Park District. While a property tax revenue increase is an option, it is not the only viable mechanism for generating the annual revenue necessary for debt service. Developing a TIF district or extending an existing district nearing closure may provide a significant source of annual revenue. An important consideration will be the ultimate site selected for one or more indoor sports facilities, as it will be important to ensure that attendance and activity generated by sports facility operations would reasonably be expected to impact activity within the designated district.

Another potential source of funding would be through an increase in the City's collection of the hotel/motel tax. The total effective hotel/motel tax rate is currently at 10 percent, and a one percent increase is expected to generate approximately \$100,000 annually. As with TIF district funding, it will be important to consider the type of event activity within a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility, specifically whether a significant enough portion of utilization will be generated from individuals requiring an overnight stay. Additionally, site selection for any potential new indoor sports facility may have a significant impact on this potential funding source, as locating a facility too close to hotel properties outside the Elmhurst city limits may limit the overall impact realized by local hotel/motel operators.

With respect to engaging the private sector, naming rights sales have been increasingly utilized for amateur sports facility development and/or ongoing operational funding. One example is the recently opened UW Health Sports Factory in Rockford, Illinois that is collecting \$175,000 annually with payments inflated annually to arrive at a ten-year private investment of \$1.9 million. Fully vetting potential private funding partners such as Edward-Elmhurst Health, local sporting goods retailers or other such private sector partners could provide important funding assistance. Important considerations will include, but not be limited to, the nature of the facility, the potential local and non-local reach of leagues, tournaments, clinics, camps and competition, ancillary facilities that may be developed within the venue and the potential opportunity for the funding partner to have increased access to the venue.

These partnerships may extend beyond the private sector. Consideration of partnerships with Elmhurst College, IC Prep or other local educational institutions may provide an opportunity to minimize the funding burden on the private sector. One example of a potential partnership opportunity would be for the City and/or Park District to participate in construction funding, while the educational institution would operate the facility without requiring public assistance for ongoing financial operations. Another opportunity may be to enter into an agreement for upfront payment of rent to provide an infusion of upfront funds for debt service. In either scenario, it will be critical that the City, Park District and/or educational institution enter into a use agreement that would guarantee access and rates for both parties. Both options provide opportunities to mitigate some of the risk that would be incurred by the public sector, while raising the overall profile of the facility/facilities by providing an opportunity to attract regular high school and/or collegiate games, tournaments and competitions.

Lastly, consideration could be given to partnering with a private equity partner who would assume the majority burden of construction funding and operating risk. One example of this is Bo Jackson Elite Sports, operated by Sports Facilities Management (SFM). This is a privately built facility consisting of a 115,000-square foot hard/soft indoor facility, with a focus on turf fields. If it were to be developed in Elmhurst, such a facility would ideally be co-located at larger complex (i.e., next to courts facility and/or ice complex). Public contribution would be limited (from as little as land, to land plus incentives, depending on negotiations and outcome/use expectations), opportunity to leverage \$7.0 million or more in private investment. While this model may not be optimized for maximizing the accommodation of the types of local league play and recreational opportunities desired by the City, midweek access for local clubs and organizations could be protected through upfront negotiations. Additionally, the consolidated private management of a larger complex (i.e., the privately-led turf facility plus a publicly-led courts facility and/or ice complex) could be an opportunity to further defray public sector costs and enhance outcomes.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Conventions, Sports and Leisure International (CSL) was engaged by the Elmhurst Park District and the City of Elmhurst (City) to study the feasibility of a new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst, Illinois. The contracted study involves the analysis of the market, programmatic, financial and economic feasibility of a potential new facility in Elmhurst.

This draft report outlines the key findings associated with our research and, analysis and is intended to assist the Elmhurst Park District, City of Elmhurst, and other stakeholders in evaluating the viability of developing and operating a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst.

The purpose of this study is to:

*Analyze the market, programmatic, financial and economic feasibility of a new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst for the purpose of driving new revenue and economic impact to Elmhurst, as well as enhancing rental, practice and other special event facility alternatives available for area residents. Such facilities would offer one or more of the following programmatic components: gymnasium space, indoor turf, pool/natatorium, indoor ice rink.*





Specifically, the envisioned facility products would serve to: (1) provide a public resource for local residents (by accommodating local sports and recreation activities); (2) enhance the ability to drive additional revenue for local sports and recreation programs and facilities; and (3) generate new economic impact (through attracting tournaments, competitions, and meets with non-local participants and attendees).

Potential investment could involve a new and/or enhanced facility product designed to accommodate one or more sports and recreation types, specifically:

A state-of-the-industry indoor gymnasium facility would be designed with sufficient flexibility and standards to attract a variety of sports/rec activities, such as basketball, volleyball, wrestling, dance, cheerleading, martial arts and other such activities.

A state-of-the-industry indoor turf facility designed with sufficient flexibility and standards to attract a variety of sports/rec activities, such as soccer, football, lacrosse, baseball, softball and other such activities.

A state-of-the-industry natatorium would be designed to offer a high-quality, state-of-the-industry indoor aquatic facility appropriate for accommodating competitive swimming and diving programs, area school programs and local swim clubs, attracting non-local competitions/meets, as well as accommodating swim lessons, therapy and general recreation purposes.

A state-of-the-industry indoor ice arena would be designed with sufficient flexibility and standards to attract a variety of sports/rec activities, such as hockey, ice skating, local school and park programs, and other such programming. Included in this type of facility is multiple sheets of ice equipped with adequate locker space, and pro-shop services.

The study process, outlined herein, consisted of detailed research and analysis, including a comprehensive set of market-specific information derived from the following:

- ✓ Experience garnered through more than 500 sports, recreation and event facility feasibility, planning and benchmarking projects throughout the country.
- ✓ Local market visits at the outset of the project, including community and facility tours, and discussions with study stakeholders.
- ✓ In-person and telephone interviews, meetings and focus groups with more than 50 local Elmhurst area individuals, including representatives and individuals affiliated with Elmhurst Park District, City of Elmhurst, DuPage County Convention and Visitors Bureau, local educational institutions, local sports and nonprofit organizations, potential funding partners, municipal government representatives, and other local area individuals.
- ✓ Research and analysis of local market conditions, existing facilities and infrastructure and amateur sports and recreation trends.
- ✓ Benchmarking research and analysis of facility data and interviews conducted with management of nearly 100 competitive and comparable sports and recreation complexes located throughout the region and country.
- ✓ Comparative analysis of socioeconomic data from competitive/comparable facility markets.
- ✓ Completed telephone interviews with more than 50 representatives of sports & rec organizations/governing bodies with state, regional and/or national tournament/meet scope.
- ✓ Online survey of more than 750 Elmhurst and area residents.

In general, for studies of facility projects of this nature, conclusions of a project's feasibility can be assessed in various ways, including:

- Market feasibility – the facility's ability to attract and support levels of facility utilization that are consistent with, or in excess of, industry standards.
- Financial feasibility – the ability of the facility to "break-even" or generate an operating profit focusing only on direct facility-related operating revenues and expenses.
- Economic spending – the facility's ability to generate new spending activity in the local community (i.e., direct and indirect spending that is attributable to non-local sports complex participants/attendees that would not otherwise occur in the local area).
- Tax generation – the ability of the facility to generate new tax revenue for the local area (i.e., tax revenue resulting from direct, indirect and induced spending that is attributable to non-local participants/attendees that would not otherwise occur in the local area).
- Costs/benefits/return on investment – the facility's ability to generate new revenues (i.e., from taxes, operating income, ancillary facility-related revenues) in excess of quantifiable facility-related costs (i.e., construction costs, operating costs, capital reserves, etc.).
- Intangible benefits/public good – the ability of the facility to represent an important resource for the local community, regardless of financial or economic concerns. The facility would represent high-quality athletic and recreation facilities that the local community presently lacks—a benefit that is not easily quantifiable. These types of benefits add to the local community's "quality of life" similar to civic centers, libraries, museums, parks, theaters and other public facilities/amenities.



When evaluating the feasibility of a potential new Indoor Sports Facility, communities throughout the country have differed in the specific criteria that best reflect the definition of "feasible" for their community. For instance, one community may focus more on the ability of the project to be operationally self-supportive or require below a certain threshold of public sector contribution, rather than the intangible "public good" aspects the project would provide local residents at a higher level of upfront or ongoing public sector participation. The research, data, information and analysis provided through this study is intended to allow Elmhurst community constituents draw their own informed conclusions concerning the "feasibility" of a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst.

## 2.0 SPORTS PARTICIPATION TRENDS

The purpose of this section is to provide an overview of sports participation trends in the United States. An understanding of these trends at a national, regional and local level provides a framework from which to assess potential demand for a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst.

The statistical data presented in this section was derived from the Sporting Goods Manufacturer's Association (SGMA) and the Sports Business Research Network (SBRNet). Research information from the Sporting Goods Manufacturer's Association is derived from a study based on approximately 40,000 interviews encompassing youth and adult sports participation. SBRNet compiles studies from organizations such as the National Sporting Goods Associations (NSGA), which publishes a comprehensive bi-annual report of sports participation in the United States. The report contains participation data which is gathered to analyze trends and patterns within 51 sports and activities.

The remainder of this section presents relevant information on sports participation trends for sports that a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst could potentially host.

### National Sports Participation Rates

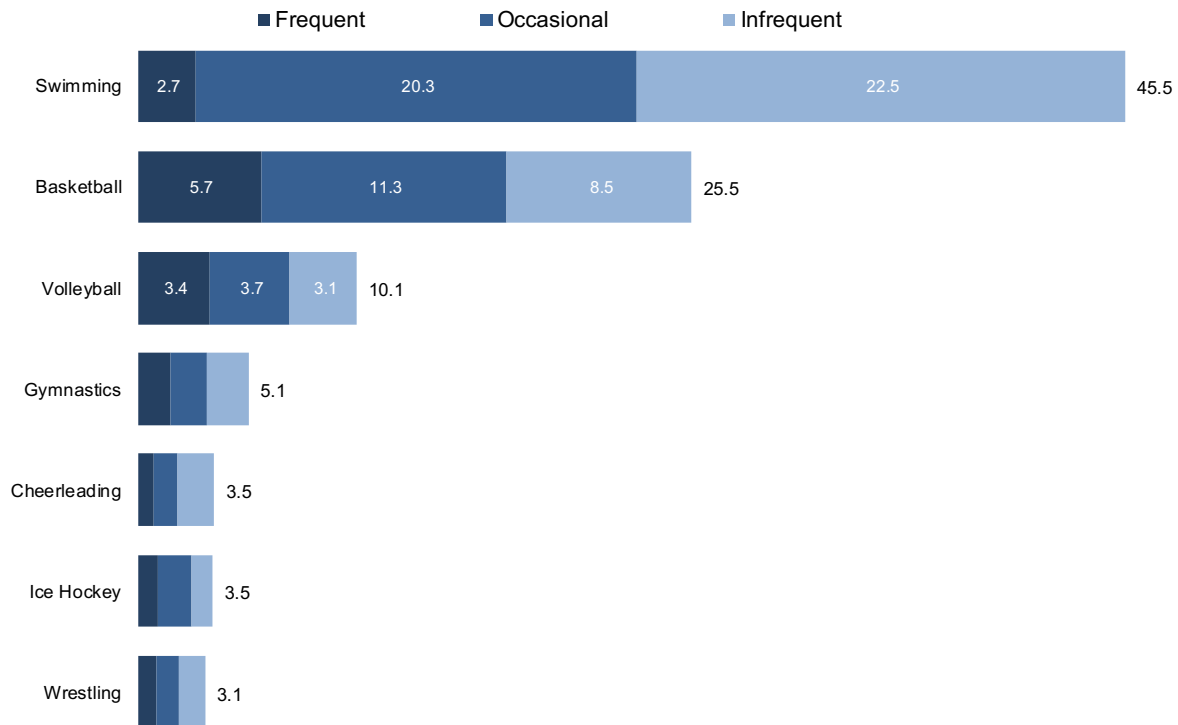
The information on the following pages summarizes the SGMA study completed in 2014. Cumulative national sports participation levels are shown as well as participation trends from 2007 through 2013 for each of the sports identified.

#### *National Sports Participation Levels*

Although it is anticipated that the vast majority of programming at a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst would be dedicated to frequent sports participants, it is important to understand the overall participation rates on a national level. National participation levels can provide insights into the overall popularity of a sport, as well as the size of the base from which to attract new frequent participants.

The following exhibit presents a summary of the national participation rates of indoor sports broken out by participation level (i.e. frequent, infrequent and occasional).

**Exhibit 1**  
**National Participation Levels (in millions)**



Source: SGMA, 2014

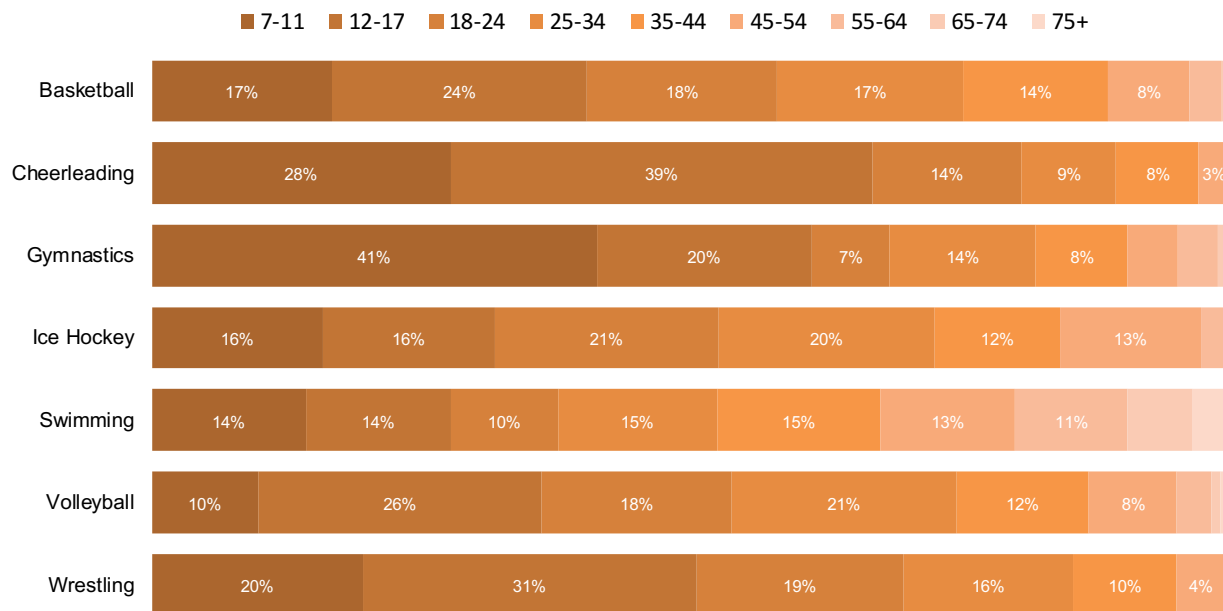
As shown in Exhibit 1, swimming (45.5 million), basketball (25.5 million) and volleyball (10.1 million) have the highest national participation levels among sports requiring an indoor complex. Basketball has the highest number of frequent participants (5.7 million), followed by volleyball (3.4 million), and swimming (2.7 million).



## National Participation Levels by Age

Exhibit 2 has been prepared to summarize sports participation levels by age group for each of the identified indoor sports. A potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst would be anticipated to be utilized by a variety of age groups, and it is important to understand which sports appeal to each age group in order to consider appropriate programming.

**Exhibit 2**  
**National Participation Levels (in millions) by Age**



Source: SGMA, 2014

As presented, the 7 to 11 and 12 to 17-year-old age groups represent the largest percentage of national sports participants, with an average of approximately 45 percent in select indoor sports.

Gymnastics has the highest levels of participation (41 percent) among 7 to 11 year-olds, followed by, cheerleading (28 percent), wrestling (20 percent), basketball (17 percent), ice hockey (16 percent), swimming (14 percent) and volleyball (10 percent).

### *National Participation by Income*

Although it is important to understand overall sports participation rates, there are other factors that contribute to an individual's willingness and ability to participate in a given sport or activity. Household income has a direct influence on sports participation due to the fact that sports require different levels of annual investment, some of which may not be feasible for all people. The chart below presents a summary of the average household income of the indoor sports reviewed.

**Exhibit 3**  
**Average Household Income (by Sport)**



Source: SGMA, 2014

As shown, ice hockey participants have the highest average annual household income of approximately \$90,500, followed by gymnastics participants with an average annual household income of \$77,800. Sports with participants that have average annual household income levels higher than or equal to the national average (\$77,000) include ice hockey (\$90,500), gymnastics (\$77,800), and cheerleading (\$77,000), indicating that these sports may report higher participation rates in areas with greater purchasing power.

The analysis was complemented by industry trend and participation data derived from the Sporting Goods Manufacturer's Association (SGMA) and the Sports Business Research Network (SBRNet). SGMA and SBRNet data was derived from a study based on approximately 40,000 interviews encompassing youth and adult sports participation. The following exhibit summarizes the estimated population base participating in each identified sport based on regional participation rates applied to the overall market population. The rate of participation includes only frequent users and does not account for occasional and infrequent users.

**Exhibit 4**  
**Estimated Frequent Participation of Local and Regional Markets**

Estimated Frequent Participants														
Market Population:	Frequent Participation Rates		City of Elmhurst		DuPage County		30-minute Drive Time		90-minute Drive Time		180-minute Drive Time		Illinois CBSA	
			41,308		854,085		2,152,025		7,639,492		15,695,165		11,907,760	
	Nat'l	Reg	Nat'l Rate	Reg Rate	Nat'l Rate	Reg Rate	Nat'l Rate	Reg Rate	Nat'l Rate	Reg Rate	Nat'l Rate	Reg Rate	Nat'l Rate	Reg Rate
Basketball	2.0%	1.9%	819	786	16,924	16,247	42,643	40,937	151,378	145,323	311,002	298,562	235,954	226,516
Cheerleading	0.3%	0.3%	104	117	2,159	2,418	5,440	6,092	19,310	21,627	39,672	44,433	30,099	33,711
Gymnastics	0.5%	0.4%	213	183	4,410	3,792	11,111	9,555	39,443	33,921	81,034	69,689	61,480	52,872
Ice Hockey	0.3%	0.3%	124	128	2,562	2,639	6,456	6,650	22,918	23,606	47,085	48,498	35,723	36,795
Swimming	0.9%	0.8%	383	329	7,915	6,807	19,943	17,151	70,795	60,884	145,447	125,084	110,349	94,900
Volleyball	1.2%	1.4%	480	580	9,916	11,999	24,986	30,233	88,699	107,326	182,231	220,499	138,257	167,290
Wrestling	0.3%	0.3%	126	139	2,610	2,871	6,575	7,233	23,342	25,676	47,955	52,751	36,383	40,022
<b>AVERAGE</b>			<b>321</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>6,642</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>16,736</b>	<b>16,836</b>	<b>59,412</b>	<b>59,766</b>	<b>122,061</b>	<b>122,788</b>	<b>92,606</b>	<b>93,158</b>

Note: Population Numbers include ages 7+  
Source: SGMA, 2014

Based on SMGA report's sports participation regional index, the city of Elmhurst would have an average of approximately 320 total frequent participants across all sports. Frequent participation based on the adjusted regional rate within a 30-, 90- and 180-minute drive of Elmhurst average 16,800, 59,800 and 122,800, respectively. Basketball, volleyball, swimming, and gymnastics have the most participants based on the regional index and population penetration analysis within the City of Elmhurst, DuPage County and the State of Illinois. This is consistent with the 30-, 90- and 180-minute drive markets as those sports also have the highest number of total participants.

### 3.0 LOCAL MARKET CONDITIONS

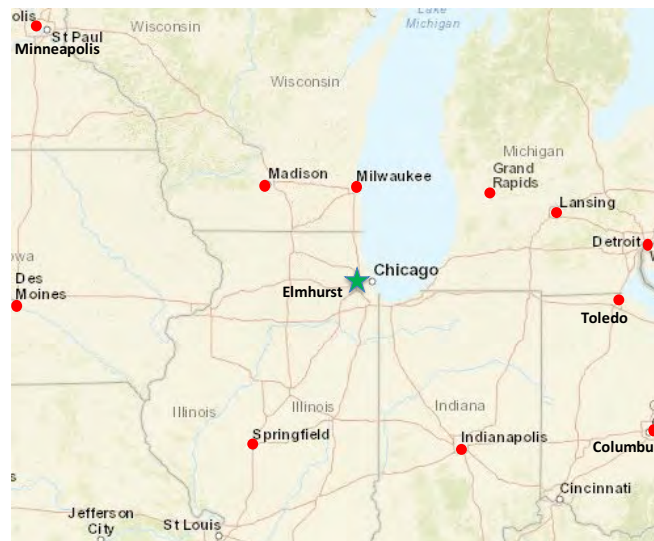
An important component in assessing the potential success of a new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst is the demographic and socioeconomic profile of the local and regional market. The strength of a market in terms of its ability to support and utilize recreational sports facilities is measured, to some extent, by the size of the regional market area population, its age, income, and other characteristics. In addition to the demographic profile of the local and regional market area, other local market characteristics have relevance when considering the attractiveness of a particular community as a host for high quality sports and recreation complexes/facilities. These include items such as transportation accessibility, climate, existing inventory of athletic facilities, and visitor amenities (such as hotels, attractions and other such items).

#### Background, Location and Accessibility

Elmhurst is a suburban community approximately 20 miles west of downtown Chicago, situated just west of the confluence of Interstate Highways 290, 294 and 88 and approximately 10 miles south of O'Hare International Airport. The community serves both as a bedroom community for the greater Chicago area, but also offers a significant presence in the healthcare (Edward-Elmhurst Health), educational (Elmhurst College, Timothy Christian School, IC Catholic Prep and District 205 schools), industrial and other industries. Its geographic location and affluent community base provide a solid foundation upon which the community has grown and prospered for many years.

Exhibit 1 illustrates the location of Elmhurst and its regional markets, the approximate drive time and the market populations. Additionally, the exhibit demonstrates the markets and land area captured within 30, 90 and 180-minute estimated driving distances. It should be noted that Elmhurst serves as the central point for these driving distances. These rings will also be utilized throughout the report while analyzing and comparing demographic and socioeconomic variables.

**Exhibit 1**  
**Location and Transportation – Driving Distances to Nearby Major Markets**



Source: Google Maps, Esri, 2016



Transportation access to and from a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility represents a key element of viability. Convenient local access to a potential new sports facility will be important to the local and regional sports participants who will be the primary users of those potential facilities, while regional access characteristics will likely influence the ability of the venue to attract tournaments drawing teams from throughout the Midwest.

Industry research indicates that participants in youth and adult sports tournaments are willing to travel, on average, up to 200 miles to participate in regional tournaments. This puts Elmhurst within tournament draw distance of six population centers for a total of over 14.8 million people. Additionally, large metropolitan areas such as St. Louis and Detroit are located outside of the 200-mile “driving” distance, though well within a day’s drive. These communities represent potential sources of participating teams for regional tournaments, meets or competitions held at a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

## Demographics and Socioeconomic Characteristics

The historical, current and projected demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the Elmhurst area, the State of Illinois and the surrounding regional area provide an indication of the market’s ability to support a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

The demographic and socioeconomic data presented in this report is based on the anticipated primary and secondary markets of a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. The primary market is the geographic area from which it is anticipated that the majority of participants and attendees are expected to originate. The size of this primary market area can be influenced by such factors as transportation systems, site accessibility, media coverage and competing venues in the surrounding region. For purposes of this analysis, the area within a 30-minute drive from the city of Elmhurst represents the “primary” market for a potential new Indoor Sports Facility. The area between the 30-minute drive time and the 90-minute drive time effectively represents Elmhurst’s secondary market. In addition to residents of the primary and secondary market areas, the potential sports facility or facilities will draw patrons from a larger geographic area for regional and national sports tournaments, including much of the Greater Midwest region.

A variety of industry research suggests that, on average, sports teams and their participants are often willing to travel up to 200 miles to attend tournaments. Therefore, the analyses presented herein also include information regarding the demographics within a 180-minute drive of Elmhurst.

Exhibit 2 presents the historical, current and projected demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the Elmhurst area, including DuPage County, the primary and secondary markets of a potential new Indoor Sports Facility, a 180-minute drive from the city of Elmhurst, the state of Illinois and the U.S. as a whole.

**Exhibit 2**  
**Demographics Summary - Elmhurst Area**

Demographic Variable	Elmhurst	DuPage County	30-Minute	90-Minute	180-Minute	State of Illinois	U.S.
Population (2000)	43,183	904,054	2,354,891	9,623,519	16,158,962	12,419,293	281,421,906
Population (2010)	44,150	916,924	2,315,081	10,026,216	16,850,220	12,830,632	308,745,538
Population (2016)	45,096	932,000	2,352,231	10,212,861	17,165,557	13,022,485	323,580,626
% Change (2000-2016)	4.4%	3.1%	-0.1%	6.1%	6.2%	4.9%	15.0%
Population (2021 est.)	45,993	949,164	2,383,128	10,363,539	17,438,265	13,163,617	337,326,118
% Change (2016-2021)	2.0%	1.8%	1.3%	1.5%	1.6%	1.1%	4.2%
Avg. Household Inc. (2016)	\$123,859	\$107,728	\$89,280	\$86,404	\$79,107	\$80,916	\$77,008
Avg. Household Inc. (2021 est.)	\$133,422	\$116,321	\$96,291	\$93,348	\$85,863	\$87,198	\$84,021
% Change (2016-2021)	7.7%	8.0%	7.9%	8.0%	8.5%	7.8%	9.1%
Median Age (2016, in years)	41.2	39.0	38.7	36.8	37.3	37.5	38.0
Businesses (2016)	2,529	47,992	102,123	394,179	670,897	517,952	13,207,211
Employees (2016)	29,883	715,593	1,525,708	5,511,436	9,443,721	6,983,490	162,998,347
Employee/Residential Population Ratio	0.66:1	0.77:1	0.65:1	0.54:1	0.55:1	0.54:1	0.50:1

Source: Esri, 2016

The level of population from which facilities will draw participants, both short-term and long-term, will impact the utilization of a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. As shown in Exhibit 2, the market area captured within a 180-minute drive of Elmhurst has experienced a much lower growth in population than the United States total population. This suggests that of the markets analyzed, specifically in Illinois, the market population growth is slower than the national average. Future projections also indicate this trend, as the national growth rate from 2016 to 2021 is nearly two percent higher than the projected growth of Elmhurst. However, given the lack of available land and space to grow in the greater Chicagoland metropolitan area, the slowed growth may be expected.

Household income is another important socioeconomic characteristic important to the potential success of a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. Income levels can serve as an indication of area households' ability to support athletics in the region by paying league fees and other costs associated with participation. The affluence of area households can also impact the types of programming that will be most successful at the sports complex, as household income levels often impact the types of sports that are played by a specific populace.

Average household income surrounding the Elmhurst area ranges from a low of approximately \$79,107 in the 180-minute drive range to a high of approximately \$123,859 in Elmhurst. Future projections estimate the DuPage County surrounding region's household incomes to increase by approximately 8.0 percent between 2016 and 2021, just below the nation's average estimate of 9.1 percent. This high level of average household income in the community of Elmhurst is also 40 percent higher than the national average. Household income will be a key proponent to consider when considering a new sport facility, with the higher level of household income it may be suggestable that the community has the financial demographic to support potential facilities.

As is typical in most communities housing a complex of the nature being considered, the marketplace will likely be sensitive to material increases in youth sports registration fees that may become necessary to support the operations of potential amateur and recreational sports facilities. In developing fee structures for a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility, it will be important to identify price points that allow local sports/recreational organizations to afford to use the facilities without pricing-out the participant base through increased participation/registration fees. To potentially mitigate the impact of lower household incomes, it may become important to emphasize the opportunities provided by a sports and recreation facility to youths from underprivileged families. Further, it may be beneficial to consider scholarship and other financial assistance programs to maximize utilization of the facility.

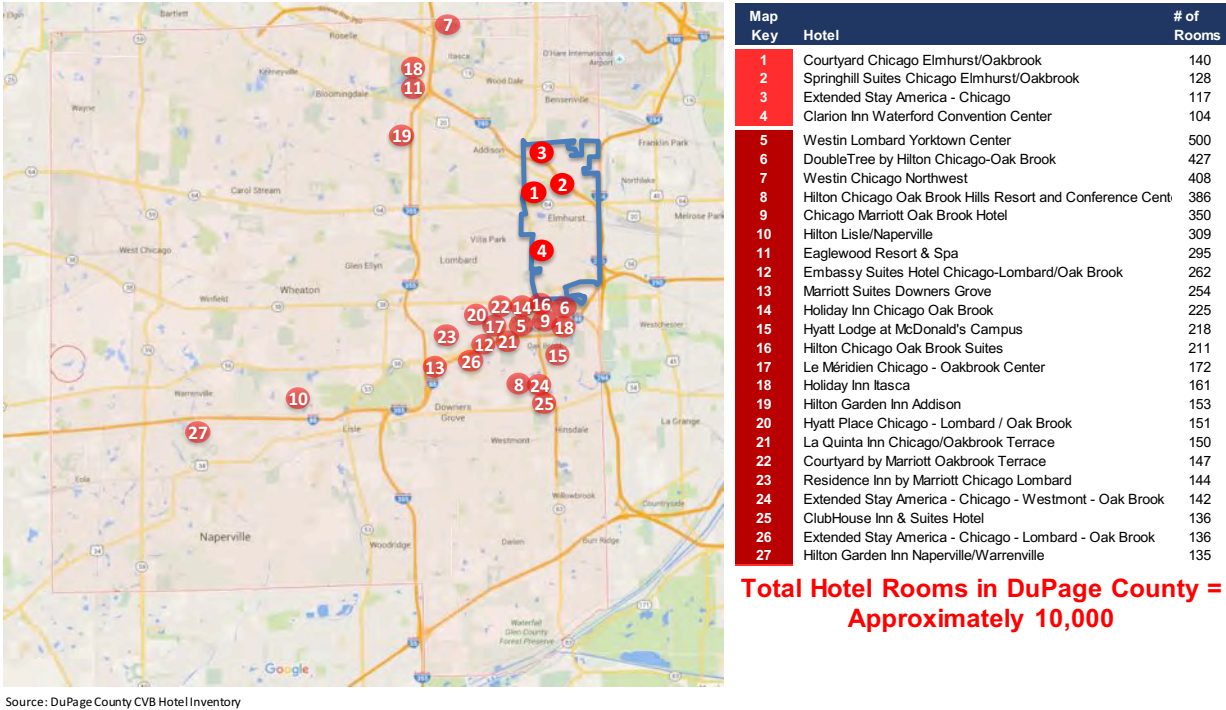
The regional corporate market base could play an important role in the success of a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. Within DuPage County, there are approximately 47,992 businesses, while the city of Elmhurst's 2,529 businesses account for only five percent of this inventory. However, within a three-hour drive there are nearly 671,000 businesses. Corporate sponsorships and donations are potential methods of financing and funding potential new indoor sports facilities that could greatly assist the development of a new facility in Elmhurst.

The majority of corporate sponsorship opportunities at a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility will likely be in the form of field sponsorships, banners, scoreboard advertising and other such opportunities; many of which would be relatively inexpensive. As a result, it is likely that a significant portion of these companies would have the wherewithal to participate in advertising and sponsorship opportunities at the potential sports facility.

## Hotel Inventory

To drive new visitation and economic impact to the Elmhurst destination, it is important to evaluate the ability of the local market to provide an adequate number of hotels that are convenient to a potential new indoor sports facility site. It is also a key consideration for sports organizations when choosing tournament or meet sites. Exhibit 3 presents a map of the primary lodging facilities in Elmhurst and DuPage County, offering a minimum of 130 guestrooms per facility.

**Exhibit 3**  
**Primary DuPage County Hotels**



As displayed, DuPage County has nearly 30 hotel properties with at least 130 guestrooms each. There are nearly 500 total sleeping rooms in the City of Elmhurst, with the largest single property in being the Courtyard Chicago Elmhurst/Oakbrook with 140 hotel rooms. Expanding throughout DuPage County, the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center is the largest single property with 500 rooms. Many of the hotels in the area are considered full-service hotels. These are the types of properties best suited for accommodating participant and family members that may travel to the county for regional and national tournaments at potential new amateur and recreational sports facilities.

As shown, clusters of hotel properties exist in and near the south end of Elmhurst and along Interstate 88. While certain public assembly facilities such as convention centers greatly benefit from having an attached or adjacent “headquarters hotel” (typically of a full-service nature), sports and recreation facilities generally do not require a single property within very close proximity to enhance its marketability for non-local events as participants are generally willing to drive 15 to 20 minutes to the host facility. The overall market inventory of nearly 10,000 guest rooms is likely to be adequate for the size of tournaments and events that could be accommodated by a potential sports and recreation complex in Elmhurst.

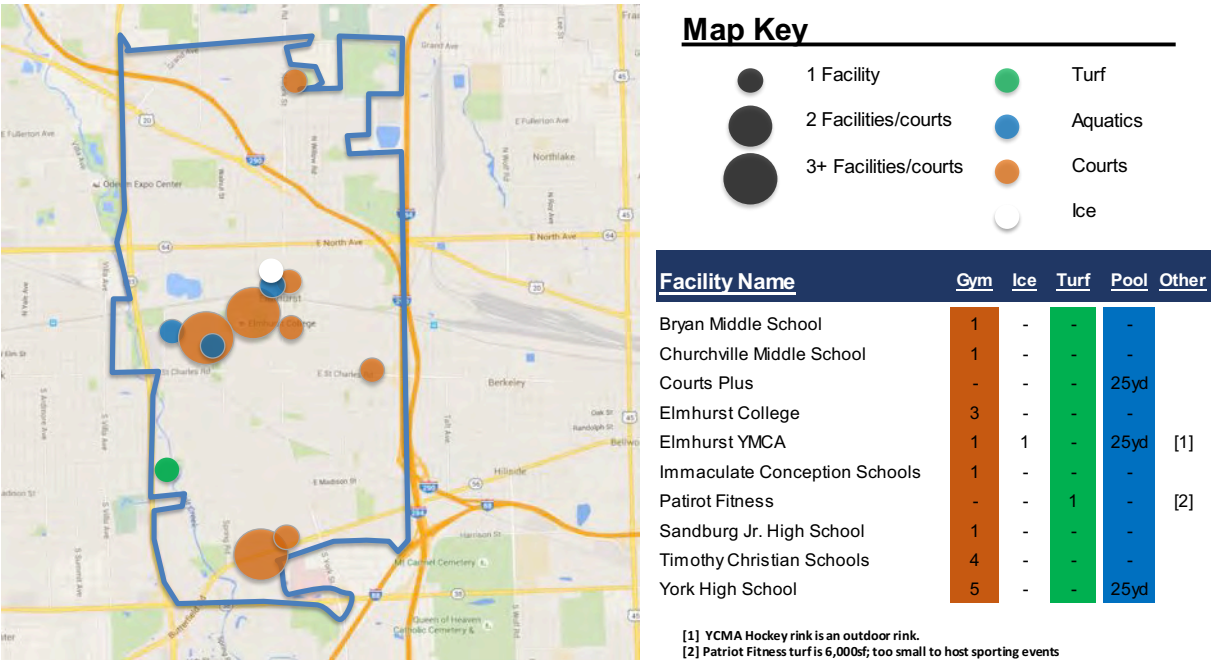


## Elmhurst Athletic Facilities

An understanding of the inventory and quality of existing athletic indoor and outdoor facilities in Elmhurst is critical in identifying potential areas of local and non-local need that may be met by a potential new indoor sports facility. New potential facilities can maximize utilization and become a more valued community asset if they can provide sports and recreation facilities and other programming in areas that may currently be lacking in the Elmhurst area.

Exhibit 4 below contains an inventory of Elmhurst facilities as well as a map that illustrates the sports facilities located in the city of Elmhurst. The facilities included in the lists below were identified by local leadership as being game ready and community accessible, and are able to be used for both adult and youth athletic practices and/or games. Further, many of the facilities are associated with schools that have limited availability for public use. The number of fields or courts at each location has been accounted for by the size of placement markers.

**Exhibit 4**  
**Inventory and Location of Elmhurst Amateur Sports Facilities**

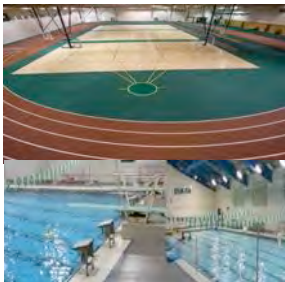







As shown, the majority of existing facilities are located near downtown Elmhurst. York High School has five total basketball courts as well as a 25-yard pool. However, it is important to note that these facilities are often in use by school-related programming and while they are made available for rent, available time slots tend to be less appealing times and can be cancelled with little notice.

A potential new Indoor Sports Facility within an area that offers a critical mass courts and/or multipurpose space for a particular sport would likely make the Elmhurst area a more marketable tournament destination, as the potential facility could serve as the central tournament location, rather than spreading games across a number of small court facilities. In regards to indoor sports, the city lacks an independent facility with more than two courts other than Elmhurst College, Timothy Christian, and York High School. However, these facilities are typically unavailable and alternative facilities are not present. York High School can accommodate the most overall court space with five total basketball courts, allowing for 10 volleyball courts.



There is no true indoor turf facility in Elmhurst. Patriot Fitness has a small, multi-purpose turf room of approximately 6,000 square feet, which can accommodate some practices, clinics and camps but is not large enough to accommodate any type of typical indoor gameplay. Courts Plus, York High School and the Elmhurst YMCA provide for three of the city’s available 25-yard pool aquatic facilities.

	<div>YORK HIGH SCHOOL</div> <div>Owner: School District 205 Operator: School District 205</div> <div>Facilities:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Five full Basketball courts</li><li>- 25 yard, 6-lane indoor pool</li><li>- Indoor Track</li></ul>	 	<div>COURTS PLUS</div> <div>Owner: Elmhurst Parks District Operator: Elmhurst Parks District</div> <div>Facilities:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 25 yard, 5-lane indoor pool</li><li>- Fitness Center</li><li>- 1/9<sup>th</sup> mile indoor track</li><li>- Indoor Tennis Courts</li></ul>
	<div>ELMHURST YMCA</div> <div>Owner: YMCA of Metro Chicago Operator: Elmhurst YMCA</div> <div>Facilities:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 25 yard, 4-lane indoor pool</li><li>- One full Basketball court</li><li>- Outdoor Hockey Rink</li></ul>		<div>TIMOTHY CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS</div> <div>Owner: Private</div> <div>Facilities:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>4 Basketball Courts</li></ul>
			<div>ELMHURST COLLEGE</div> <div>Owner: Elmhurst College Operator: Elmhurst College</div> <div>Facilities:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3 Basketball Courts</li></ul>

### Conclusions

The strength of a market in terms of its ability to support and utilize sports and recreation facilities is measured, in part, by the size of the local and regional market area population and its age, income and other characteristics. Other local market characteristics have relevance when considering the attractiveness of a particular community as a host for major amateur sports facilities, including transportation accessibility, climate, existing local inventory of athletic facilities, and visitor amenities.

In addition to the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the local and regional market, transportation access to and from a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility represents a key element of the viability of any potential facility. Convenient local access to any potential new facility will be paramount to the local and regional sports participants who will represent the majority of users of a potential new facility, while regional access characteristics will likely influence the ability of the venue to attract tournaments drawing teams from throughout Illinois, the Midwest and beyond. Industry research indicates that participants in youth and adult sports tournaments are willing to travel, on average, up to 200 miles to participate in regional tournaments. The population within a 180-minute drive time of Elmhurst is nearly 17.2 million, providing a significant population base from which the proposed facility could draw tournament participants. Additionally, large metropolitan areas such as Milwaukee, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Detroit are located just outside of the 180-minute “driving” distance, though well within a day’s drive. Further, Elmhurst’s proximity to O’Hare International Airport opens access to markets throughout the country and the world. These communities represent potential sources of teams for regional and national tournaments, meets or competitions held at a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.



While a number of sports and recreation facilities, pools and fields exist throughout Elmhurst, the area is lacking a significant concentration of such facilities in a single location. Many communities have seen that developing new sports facilities benefits the local sports market by consolidating activities and facilities at one single site, and such developments have assisted in recreational activity participation growth in a given area. While York High School and Timothy Christian Schools offer five and four indoor courts, respectively, the greatest single concentration of courts is the three available at York's fieldhouse. Additionally, while there are three 25-yard pools in Elmhurst, pools at Courts Plus and the YMCA are somewhat limited by the membership-driven operations of their venues. Further, while elementary, middle and high schools accommodate a significant amount of indoor gym-space and swimming pool demand, shrinking school budgets and booking priorities that reserve gym and pool space for school-related functions first, reliable access to these venues is becoming increasingly sparse.

With respect to ice rink and indoor turf facilities, the facilities available are not capable of hosting regular league play. Collectively, these facilities were originally envisioned to accommodate local demand, and have thus far accomplished that goal. However, with the continued growth of the Elmhurst market, the existing local facilities are increasingly limited in their ability accommodate existing local demand.

Moreover, any envisioned indoor Elmhurst sports facility designed with appropriate quality and volume standards would allow the area to be a more marketable tournament/competition destination—in terms of offering a quality indoor competition gymnasium with a critical mass of courts would serve as the central tournament location, rather than spreading games across a number of limited court facilities (which tends to be much less desirable, particularly for major traveling tournaments).

Non-local participating teams at any potential indoor sports facility would have a positive impact on the Elmhurst economy by supporting area hotels, restaurants and other establishments during their visit to the area. Economic impact generated by non-local participants and their families is typically a critical reason for the consideration of public investment in these types of larger sports and recreational facilities. Offering an appropriate number of facilities to attract a critical mass of non-local tournament, meet or competition participants is an important factor in generating this economic impact. However, the ability of the local market to provide an adequate number of hotels that are within reasonable driving distance from the potential facilities is also a key element for ensuring that the economic benefit created by hosting amateur sports events is maximized within the local community and a key consideration for sports organizations selecting potential tournament, meet or competition destinations.

The overall area hotel room inventory (approximately 500 rooms in Elmhurst and 10,000 throughout DuPage County) is believed to be sufficient for the types of tournaments that could be accommodated by a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility, while still accommodating business and other leisure travelers. Participants and family members traveling to attend tournaments, meets and competitions at indoor sports facilities tend to prefer more affordable, limited service hotel properties. The existing hotel inventory in Elmhurst and DuPage County is of a sufficient level and diversity of products/price points to support potential new indoor sports facility development.

Non-local tournament, meet and competition organizers and participants can focus, in part, on the appeal of a destination when making a decision on whether to attend. The variety and number of attractions available throughout Elmhurst and the greater-Chicago metropolitan area may serve as a foundation on which to increase the economic benefits associated with increased non-local attendance at tournaments, meets and competitions held at a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. Overall, the Elmhurst area's array of attractions and general destination appeal is considered to be relatively strong for a community its size, with the destination's greatest strengths lying in its accessibility, affordability and strong local demographic and socioeconomic base.

## 4.0 COMPETITIVE AND COMPARABLE FACILITIES

This chapter provides an analysis of various physical characteristics and resources of both competitive and comparable facilities and communities. The data helps place a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility within a competitive and comparable market context with respect to facility offerings, demographics and other related destination features. A set of competitive facilities throughout the state and region as well as comparable facilities throughout the country were identified and analyzed to obtain insight into the physical and operational characteristics of facilities located in competitive and comparable communities.

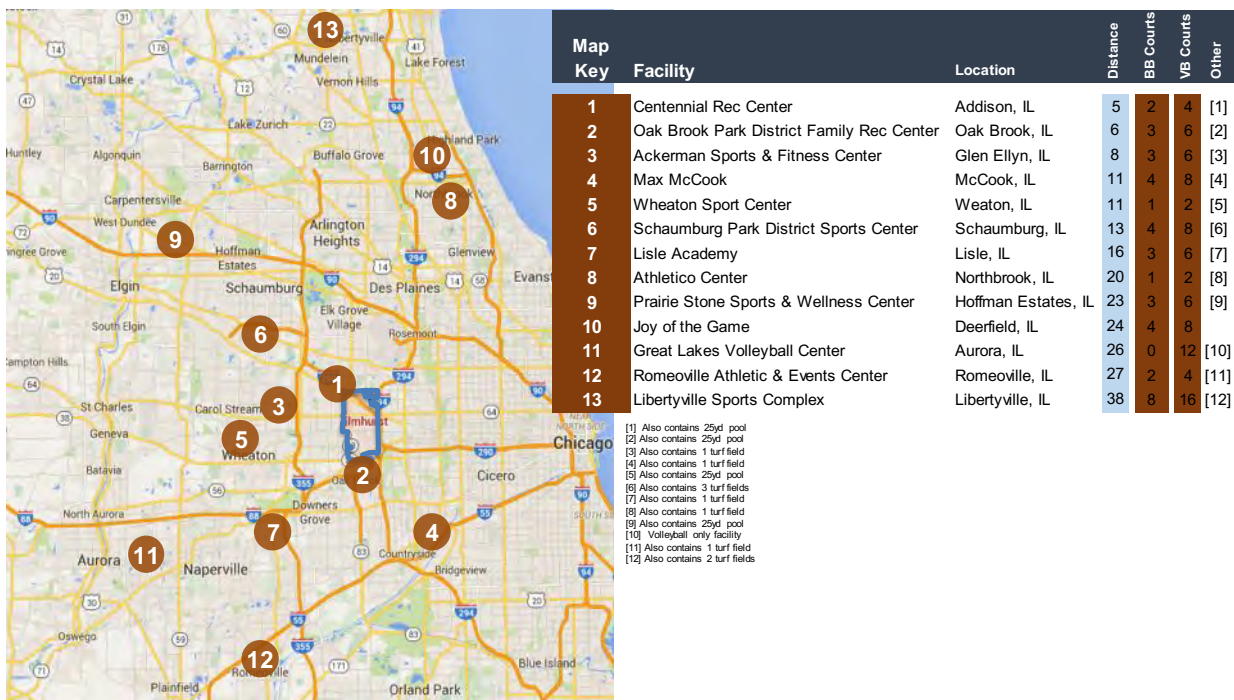
### Competitive Facilities

In addition to the existing facilities located in Elmhurst, facilities located throughout the state and surrounding region were also reviewed as these facilities are likely to generate the most competition with a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. Several of these facilities have been mentioned by local sports organizations and stakeholders as principal sports complexes in the area. This section is divided into four parts illustrating each type of indoor sports facility: gym space, indoor turf space, aquatics, and ice arenas.

### Competitive Gymnasium Facilities

Exhibit 1 below outlines the identified major competitive gymnasium facilities, their respective location and distance from the Elmhurst.

**Exhibit 1**  
**Competitive Gymnasium Facilities**



Note: Facilities sorted by distance from Elmhurst.



As shown in the previous exhibit, there are 13 facilities within approximately 40 miles of Elmhurst that may offer some type of competition to a potential Multi-Use Sports Facility in Elmhurst.

Among the 13 identified competitive gymnasium facilities, the largest facility is the Libertyville Sports Complex with an inventoried eight basketball courts and the possibility to have 16 volleyball courts. Many of the facilities contain other multipurpose areas that are used for activities other than basketball, volleyball and other indoor recreational activities. Selected competitive gymnasium facilities are further analyzed below.

**Exhibit 2**  
**Competitive Gymnasium Facilities**

	Max McCook Athletic & Exposition	Libertyville Sports Complex	Oak Brook Family Recreation Center
City, State	McCook, Illinois	Libertyville, Illinois	Oak Brook, Illinois
Year Opened	2006	2002	N/A
Owner/Operator	Village of McCook	Libertyville Park District	Oak Brook Park District
Square Feet	150,000 sf	169,000 sf	78,000 sf
Court Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 basketball courts</li> <li>• 80,000 sf turf</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 full-sized basketball courts</li> <li>• 4 indoor soccer fields</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 full-sized basketball courts</li> </ul>
Competitive Advantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> <li>• Strong presence in market</li> <li>• Larger than average contiguous turf space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong market presence</li> <li>• Multiple amenities to cater to various user groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> <li>• Strong local support</li> </ul>

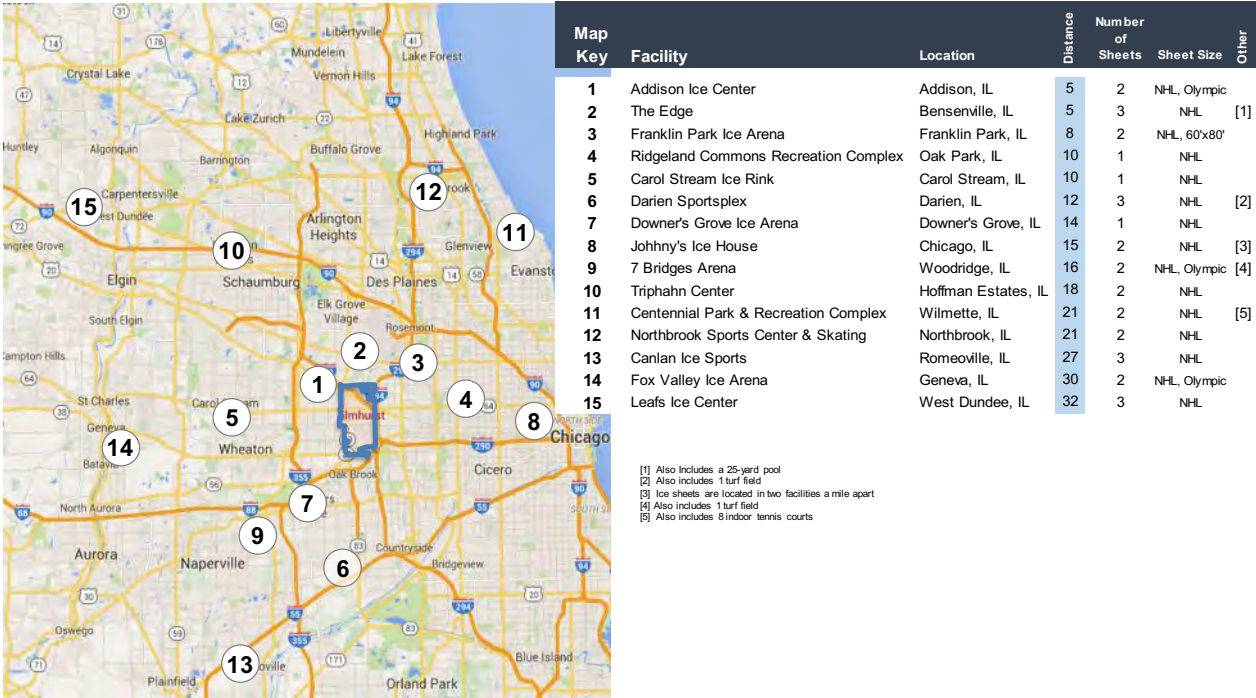
While Max McCook Athletic and Exposition and the Oak Brook Family Recreation Center both provide nearby alternatives for Elmhurst, the total number of courts available is somewhat limiting when looking to attract larger and non-local tournament activity. The Libertyville Sports Complex is currently the only dedicated sports venue that can accommodate more than four concurrent basketball courts.



Competitive Ice Arena Facilities

The exhibit below illustrates the location of the competitive ice arenas and proximity to the Elmhurst market.

Exhibit 3  
Competitive Ice Arenas



Note: Facilities sorted by distance from Elmhurst.

As shown, there are 15 facilities within approximately 40 miles of Elmhurst that may offer some type of competition to a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility with an ice focus. Among the identified competitive ice arenas, Addison Ice Center, the Edge Ice Arena in Bensenville and Franklin Park Ice Arena are those most often utilized among Elmhurst residents. As shown, most facilities offer at least two rinks, with only three venues offering a single sheet. Additional information on select competitive venues is presented on the following page.



**Exhibit 4**  
**Competitive Ice Arena Facilities**

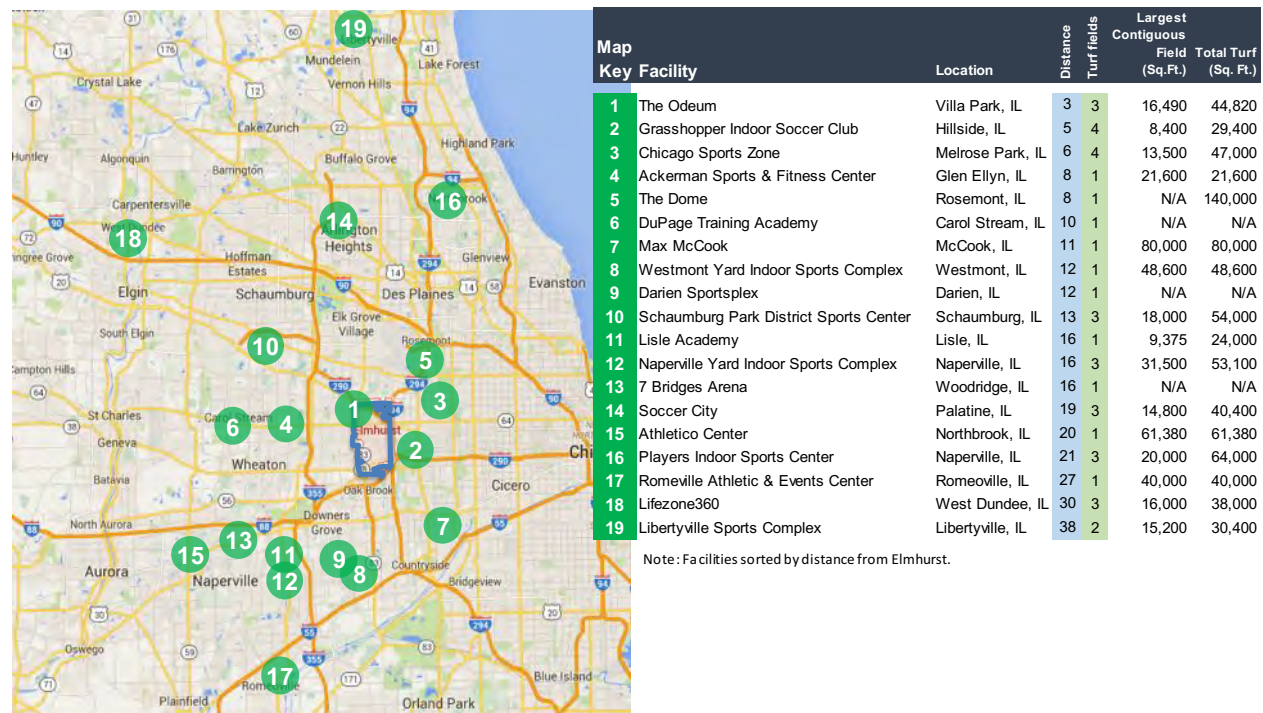
	The Edge	Seven Bridges Ice Arena	Franklin Park Ice Arena
City, State	Bensenville, Illinois	Woodridge, Illinois	Franklin Park, Illinois
Year Opened	1997	N/A	1974
Owner/ Operator	Village of Bensenville	Private	City of Franklin Park
Ice Sheet Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 NHL sized ice sheets, seating for 2,500 spectators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 NHL sized ice sheets</li> <li>• Indoor turf field</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One NHL sized ice sheet</li> </ul>
Facility Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosts approximately 15-20 non-local hockey tournaments yearly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
Competitive Advantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extremely competitive, strong market presence</li> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparable city market to Elmhurst</li> <li>• New facility, strong management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> <li>• Strong local market presence</li> </ul>

The Edge in Bensenville regularly hosts tournament activity within its three-rink complex, while a facility such as the Franklin Park Ice Arena is more suited to accommodating local demand. The Seven Bridges Ice Arena presents an example of a multi-use ice complex, as it also offers indoor turf for training and more diverse facility offerings to accommodate a wider array of user groups.

## Competitive Indoor Turf Facilities

Exhibit 5 below outlines the identified primary competitive indoor turf facilities, their respective location and distance from the Elmhurst.

**Exhibit 5**  
**Competitive Indoor Turf Facilities**



As shown, there are 19 facilities within 40 miles of Elmhurst that may offer some level of competition for a potential indoor turf facility in Elmhurst. When examining indoor turf facilities, it is important to note the largest contiguous field and total amount of turf availability, rather than the total amount of fields offered. A larger contiguous field may be divided up into multiple components to allow for maximum utilization and multiple user groups to engage in activities at a concurrent time.

Among the identified competitive indoor turf facilities, Max McCook Recreation and Exposition in McCook, Illinois has the largest contiguous space, as well as the most total space of indoor turf at 80,000 square feet, while the Grasshopper Indoor Soccer club has the largest quantity of individual fields, but a lower amount of total square footage of turf and the smallest contiguous turf field.

Below selected competitive facilities have been further analyzed and summarized based on competitiveness with a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

**Exhibit 6**  
**Selected Competitive Indoor Turf Facilities**

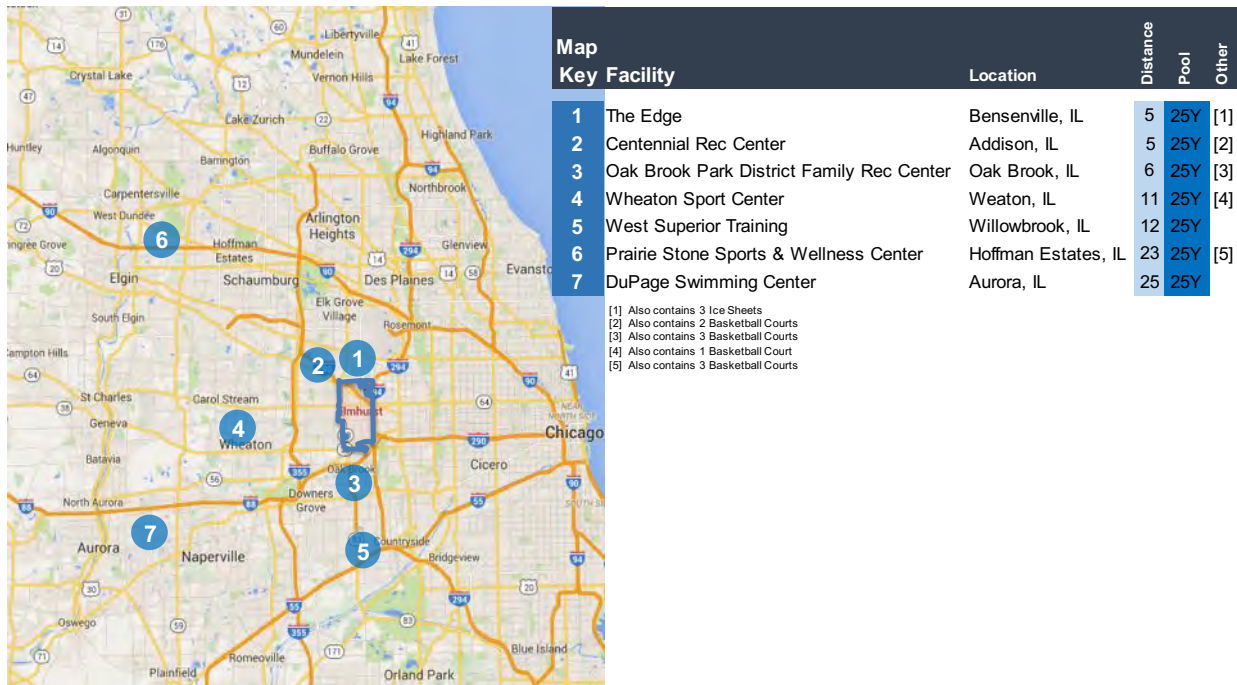
	Grasshopper Indoor Soccer Club	Westmont Yard Indoor Sports Complex	Max McCook Recreation & Exposition	Lifeline 360	The Odeum
City, State	Hillside, Illinois	Downer's Grove, Illinois	McCook, Illinois	West Dundee, Illinois	Villa Park, Illinois
Owner/ Operator	Private	Private	Village of McCook	Private	Private
Square Feet	80,000 sf	48,600 sf	150,000 sf	125,000 sf	130,000 sf
Turf Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 indoor turf fields,</li> <li>• (2) at 8,400 sf</li> <li>• (2) at 6,300 sf</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 48,600 sf turf, typically broken up into 3 fields</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80,000 sf contiguous turf field</li> <li>• 25,000 sf hardcourt space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 38,000 sf total turf</li> <li>• (2) fields 16,000 sf</li> <li>• (1) field 6,000 sf</li> <li>• (2) futsal courts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 44,820 sf total turf</li> <li>• (2) fields 16,490 sf</li> <li>• (1) field 11,840 sf</li> </ul>
Competitive Advantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> <li>• High quality facility</li> <li>• Strong market presence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> <li>• High quality facility</li> <li>• Strong market presence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparable and competitive market with Elmhurst</li> <li>• New, high quality facility, opened 2016</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> <li>• Versatile facility with potential to host multiple types of events</li> </ul>

Selected competitive facilities were based upon proximity to Elmhurst, market presence, and facility amenities. The Grasshopper Indoor Soccer Complex is regularly used by indoor soccer users from Elmhurst and provides a regularly available indoor turf facility at a very close driving distance. Max McCook Recreation and Exposition is one of the largest facilities in the area and has the most available contiguous turf field, affording it an opportunity to host large tournaments. The Westmont Yard has a strong market presence, and sees heavy usage during the fall and winter months. While Lifeline 360 is in its first year of operations, it is in close proximity to Elmhurst with multiple fields making it a competitor with any potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility that has a turf element.

## Competitive Aquatic Facilities

Exhibit 7 below outlines the identified major competitive aquatic facilities, their respective location and distance from the Elmhurst.

**Exhibit 7**  
**Competitive Aquatic Facilities**



Note: Facilities sorted by distance from Elmhurst.

As shown above, there are seven facilities within approximately 40 miles of Elmhurst identified as likely to offer some measure of competition with a potential new indoor pool/natatorium in Elmhurst. While three of the facilities are within less than five miles of the Elmhurst border, none offer a 50-meter pool, which is increasingly becoming a requirement among the most highly competitive state, regional, and national competitions.

Importantly, there is a proposal in Westmont, Illinois to develop an indoor natatorium with two pools (one 50-meter pool and a second leisure/warm-up pool) and seating for 1,200 people. If completed, this facility is expected to provide significant level of competition to any indoor pool/natatorium facility in Elmhurst. Presently, the Westmont natatorium is a component of a larger mixed-use plan that continues to advance through public and private approval and planning steps.



In the exhibit below, selected competitive aquatic facilities are further analyzed to determine competitiveness with a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

**Exhibit 8**  
**Selected Competitive Aquatic Facilities**

	Oak Brook Family Recreation Pool	Centennial Rec Center	Wheaton Sport Center
City, State	Oak Brook, Illinois	Addison, Illinois	Wheaton, Illinois
Distance from Elmhurst	5 miles	5 miles	11 miles
Owner	Oak Brook Park District	City of Addison	Private
Operator	Oak Brook Park District	Addison Park District	Private
Pool Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25-yard pool</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25-yard, 6 lane pool</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25-yard, 6 lane pool</li> </ul>
Other Facility Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two indoor basketball courts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fitness center</li> <li>• Two indoor basketball courts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fitness center</li> <li>• One indoor basketball court</li> </ul>
Competitive Advantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> <li>• Strong local support</li> <li>• Established market presence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close proximity to Elmhurst</li> <li>• Established market presence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operated and financed by private memberships, can incentivize users.</li> </ul>

As discussed, area pool facilities only offer 25-yard pools, which is similar to the existing pool at York High School and well suited to accommodating local needs, but typically is not as attractive as a 50-meter competition pool.

## Comparable Facilities

The purpose of this section is to present an analysis related to comparable sports complexes around the country. An assessment of the physical and operational characteristics of comparable sports facilities is a critical component in assessing the market potential of a new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst. Comparable facilities were identified based on discussions with project representatives, sports tournament organizers and our knowledge of the industry. The analysis of similar sports facilities provides general informational background and a programmatic perspective from which to assess potential event activity at a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. Our analysis is broken down by facility type and includes facilities with gym space, indoor turf, ice sheets, and indoor aquatic facilities.

Additional comparable facility information, including case studies, is provided in Appendix A at the conclusion of this report.

## Comparable Gymnasium Facilities

We have identified 13 comparable facilities throughout the country that offer basketball and/or volleyball court space. Exhibit 9 summarizes the comparable facilities and markets evaluated.

**Exhibit 9**  
**Summary of Comparable Gymnasium Facilities**

Facility	Location	ST	Sq. Ft.	BB Courts	VB Courts
Fieldhouse USA	Frisco	TX	145,000	12	24
Incrediplex	Indianapolis	IN	175,000	9	18
Pleasant Prairie Rec Plex	Pleasant Prairie	WI	302,000	9	18
UW Health Sports Factory	Rockford	IL	108,000	8	16
Greensboro Sportsplex	Greensboro	NC	106,000	8	16
Sports Pavilion Lawrence	Lawrence	KS	181,000	8	16
Myrtle Beach Sports Center	Myrtle Beach	SC	N/A	8	16
Howard M. Terpenning Recreation Complex	Beaverton	OR	N/A	6	12
Willamalane Center	Springfield	OR	97,000	6	12
Round Rock Sports Center	Round Rock	TX	82,800	6	12
Max McCook	McCook	IL	150,000	4	8
St. Peters Rec-Plex	St. Peters	MO	N/A	4	8
Cool Springs Sports Complex	Pittsburgh	PA	169,000	4	8

Notes: Facilities sorted by largest amount of total court space.  
Source: facility floor plans, management, and industry publications, 2016

As shown, seven of the 13 comparable gymnasium facilities contain at least eight or more basketball courts (16 or more volleyball courts). Additionally, nearly all of the selected comparable facilities are multi-sport, offering indoor turf fields, other multipurpose court space or other sport facilities as well.

Exhibit 10 presents Elmhurst's rank among identified comparable markets offering indoor court space in terms of population, average household income, median age, and overall corporate base. Demographic data was collected for a 30-, 90- and 180-minute drive from the respective facilities. Elmhurst's information is included as a means of comparing current local market conditions to the low, high, average, and median population, average household income, median age and corporate base statistics of the markets offering comparable facilities.

**Exhibit 10**  
**Comparable Gymnasium Facility Demographic Summary**

	Comparable Markets				Elmhurst, IL		
	Low	High	Average	Median	Estimate	% of Avg.	Rank (out of 14)
<b>Population</b>							
30-Minute Drive	234,900	2,383,400	906,900	787,300	2,353,500	260%	2
90-Minute Drive	701,300	10,218,200	4,227,700	3,108,100	10,218,200	242%	1
180-Minute Drive	4,116,300	17,603,400	10,482,500	10,336,100	17,172,700	164%	2
<b>Average Household Income</b>							
30-Minute Drive	\$61,500	\$107,200	\$75,700	\$70,700	\$89,300	118%	2
90-Minute Drive	\$56,000	\$87,500	\$75,400	\$75,000	\$86,400	115%	3
180-Minute Drive	\$60,700	\$81,000	\$72,400	\$73,200	\$79,100	109%	4
<b>Median Age</b>							
30-Minute Drive	33.2	43.4	37.2	37.2	38.7	104%	4
90-Minute Drive	34.0	43.4	37.9	37.6	36.8	97%	10
180-Minute Drive	34.2	42.1	37.8	37.4	37.3	99%	10
<b>Corporate Base</b>							
30-Minute Drive	10,200	105,500	39,900	36,600	101,700	255%	2
90-Minute Drive	34,100	394,300	167,600	128,000	394,300	235%	1
180-Minute Drive	170,900	684,700	407,200	397,700	670,900	165%	2

As shown, the Elmhurst market ranks near the top among the identified comparable markets offering indoor basketball/volleyball court space in terms of population base, average household income and corporate base within 30, 90 and 180-minute driving distances. While these demographic and socioeconomic comparisons can provide important context in terms of potential market reach and an idea of supportable program from a local perspective.

Exhibit 11 presents a summary comparison of selected indoor court facilities, highlighting key physical and operational characteristics and performance highlights.

**Exhibit 11**  
**Selected Comparable Indoor Court Facility Comparison**

	Sports Pavilion Lawrence	Greensboro Sportsplex	Fieldhouse USA	UW Health Sports Factory
City, State	Lawrence, KS	Greensboro, NC	Frisco, Texas	Rockford, Illinois
Year Opened	2014	2002	2009	2016
Owner	City of Lawrence	Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department	City of Frisco	City of Rockford
Operator	City of Lawrence	Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department	Sports Village Holdings, LLC	Rockford Park District
Construction Cost	\$24.5 million	\$6.0 million	\$17.5 million	\$24.4 million
Funding for Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$22.5 million from City of Lawrence</li> <li>\$2.0 million from private foundation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General obligation bonds supported by property taxes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$12.5 million funded by the City of Frisco</li> <li>\$5 million donated from Sports Village Holdings, LLC.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>
Square Feet	181,000 sf	106,000 sf	145,000 sf	108,000 sf
Court Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 regulation-sized basketball courts/16 volleyball courts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 full-sized basketball courts</li> <li>4 indoor soccer fields</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 full-sized basketball courts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 full-sized basketball courts, 12 volleyball courts</li> </ul>
Operating Profit/Loss	\$300,500 in operational revenue	(\$150,000)	N/A	\$14,400 (Budget)
Facility Usage	In 2014: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 basketball tournaments</li> <li>6 basketball camps</li> <li>13 volleyball tournaments</li> <li>One futsal tournament</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Average of 45 basketball tournaments per year</li> <li>12 to 15 volleyball tournaments per year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 annual volleyball tournaments with averaging 100 teams</li> <li>25 annual basketball tournaments averaging 80 teams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimated annual attendance of 504,830</li> </ul>
Learning Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College/city partnership</li> <li>Integration with University/high school facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comparable city market to Elmhurst</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public/Private partnership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comparable and competitive market with Elmhurst</li> <li>Partner with UW-Health Systems</li> </ul>

### Comparable Indoor Turf Facilities

We have identified nine indoor turf field facilities throughout the country that are, in some way comparable to Elmhurst. Exhibit 12 below summarizes the facilities and their respective offerings.

**Exhibit 12**  
**Summary of Indoor Turf Field Facilities**

Facility	City	Sq. Ft.	Number of Turf Fields	Largest Contiguous Field	Total Turf Sq.Ft.
Braemar Field & Arena	Edina, MN	N/A	1	100,000	100,000
Max McCook	McCook, IL	150,000	1	80,000	80,000
Fieldhouse USA	Frisco, TX	145,000	1	31,500	31,500
Sports Pavilion Lawrence	Lawrence, KS	181,000	1	19,000	19,000
Lifezone360	West Dundee, IL	125,000	3	16,000	38,000
Incrediplex	Indianapolis, IN	175,000	7	13,500	59,200
Aviator Sports & Events	Brooklyn, NY	175,000	1	10,000	10,000
Greensboro Sportsplex	Greensboro, NC	106,000	4	5,100	16,800
Cool Springs Sports Complex	Pittsburgh, PA	169,000	3	N/A	N/A

As presented in the above exhibit, nine comparable facilities with some aspect of indoor turf were identified, seven of which have at least 10,000 square feet of contiguous space. It is interesting to note, that the footprint of all but one of these facilities is over 100,000 square feet, with Braemar Field and Arena as the only exception, as this facility is an inflatable dome that is only utilized during the winter months. Each of the facilities also offers some other element of indoor sports, as the multi-purpose turf can be used in conjunction with other sporting events with aid of sportcourt, hardcourt, and other various portable equipment.



Exhibit 13 summarizes the populations, average household incomes, median age and corporate bases among the 10 comparable markets relative to the demographic metrics of Elmhurst.

**Exhibit 13**  
**Comparable Indoor Turf Field Facility Demographic Summary**

Comparable Markets					Elmhurst, IL		
	Low	High	Average	Median	Estimate	% of Avg.	Rank (out of 10)
<b>Population</b>							
30-Minute Drive	241,600	3,797,400	1,526,400	1,203,100	2,353,500	154%	3
90-Minute Drive	2,742,300	19,099,500	3,371,400	4,515,900	10,218,200	303%	2
180-Minute Drive	4,829,600	33,330,500	4,829,600	11,932,700	17,172,700	356%	3
<b>Average Household Income</b>							
30-Minute Drive	\$64,600	107,200	\$81,900	\$77,000	\$89,300	109%	4
90-Minute Drive	\$67,700	101,500	\$81,300	\$84,600	\$86,400	106%	5
180-Minute Drive	\$64,700	95,600	\$75,700	\$77,900	\$79,100	104%	4
<b>Median Age</b>							
30-Minute Drive	33.2	41	36.6	36.8	38.7	106%	2
90-Minute Drive	34.5	43	37.5	36.9	36.8	98%	6
180-Minute Drive	35.4	42	38.1	37.9	37.3	98%	7
<b>Corporate Base</b>							
30-Minute Drive	10,200	103,200	58,900	45,900	101,700	173%	2
90-Minute Drive	108,200	822,000	284,800	175,900	394,300	138%	2
180-Minute Drive	199,900	1,407,700	554,600	451,400	670,900	121%	3

Source: Esri, 2016

Similar to the demographic and socioeconomic comparison of indoor court facilities, Elmhurst ranks favorably among markets offering comparable indoor turf facilities. Elmhurst's population within 30, 90 and 180 minutes ranks second or third among markets reviewed, while average household income ranks fourth or fifth overall.

The following case studies summarize key physical and operational characteristics of select indoor turf facilities in markets comparable to Elmhurst.

**Exhibit 14**  
**Selected Comparable Indoor Turf Field Facility Comparison**

	Sports Pavilion Lawrence	Greensboro Sportsplex	Fieldhouse USA
City, State	Lawrence, KS	Greensboro, NC	Frisco, Texas
Year Opened	2014	2002	2009
Owner	City of Lawrence	Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department	City of Frisco
Operator	City of Lawrence	Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department	Sports Village Holdings, LLC
Construction Cost	\$24.5 million	\$6.0 million	\$17.5 million
Funding for Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$22.5 million from City of Lawrence</li> <li>• \$2.0 million from private foundation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General obligation bonds supported by property taxes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$12.5 million funded by the City of Frisco</li> <li>• \$5 million donated from Sports Village Holdings, LLC.</li> </ul>
Square Feet	181,000 sf	106,000 sf	145,000 sf
Indoor Turf Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One 19,000 sf indoor turf</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largest contiguous field is 5,100 sf</li> <li>• 4 indoor soccer fields (16,800sf total)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One 31,500 sf indoor turf field</li> </ul>
Operating Profit/Loss	\$300,500 in operational revenue	(\$150,000)	N/A
Facility Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2011, the facility hosted 34 total tournaments with over 270,000 visitors.</li> </ul>
Learning Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College/city partnership</li> <li>• Integration with University/high school facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparable city market to Elmhurst</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public/Private partnership</li> </ul>

## Comparable Aquatic Facilities

We have identified and analyzed 11 natatorium complexes located in markets comparable to Elmhurst, each offering at least one 50-meter competition pool. The following exhibit provides comparisons of the facility offerings at the selected comparable facilities including year opened, construction costs, the number of lanes and the other types of pools that are housed onsite (if any).

**Exhibit 15**  
**Summary of Comparable Aquatic Facilities**

Aquatic Center	Location	Year	Const. Cost (in millions)	50M Pool	# Lanes	Additional Pool
		Opened / Renovated				
Capitol Federal Natatorium	Topeka, KS	2010	\$3.2	Yes	8	Yes
Greensboro Aquatic Complex	Greensboro, NC	2011	\$19.0	Yes	8	Yes
Holland Community Aquatic Center	Holland, MI	1990	\$11.3	Yes	8	25Y
Indiana University Natatorium	Indianapolis, IN	1982	\$20.0	Yes	8	25Y
Lawrence Aquatic Center	Lawrence, KS	2001	\$9.5	Yes	10	Rec
Osborn Aquatic Center	Corvallis, OR	2000	\$8.2	Yes	8	No
Pleasant Prairie Rec Plex	Pleasant Prairie, WI	2010	N/A	Yes	10	Yes
SPIRE Institute	Geneva, OH	2011	N/A	Yes	10	25Y
St. Peters Rec Plex	St. Peters, MO	2007	\$18.5	Yes	6	Rec
Tualatin Hills Aquatic Center	Beaverton, OR	1978	N/A	Yes	10	No
Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center	Federal Way, WA	1990	\$13.5	Yes	8	Rec

As shown, seven of the facilities have opened since 2000, four of which (Capitol Federal Natatorium in Topeka, Kansas, Greensboro Aquatic Complex in Greensboro, North Carolina, Pleasant Prairie Rec Plex in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin, and the Spire Institute in Geneva, Ohio) opened within the last six years. Construction costs range from a low of \$3.2 million for the Capitol Federal Natatorium to a high of \$20.0 million for Indiana University Natatorium. Importantly, nine of the eleven identified facilities offer an additional onsite pool, which is an important element to consider both from the perspective of hosting competitive meets, but also from the perspective of ongoing local use to improve overall utilization levels.

Exhibit 16 below compares the various demographic and socioeconomic characteristics among the markets that support the previously listed comparable aquatic facilities.

**Exhibit 16**  
**Comparable Aquatic Facility Demographic Summary**

	Comparable Markets				Elmhurst, IL		
	Low	High	Average	Median	Estimate	% of Avg.	Rank (out of 12)
<b>Population</b>							
30-Minute Drive	161,300	2,353,500	642,400	593,800	2,353,500	366%	1
90-Minute Drive	1,521,100	10,218,200	3,666,700	3,018,400	10,218,200	279%	1
180-Minute Drive	3,917,100	17,172,700	9,446,100	7,361,000	17,172,700	182%	1
<b>Average Household Income</b>							
30-Minute Drive	\$64,600	\$89,300	\$72,500	\$69,000	\$89,300	123%	1
90-Minute Drive	\$65,600	\$93,000	\$75,100	\$74,900	\$86,400	115%	3
180-Minute Drive	\$65,300	\$86,300	\$72,300	\$69,500	\$79,100	109%	3
<b>Median Age</b>							
30-Minute Drive	33.2	42.2	36.8	36.5	38.7	105%	2
90-Minute Drive	36.5	41.8	37.9	37.6	36.8	97%	10
180-Minute Drive	36.7	41.2	38.2	38.1	37.3	98%	10
<b>Corporate Base</b>							
30-Minute Drive	7,100	101,700	27,600	21,200	101,700	368%	1
90-Minute Drive	68,500	394,300	148,600	119,300	394,300	265%	1
180-Minute Drive	171,800	670,900	373,700	322,700	670,900	180%	1

As shown, the population base within a 30-minute drive of natatorium facilities in the identified comparable markets averages approximately 642,400, which is more than three and a half times less than the nearly 2.4 million people residing within 30 minutes of Elmhurst. Elmhurst's average household income and corporate base also compare favorably against the markets identified.

The following exhibit summarizes key physical and operational characteristics of several aquatic facilities from the list above that for multiple reasons offer insightful and comparable example as to how an Elmhurst aquatic facility may operate and programmatically resemble.

**Exhibit 17**  
**Comparable Aquatic Facility Comparison**

	Greensboro Aquatic Center	Lawrence Aquatic Center	Weyerhaeuser King Aquatic Center	Tualatin Hills Aquatic Center
City, State	Greensboro, NC	Lawrence, KS	Federal Way, WA	Beaverton, OR
Year Opened	2011	2001	1990	1978
Owner	Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department	Lawrence Parks and Recreation	King County	Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation Department
Operator	Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department	Lawrence Parks and Recreation	King County	Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation Department
Construction Cost	\$19.0 million (includes \$3.2 million for land acquisition)	\$9.5 million	\$13.8 million	N/A
Funding for Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$12.0 million in general obligation bonds</li> <li>\$3.2 million in City funding for land acquisition</li> <li>Hotel motel tax to close deficit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Countywide one cent sales tax (adopted in 1994)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$8.8 million County bond</li> <li>Land donated by Weyerhaeuser family</li> <li>\$5 million in private funding from Seattle Goodwill games</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>
Pool Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50-meter, 8-lane pool</li> <li>25-yard diving well</li> <li>Therapeutic pool</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50-meter, 10-lane pool</li> <li>Separate recreation pool</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50-meter, 8-lane pool</li> <li>2 bulkheads</li> <li>Separate recreation pool</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50-meter, 10-lane pool</li> <li>(2) 1-meter springboards</li> <li>(2) 3-meter springboards</li> </ul>
Operating Profit/Loss	Annual deficit (exact amount N/A)	(\$485,000)	(\$1,448,000)	(\$783,000)
Public	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Subsidy				
Facility Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>45 to 50 swimming and/or diving events per year</li> <li>Home to 3 year round swimming clubs, 1 diving club, 4 high schools</li> <li>2 clubs use facilities 35 to 40 hours per week (7 to 8 lanes each)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approximately 37 swim meets per year</li> <li>Local USA swim clubs host eight meets per year</li> <li>Approximately six high school meets per year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>45 swim meets in a recent year</li> <li>20 club-hosted meets</li> <li>6 collegiate meets</li> <li>4 high school meets</li> <li>15 other/dive events</li> <li>375,000 attendees in a recent year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>
Learning Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City-funded</li> <li>City-operated</li> <li>Significant economic impact</li> <li>Comparable market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comparable market</li> <li>Strong local support</li> <li>Mix of serving local needs and generating economic impact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pacific Northwest market</li> <li>Significant economic impact</li> <li>Substantial seating capacity (2,500)</li> <li>Strong local support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multipurpose facility with many other components</li> </ul>



## Comparable Ice Arenas

We have identified 11 comparable indoor ice arena complexes throughout the country. The following exhibit provides comparisons of the facility offerings at the selected comparable facilities including year opened, building square footage footprint, and the size of the ice sheet(s) within each facility.

**Exhibit 18**  
**Summary of Comparable Ice Arenas**

Facility	Location	ST	Year Opened/ rennovated	SF	# of Ice Sheets	Size of Ice Sheet
St. Peters Rec-Plex	St. Peters	MO	2007	236,000	5	NHL
Braemar Field & Arena	Edina	MN	N/A	N/A	3	NHL
Oaks Center Ice	Oaks	PA	1997	61,000	3	NHL
7 Bridges Arena	Woodridge	IL	N/A	97,000	2	NHL/Olympic
Franklin Nelson Recreation Center	Springfield	IL	1973	78,000	2	NHL
Aviator Sports & Events	Brooklyn	NY	N/A	175,000	2	NHL
Pleasant Prarie Rec Plex	Pleasant Prairie	WI	2000	302,000	2	NHL
Norway Savings Bank Arena	Auburn	ME	2014	N/A	2	NHL
Swonder Ice Arena	Evansville	IN	2002	90,000	2	NHL
Arctic Coliseum	Chelsea	MI	2000	85,000	2	NHL
Hyannis Youth and Community Center	Hyannis	MA	2009	N/A	2	NHL

As shown, six of the eleven facilities have opened since 2000. Building footprint ranges from a low of 61,000 square feet at Oaks Center Ice in Oaks, Pennsylvania to a high of 302,000 square feet at the Pleasant Prairie Rec Plex in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin. All of the facilities feature at least two sheets of ice with the 7 Bridges Arena in Woodridge, Illinois as the only facility featuring an ice sheet larger than NHL-sized (i.e., 200' x 85').

Exhibit 19 presents a comparison of the various demographic and socioeconomic characteristics among the markets that surround the identified ice facilities.

**Exhibit 19**  
**Comparable Ice Arena Demographic Summary**

	Comparable Markets				Elmhurst, IL		
	Low	High	Average	Median	Estimate	% of Avg.	Rank (out of 12)
<b>Population</b>							
30-Minute Drive	120,900	3,797,400	1,033,700	593,800	2,353,500	228%	2
90-Minute Drive	918,800	19,099,500	6,148,100	4,170,000	10,218,200	166%	2
180-Minute Drive	6,063,700	36,467,400	14,815,900	9,928,800	17,172,700	116%	4
<b>Average Household Income</b>							
30-Minute Drive	\$62,700	\$117,400	\$83,800	\$83,000	\$89,300	107%	4
90-Minute Drive	\$58,700	\$101,500	\$80,400	\$86,400	\$86,400	107%	5
180-Minute Drive	\$65,300	\$95,600	\$81,300	\$81,000	\$79,100	97%	7
<b>Median Age</b>							
30-Minute Drive	35.7	50.5	39.4	38.7	38.7	98%	6
90-Minute Drive	36.8	43.5	39.0	39.1	36.8	94%	11
180-Minute Drive	37.3	40.1	38.8	38.8	37.3	96%	12
<b>Corporate Base</b>							
30-Minute Drive	5,000	103,200	40,000	21,200	101,700	254%	2
90-Minute Drive	38,000	822,000	252,900	170,600	394,300	156%	2
180-Minute Drive	252,000	1,481,800	607,800	451,900	670,900	110%	4

Elmhurst ranks favorably among markets offering comparable ice arena facilities. The population and corporate bases surrounding Elmhurst again ranks near the top among the markets reviewed. While average household income also ranks near the top of comparable markets reviewed, it is not as strong as some of the other comparable market analyses conducted, perhaps indicative of the typically higher average household income levels among families participating in hockey and other ice sports.

The following case studies summarize key physical and operational characteristics of ice complexes that are believed to be comparable in certain ways to a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility with an ice focus in terms of location, size programmatic elements and other such factors.

**Exhibit 20**  
**Comparable Ice Arena Demographic Summary**

	Pleasant Prairie RecPlex	Oaks Center Ice
City, State	Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin	Oaks, Pennsylvania
Year Opened	2004	1997
Owner	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private
Operator	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private
Construction Cost	N/A	\$7.0 million
Funding for Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$30 million bond</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private investor</li> </ul>
Square Feet	300,000 sf	61,000 sf
Ice Sheet Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two 200'x85' ice sheets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three 200'x85' ice sheets</li> </ul>
Operating Profit/Loss	\$807,467 in operational revenue	Profit (undisclosed)
Facility Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth hockey makes up 80% of ice time sold</li> <li>10% sold to high schools and adult hockey leagues</li> <li>10% goes to figure skating and open skate</li> </ul>
Learning Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comparable and competitive market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comparable market to Elmhurst</li> </ul>

## Conclusions

The viability of any potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst is dependent, in large part, on its position in the competitive sports complex landscape, which will directly influence its ability to attract league play and tournaments/meets from the regional market. While there are a significant number of facilities throughout the greater Chicago metropolitan area, the Libertyville Sports Complex is the only facility within 40 miles of Elmhurst that offers more than four courts at one single location (the Libertyville Sports Complex offers eight indoor basketball courts). Similarly, there are currently no 50-meter indoor pools throughout the Chicago metropolitan area; however, plans are in place to develop a 50-meter pool, with a warm-up/leisure pool and seating for competitions in Westmont, just south of Elmhurst. This would be a significant competitor to any new aquatics-oriented Indoor Sports Facility developed in Elmhurst.

Conversely, there are moderate levels of competition throughout the market for both indoor turf and ice facilities. As such, it will be critical for Elmhurst to determine whether there is sufficient local demand for these facilities, as the competitive environment for non-local tournaments, meets and competitions is considered moderate.

More than 40 indoor sports facilities offering dedicated or combined use facilities throughout the country were reviewed, including 13 gymnasium facilities, 9 indoor turf facilities, 11 indoor ice rinks and 11 natatoriums. These venues were targeted to provide comparative market context for a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility, as well to assist in formulating hypothetical utilization of any new facility product in Elmhurst.

The population, average household income and corporate base levels of the primary market area surrounding Elmhurst compares favorably to the markets offering comparable indoor sports facility components. Data was collected regarding estimated construction costs, financial operations and event levels among a critical number of these venues. The implications of these metrics vary greatly depending on the ultimate facility program of event space and operational mandate (i.e., privately owned/operated for-profit, municipally-run with the goal of serving the community; run with the goal of attracting economic impact generating events, etc.). It will be important to carefully consider facility program development options and operational mandates when identifying supportable facility programming and funding opportunities for facility development and operations.

## 5.0 MARKET DEMAND ANALYSIS

The purpose of this chapter is to evaluate the market demand associated with a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. The overall market analysis consisted of detailed research and analysis, including a comprehensive set of market-specific information derived from the following:

- ✓ Experience garnered through more than 500 sports, recreation and event facility feasibility, planning and benchmarking projects throughout the country.
- ✓ Local market visits at the outset of the project, including community and facility tours, and discussions with study stakeholders.
- ✓ In-person and telephone interviews, meetings and focus groups with in excess of 50 local Elmhurst area individuals, including representatives and individuals affiliated with Elmhurst Park District, City of Elmhurst, DuPage County Convention and Visitors Bureau, local educational institutions, local sports and nonprofit organizations, potential funding partners, and other local area individuals.
- ✓ Research and analysis of local market conditions, existing facilities and infrastructure and amateur sports and recreation trends.
- ✓ Benchmarking research and analysis of facility data and interviews conducted with management of nearly 100 comparable indoor sports facilities located throughout the region and country.
- ✓ Comparative analysis of socioeconomic data from competitive/comparable facility markets.
- ✓ Online survey of over 750 Elmhurst and community residents.
- ✓ Completed telephone interviews with more than 50 representatives of potential indoor sports facility user groups with state, regional and/or national tournament/meet scope.

The focus of much of the remainder of this chapter is focused on the data obtained from the three primary surveys/interview techniques deployed for this study:

1. The Online Community Survey. Represents the primary market from which it is anticipated that the majority of participants and attendees are expected to originate.
2. User Group Survey—Local Sports Organizations. In-person and telephone interviews of representatives of local sports organizations, clubs, programs, and leagues were conducted.
3. User-Group Survey—Non-Local Sports Organizations. Telephone interviews were conducted with representatives of state, regional and national organizations that produce tournaments, meets and competitions.

Amateur and recreational sports facilities, like those being considered for this study, typically host a mix of local and non-local sports and recreation activities. In most cases, these facilities are conceived, developed and operated with the intent of providing optimized venues to best compete for tournaments that draw new visitors to the area (participants and spectators), thereby generating new economic impact for host communities. Nevertheless, local usage of these facilities (through local league play, recreation, clinics and camps) is typically critical in sustaining utilization levels and generating operating revenue, in addition to providing an attractive community resource and enhancing quality of life for local residents. Ultimately, a full picture of utilization for a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility cannot be reached without testing both local and non-local markets.



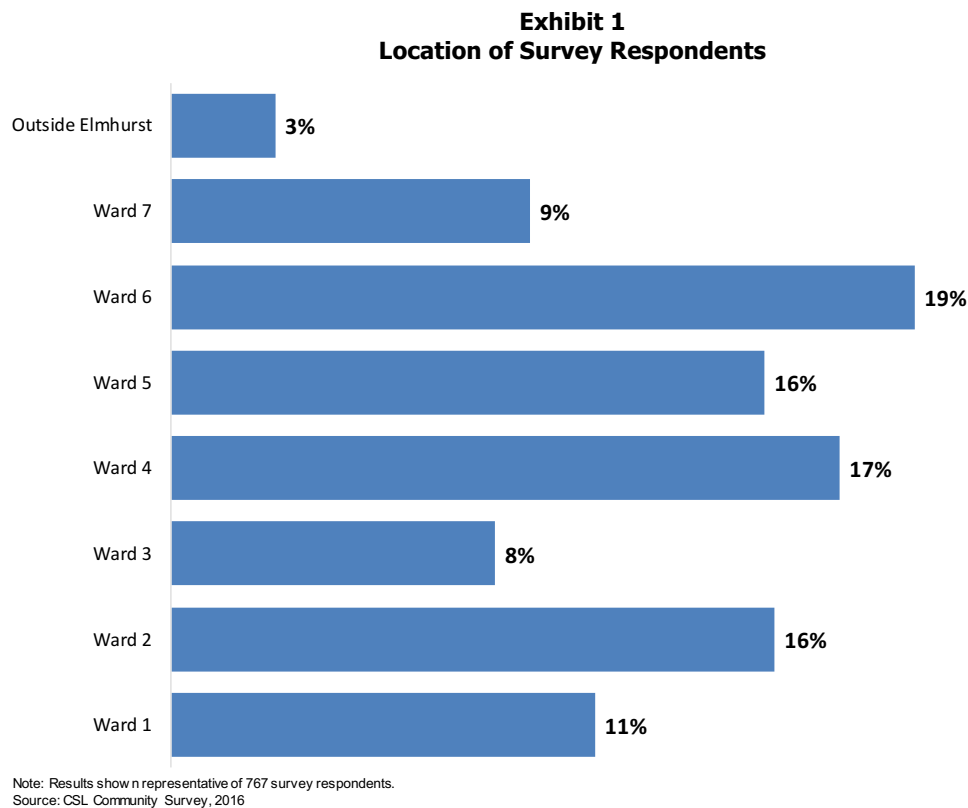
A summary of the market demand research, key organizations interviewed, and analysis and conclusions for facility type is provided below and on the following pages.

Community Survey Analysis

The purpose of this section is to provide a summary of the survey research conducted among Elmhurst-area community members. A primary objective of the survey was to ascertain interest levels and opinions of Elmhurst community members and other local stakeholders regarding which, if any, components of a new indoors sports facility would best serve the needs of the Elmhurst community.

With the assistance of the Elmhurst Park District, the City of Elmhurst, local community organizations/stakeholders, a link to an online survey was distributed for the purposes of gathering direct feedback on the proposed project. The online survey remained open from June 22, 2016 through July 7, 2016 and a total of 767 responses were received. More detail concerning Community Survey responses is provided in Appendix B at the conclusion of this report.

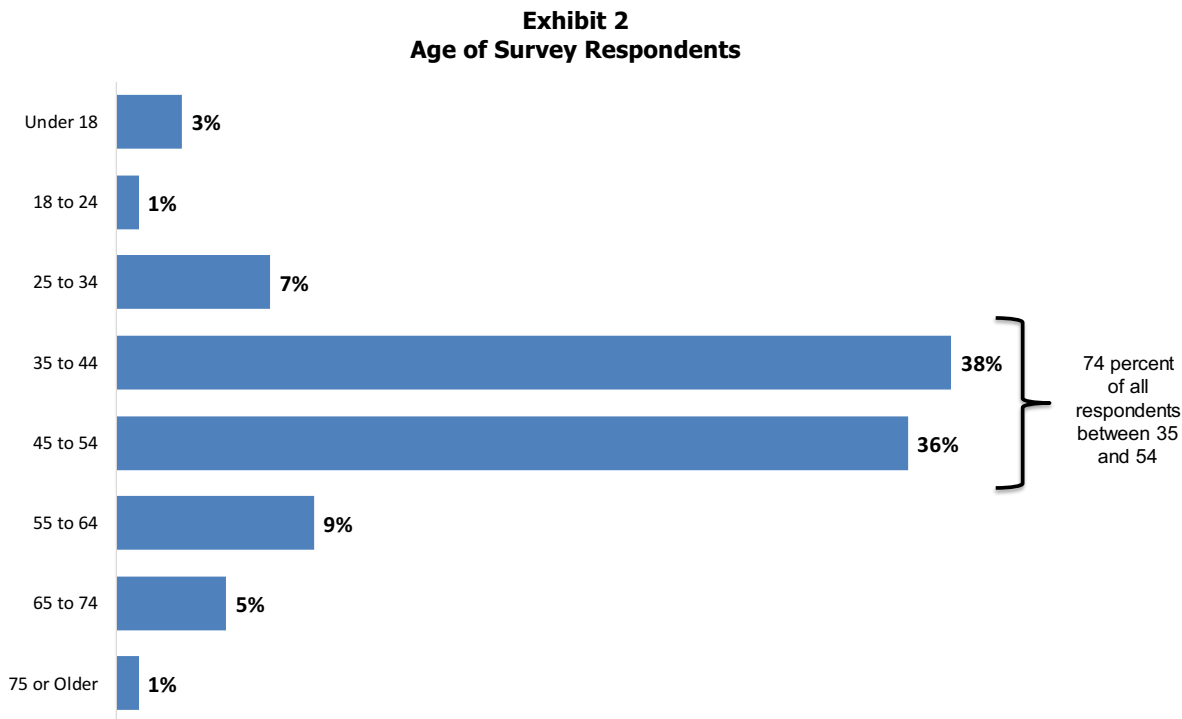
Respondents were first asked to identify the ward in which they reside, or whether they live outside of Elmhurst. Responses are presented in Exhibit 1 below.



For those respondents living in Elmhurst, responses were generally consistent with population levels in each of seven Elmhurst wards, which suggests a fairly representative portrayal of preferences among Elmhurst residents.



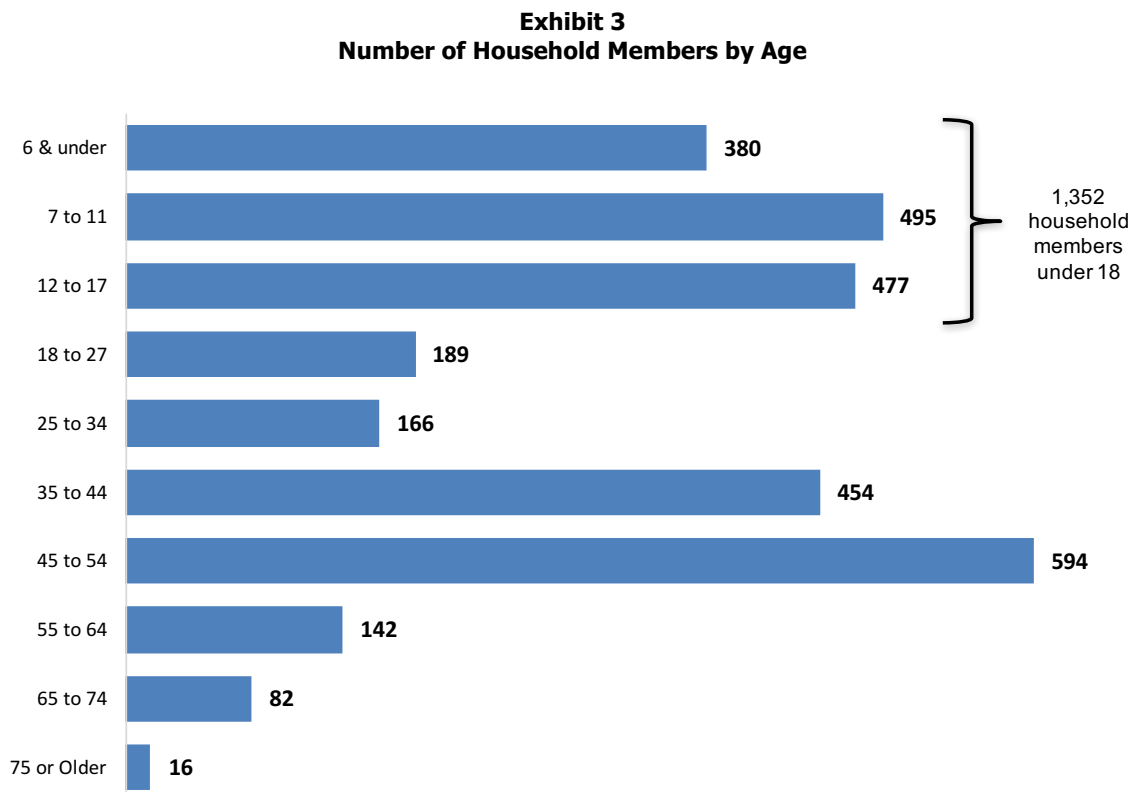
Respondents were also asked to provide their age, as presented below in Exhibit 2.



Note: Results shown representative of 767 survey respondents.  
Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

As shown, approximately 74 percent of respondents indicated they are between the ages of 35 and 45. Specifically, 38 percent of respondents are 35 to 44 and 36 percent are between 45 and 54. The next most represented age groups are the 55 to 64 age group (nine percent of respondents) and 25 to 34 year olds (seven percent). As will be further examined, this suggests that a significant percentage of respondents are families with children active in sports.

To investigate this hypothesis further, we asked respondents to note the number of household members within each of age group listed below. Responses are summarized below in Exhibit 3.



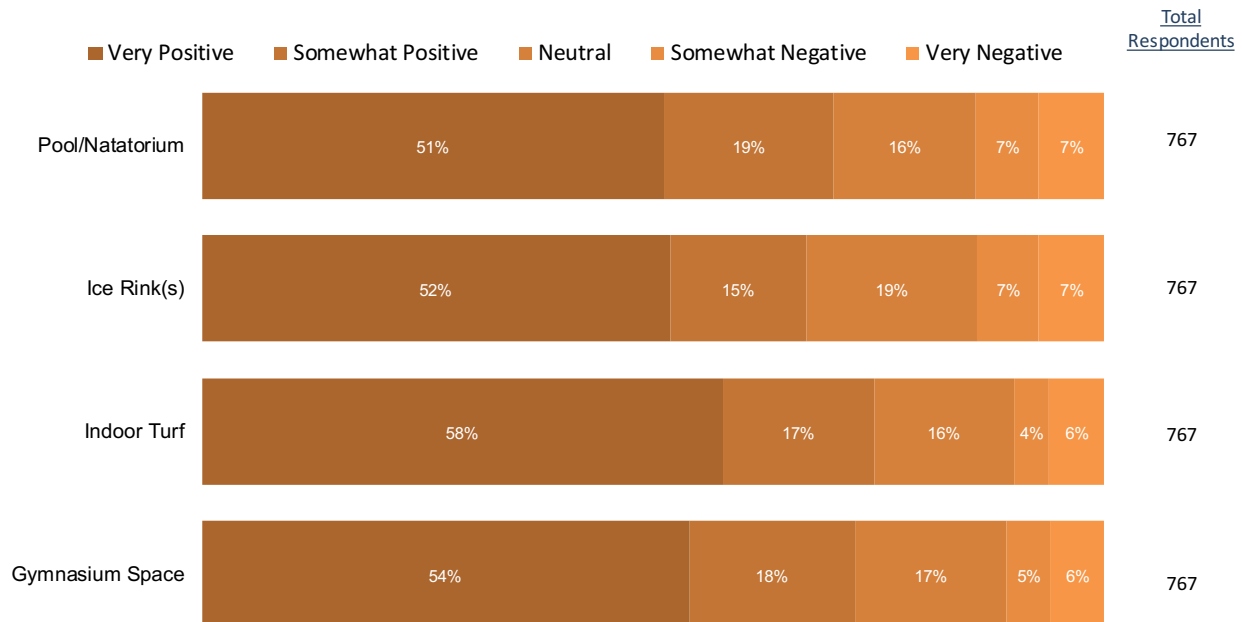
Note: Results shown representative of 767 survey respondents and 2,995 household members.  
Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

In total, there were nearly 3,000 household members identified through the survey process. More than 1,350 household members were identified as under the age of 18 (approximately 45 percent). The 35 to 54 age groups represent the next largest segment, accounting for approximately 1,050 household members or an estimated 35 percent of all household members noted.



Following these introductory questions, community survey respondents were asked to rate their attitude towards a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility that offered gymnasium space, indoor turf, ice rink(s) and/or pool/natatorium. Responses provided by facility type are presented below.

**Exhibit 4**  
**Attitude Towards Proposed Elmhurst Facilities**

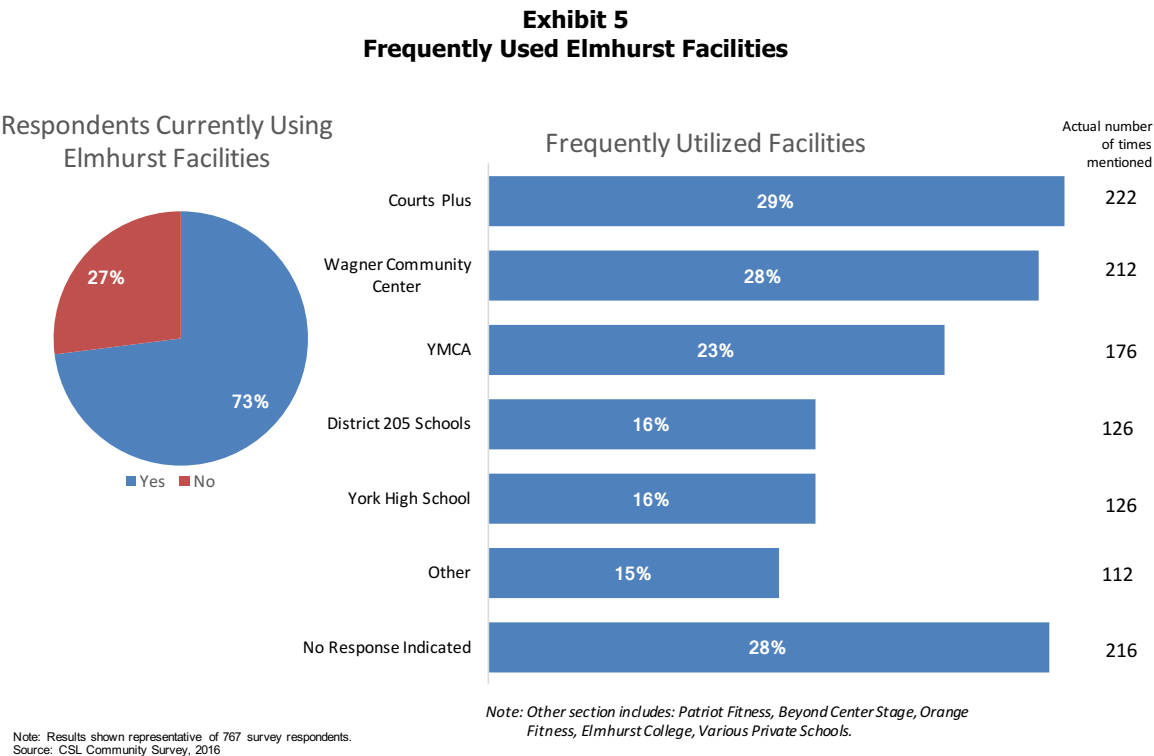


Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

Survey respondents were given five choices of very positive, somewhat positive, neutral, somewhat negative, and very negative to describe their attitudes toward a proposed Elmhurst facility. As shown above, there was strong positive response for indoor turf and gymnasium space, which received combined "Very Positive" and "Somewhat Positive" response rates of 75 percent and 72 percent, respectively. Pool/Natatorium and Ice Rink facilities also received strong positive responses of 71 percent and 67 percent, respectively. Overall, fewer than 14 percent of respondents noted combined "Somewhat Negative" or "Very Negative" responses among all four options.

When comparing responses among individuals indicating a "Very Positive" attitude towards each of the four identified facility types, it was interesting to note somewhat of a correlation between respondents supporting indoor gymnasium space and those supporting indoor turf space. Additionally, we looked at attitudes of respondents that indicated that at least one member of their household is under 18, as compared to those without kids in the household. Interestingly, the rate of "Very Favorable" responses among households with kids under 18 is somewhat higher than the overall "Very Favorable" rate noted (more than 8 percent higher). Conversely, households with no kids under 18 recorded much lower "Very Favorable" rates relative to the aggregated results (nearly 31 percent lower).

An important component to consider when considering indoor sports facility development in Elmhurst is the potential impact on current facilities being utilized within the community. Respondents were asked to indicate whether they currently use facilities in Elmhurst, and if so, which facilities. Responses are presented in Exhibit 5.

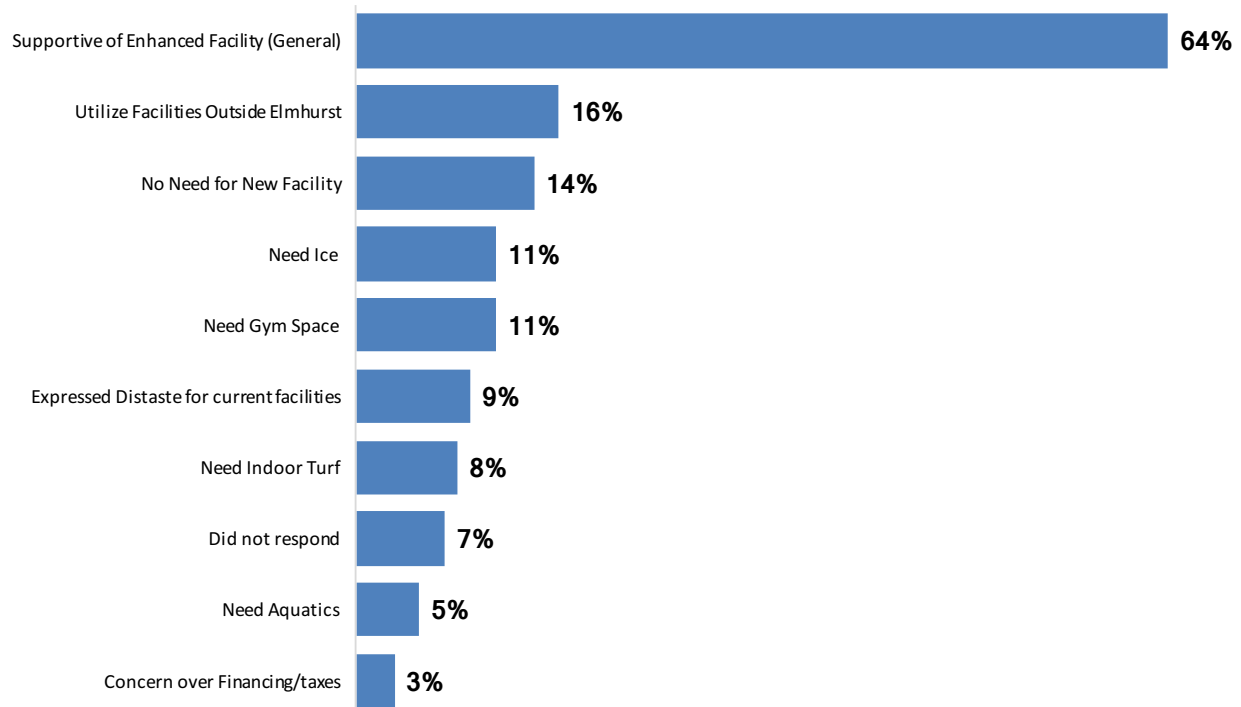


Approximately 73 percent of all survey respondents use an indoor sports facility in Elmhurst, while 27 percent indicated that they do not use any indoor sports facilities. The facilities most frequently utilized are Courts Plus, with 29 percent of respondents indicating having used the facility and the Wagner Community Center with 28 percent. Approximately 23 percent of respondents indicated having used the Elmhurst YMCA and approximately 16 percent of respondents indicating having used District 205 Schools facilities and York High School facilities, respectively. Importantly, respondents were able to provide multiple responses, and percentages represented show the portion of responses among all respondents; therefore, total percentages of responses exceed 100 percent.



Survey respondents were subsequently asked to describe their opinions of Elmhurst facilities. Open-ended responses were collected, categorized and quantified by general concepts mentioned within the responses. The following exhibit presents a summary of the most frequently offered responses.

**Exhibit 6**  
**Opinions on Elmhurst Facilities**

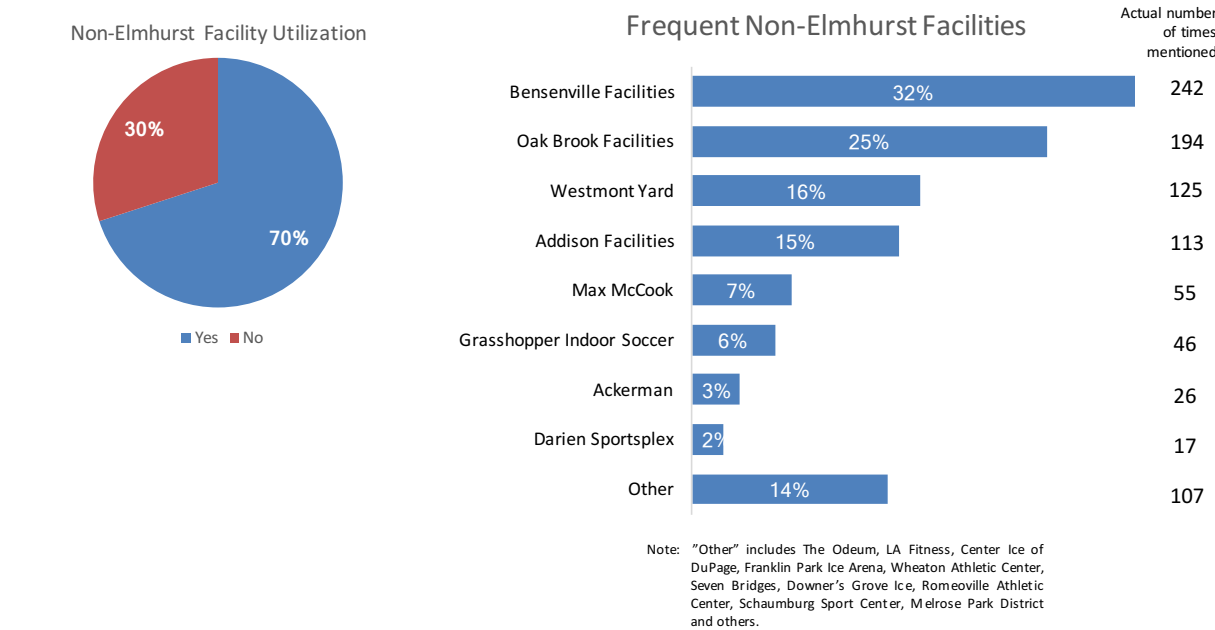


Note: Results shown representative of 767 survey respondents.  
Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

As presented, approximately 64 percent of all respondents generally indicated support for developing enhanced indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst of any type of facility (ice, gym, turf, aquatics, etc.). Conversely, only 14 percent of respondents suggested that no new facilities are currently necessary. Ice rink and indoor gymnasium space were the most frequently mentioned facility types noted among these unsolicited responses, as approximately 11 percent of respondents noted a need for these types of facilities, respectively. Indoor turf space was mentioned next most frequently by eight percent of respondents, while just five percent of respondents indicated a need for aquatics facilities. Importantly, respondents were able to provide more than one response.

The next step of the survey was to determine what facilities community members are utilizing outside of Elmhurst. With a considerable number of available facilities surrounding Elmhurst, an inventory of the most utilized facilities by community members is expected to provide an indication of which facilities may be most competitive to any potential indoor facilities in Elmhurst. Survey respondents were first asked whether or not they utilized a facility outside of Elmhurst, followed by an open-ended explanation of which facilities they utilize, as presented below.

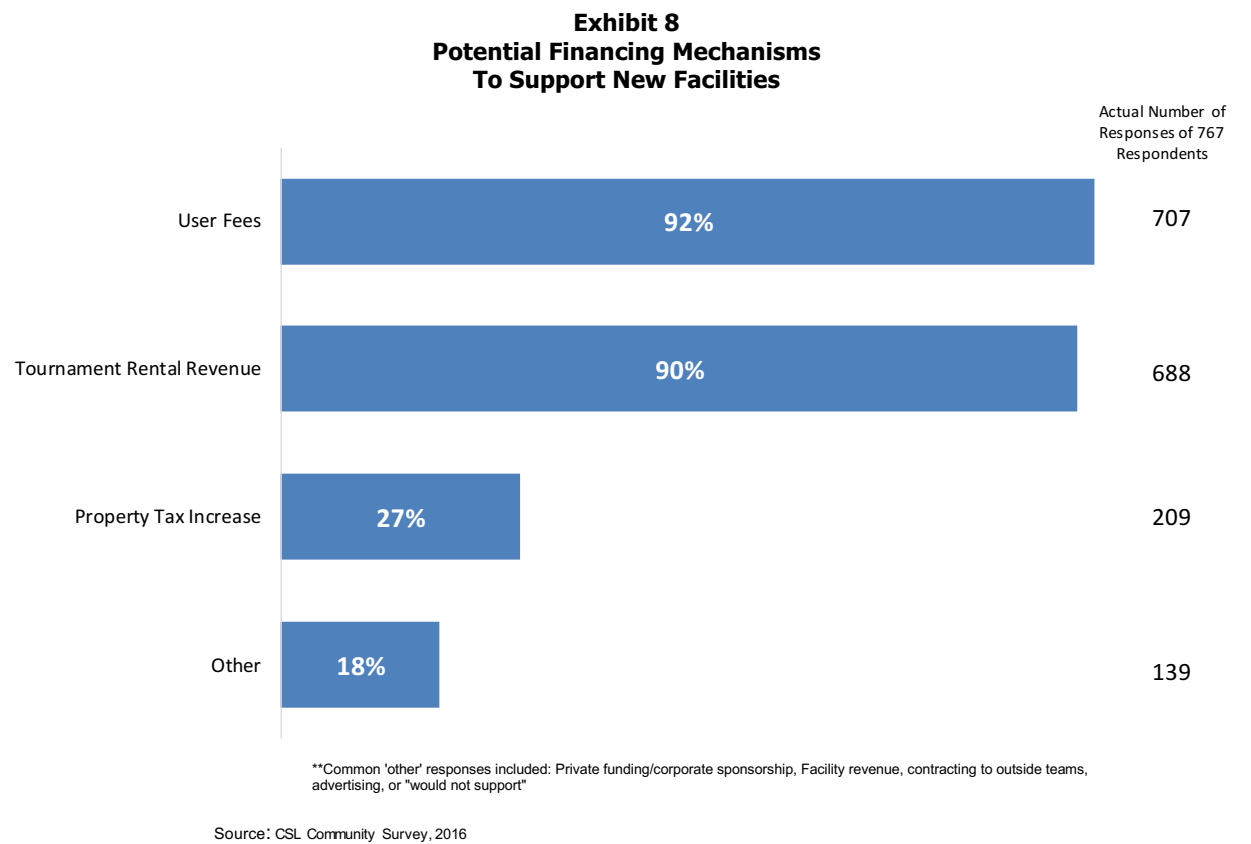
**Exhibit 7**  
**Facility Utilization Outside of Elmhurst**



Note: Results shown representative of 767 survey respondents.  
 Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

As shown above, approximately 70 percent of Elmhurst residents noted that they are currently utilizing facilities outside of Elmhurst. An estimated 32 percent of respondents indicated that they are using Bensenville facilities, including The Edge Ice Arena. Oak Brook facilities, including the Community Recreation Center and Aquatic Center, were mentioned by approximately 25 percent of respondents. Westmont Yard and Addison facilities were mentioned by 16 and 15 percent of respondents, respectively.

An important aspect to consider among Elmhurst residents is how to fund the development and/or operations of an indoor sports facility. Respondents were asked to identify which, if any, mechanisms they would support between user fees, tournament rental revenue, property tax increases, or other mechanisms. A summary of responses is shown in Exhibit 8.



Respondents overwhelmingly indicated a preference for user fees or tournament rental revenue as sources of financing for facility development. This response rate is consistent with typical responses among local community members when asked about funding such facilities. It is interesting to note, however, that approximately 27 percent (more than 200 respondents) indicated a willingness to consider property tax increases to support facility development and/or operations. Typically, this response rate is much less, which suggests that the previously noted support for new indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst is more than just a desire to have new facilities, but an actual willingness to support their development financially.

Additional detail regarding the Community Survey and the opinions provided by community stakeholders can be found in Appendix B.



## Potential User Group Surveys

In addition to initial in-person interviews with local stakeholders in the market's amateur sports sector, telephone interviews were conducted with representatives of potential user groups, providing the primary basis for the estimation of market demand presented herein. Key representatives from local and non-local youth sports organizations and regional and national tournament organizers were interviewed in person and/or by telephone to assess their potential interest in utilizing a new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. A summary of the market demand research, analysis and conclusions by sport is provided on the following pages.

A sampling of organizations contacted as a part of this study included, but were not limited to:

Blue Chip Tournaments	Elmhurst FC Soccer Club	New Wave Club Volleyball (Travel)
1st Lions Alliance	Elmhurst Jr Dukes Wrestling Club	New Wave Lacrosse
200x85 Hockey tournaments	Elmhurst Royals	New Wave Lacrosse (Girls)
3on3 Elmhurst	Elmhurst Sports	North American Youth Sports
AAU Boys Basketball	Epic School of Wrestling	Oak Park Curling Club
AAU Gymnastics	Fencing Center of Chicago	Parisi Speed School
AAU Volleyball	Gameday USA	Premier Volleyball League
AAU Wrestling (National)	Hockey Time Productions	Team Illinois Cheer
ACA Hoops	Hoops Intensity Training	The Chicagoland Youth Football League
Airbourne Basketball	Ice Skating Institute	Top Flight Volleyball Club
All American - 7 on 7	ICE Volleyball club	Top Tier Baseball & Softball
Alligator Aquatics	Illinois AAU Girls	Ultimate Hockey Tournaments
American Tae Kwon Do Association	Illinois Baseball Academy	United States Youth Volleyball League
Belusa United Volleyball Club	Illinois Curling Association	Universal Cheerleaders Association
Big Foot Hoops	Illinois High School Association	Universal Dance Association
Breakaway Basketball	Illinois Hockey AAU	US Basketball Association
British School Swim Elmhurst	Illinois Recreational Cheerleading Association	USA Gymnastics
Bull-Sox Youth Academy	Illinois Swimming	USA Swimming
Canlan Classic Tournaments	Illinois Water Polo	USA Table Tennis
Chang's Martial Arts Academy	Junior Volleyball Association - National	USA Taekwondo National Championships*
Cheer Ltd, Inc.	Karen Russ	USA Volleyball
Chicagoland Indoor soccer	Knights Basketball	USA Wrestling
Chicagoland Youth Basketball Network	Lil' Kickers	USSSA Boys Basketball
Chicagoland Youth Football League	Lyons Township Soccer Club	USSSA Taekwondo
Delaney Hockey	Midwest Badminton Association	Varsity All Star Cheerleading
DuPage Training Academy	MyHockey Tournaments	Wheaton Swim Club
Eclipse Soccer Club	National Cheerleaders Association	YMCA
Elmhurst Explosion	National Collegiate Table Tennis Association	Youth Basketball of America
Elmhurst Extreme	Netlynx Sports	

It is understood that one intent of this study is to assess demand by local Elmhurst area sports groups and participants, including evaluating the ability of the area's current facilities to accommodate this demand. As such, detailed summaries related to each of the primary local organizations interviewed are presented within this chapter.

While understanding demand issues associated with local groups is critical in a study of this nature, it is also important to appropriate research and analyze non-local demand sources. For nearly all state-of-the-industry indoor sports facilities, demand sources with significant non-local participants/spectators are often critical in driving facility utilization and revenues. Even with providing local users with priority scheduling and rates, the opportunity to attract and accommodate tournaments and meets with significant nonlocal participant/spectator composition was important to investigate. Further, distinguishing lines between "local" and "nonlocal" are often not distinct, as a significant portion of events will have varying degrees of

local involvement (direct and indirect) in terms of event procurement and athlete/team participation by local organizations in tournaments/meets that might normally be described as “non-local”. A full picture of utilization for potential new indoor sports facilities cannot be reached without testing both local and non-local markets.

A summary of the market demand research, analysis and conclusions by facility type and key organization interviewed is provided below and on the following pages.

### *Indoor Court Users*

Basketball is the leading participatory team sport in the U.S. Based on national statistics, there are approximately 24.8 million individuals that participated at least once in basketball last year. Of this amount, approximately 51 percent (12.7 million) were considered frequent participants, having participated 25 or more days in the last year.

There are approximately 6.7 million individuals that participated at least once in volleyball within the past year. Of this amount, approximately 40 percent (2.7 million) were considered frequent participants, having participated 25 or more days in the last year. Approximately 58 percent (3.9 million) played volleyball at least 13 times last year.

Many indoor facilities at athletic complexes are constructed to be multipurpose in nature, being flexible to host and accommodate a number of varying sports, recreation and other indoor activities. Oftentimes, basketball and volleyball courts can be utilized for indoor soccer, indoor football, cheer/dance competitions, indoor lacrosse, martial arts, wrestling, inline/roller hockey, gymnastics and other sports.

In-depth telephone interviews were completed with representatives of local and non-local indoor gymnasium space users (such as basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, and martial arts groups) in order to learn their current usage of facilities in the Elmhurst area as well as to measure their interest in using a potential new Indoor Sports Facility. The summaries on the following pages provide insights gained from each key user group/category interviewed for this study.





### Elmhurst Airborne Basketball



Elmhurst Airborne is a non-for-profit competitive traveling basketball club for boys and girls ages nine to fourteen (4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades) that live within the Elmhurst School District 205 boundaries. The season runs from mid-October through February/early March, with practices held twice a week at District 205 schools and/or gyms and a minimum of one game per week. The league currently has 18 teams, each with between 8 and 12 total players. League representatives have indicated that they would like to host more teams, but have been forced to cut players because of limited availability of court space.

Currently, Airborne hosts a one-day tournament in early January, with all games played at courts available at York High School. The tournament is open to both boys' and girls' teams in four different age brackets, and has sold out each of the past few years.

League representatives noted that last minute practice/game cancellations have made it increasingly difficult to schedule guaranteed gym space at District 205 facilities. Furthermore, with the program turning away both league and tournament participants, they would welcome additional gym space in the community. A minimum of a four-court facility could accommodate their regular needs, and allow them to moderately grow their local presence and host one or two more non-local tournaments. With eight courts available to them, the potential exists to host up to a 120-team tournament that would last two days.

### Elmhurst Sports



Elmhurst Sports is a new in-house basketball organization in Elmhurst operating 13 different basketball leagues for boys and girls, ages 7 through 18. The organization has over 100 teams and nearly 1,000 participants. Each team practices for at least one hour per week, totaling over 100 hours of practice/booked gym time per week. Games are played at York High School

with ages 14 through 18 playing Sunday, and ages 7 through 14 playing on Saturday. All practices and games are played at District 205 Schools, with high school leagues played at York High School, middle school leagues at York High School and at middle school gyms, and with the elementary school leagues playing at the elementary school gyms. Their season runs for eleven weeks starting at the end of December, until the beginning of March.

### Lions Volleyball Club/1st Alliance Volleyball Club



1<sup>st</sup> Alliance Volleyball Club and its affiliates, including Lions Juniors, City Lions Juniors, Lions Juniors South, Lions Juniors West, Lions Juniors Woodridge and 3<sup>rd</sup> Coast Elite, have hundreds of girls participating in indoor fall and winter leagues, along with an outdoor beach volleyball program in the summer. The Lions Jrs. Fall League has nearly 1,500 players and 150 teams participating. The league runs for eight weeks, starting after Labor Day, with games held every weekend starting the second week of the season. All games are held at MAX McCook, Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center in Glen Ellyn, St. John's Evangelical Church in Lombard or the Volleyball Training Facility in Woodridge.

There are approximately 40 teams and over 400 girls participating in the Winter 1<sup>st</sup> Alliance and Lions West programs, which runs from the second week in January through April. Teams practice once a week and have games on Sundays.

Club representatives indicated a potential interest in hosting practices and games in Elmhurst, as a number of participants reside in the community. They would need four volleyball courts (approximately two full-sized basketball courts) for their activity. Additionally, the potential exists to host a winter and/or fall tournament in Elmhurst that could attract between 10 and 15 teams per tournament, averaging 10 players per team. However, Club representatives noted that it may be difficult to compete against facilities in Schaumburg and Rosemont with their existing tournament presence.

### Knights Basketball



Knights Basketball is a competitive travel program that includes teams from Elmhurst and surrounding areas. The program features over 200 participants ranging from 8 to 14 years of age with 10 to 16 players per team. Seasons run from mid-October thru early March and each season includes about 30 to 45 games, depending on the age level. Each age group holds two practices and one to two games per week that takes place at the Oak Brook Family Recreation Center.

It is unlikely that the Knights Basketball organization would shift any significant activity away from the Oak Brook facility to a new indoor court facility in Elmhurst, as it is expected that a new facility would not necessarily help expand their program. Further, they do not see an imminent need to change venues as they are currently satisfied with the Oak Brook Facility.

### 3ON3 Elmhurst



3ON3 Elmhurst is a fundraiser event to support the Hydrocephalus Association of America, which is an organization that promotes a cure for a brain disease that can create developmental, physical and/or intellectual impairments or even death. The one-day tournament currently attracts 60 to 70 teams each year and is open to Elmhurst residents and surrounding community basketball players ages 7 to 70. The tournament is hosted every March at Elmhurst College with teams of three to five players that compete in two games of pool play, 15 minutes each game, followed by a bracketed single elimination tournament. Each pool is organized into grade, gender, adult, and senior divisions in order to create a competitive and fun atmosphere.

The Tournament Director indicated they would look to utilize a new indoor sports facility in Elmhurst and stated he would like to expand his tournament from a one-day to a two-day tournament in order to attract over 100 teams to continue its growth from outside the region.

### Potential Non-Local User Groups

#### *Basketball Demand*

The basketball season in the greater Chicago metro area typically runs from March through June with tournaments running nearly every weekend during this time period. The average size per team is 12 to 14 players ranging in age from 9 to 18 years old. Conversations with basketball organizers suggest that the large majority of existing facilities are well suited to accommodate local community demand; however, the lack of a critical mass within each of these facilities limits the opportunity to market and attract larger regional and national tournaments. State and regional basketball planners noted a multi-court facility with six courts would be the minimum required to accommodate regional and national demand. It is also important to note that a greater competition level at the tournament generates a greater need for hardwood courts. Sportcourt was noted as appropriate for local teams, tournaments for younger age groups and potentially for use on supplemental court space. However, the top levels of competition, tournament games within the winner's bracket of a tournament or following round-robin play and especially for championship games likely requires a hardwood court surface.

Tournament promoters and organizations such as AAU Boys Basketball, Breakaway Basketball, Hoops Intensity Training, NETLYNX Sports, USSSA Basketball and Youth Basketball of America specifically expressed an interest in potentially hosting tournaments in Elmhurst. Each tournament would last two to three days, on average, and would have the potential to attract two or three 20 to 40 team tournaments and up to four larger 60 to 120 team tournaments. A potential 20 to 40 team tournament would last about two days and need to utilize a minimum of four courts for about 12 hours per day. A potential 60 to 120 team tournament organizer prefers a minimum of six courts within a facility in order to fit all the necessary games into a two- to three-day span. The average size per team is 12 to 14 players ranging in age from 9 to 18 years old. Additional facility requirements or preferences would include a public space for a concessions stand, public restrooms, bleachers or foldable chairs for spectators, and wall mounted or portable scoreboards.

### *Volleyball Demand*

The volleyball season in the greater Chicago metro area runs from November through May with tournaments running nearly every weekend. There are about 10 to 12 players on average per team ages 9 to 18 years old. Volleyball organizers from regional and national levels indicated an overall moderate level of demand for additional court space in the greater Chicago metro area. Tournament organizers such as New Wave Volleyball Club, Top Flight Volleyball Club, and the United States Youth Volleyball League expressed an interest in potentially hosting four to six tournaments annually in the Elmhurst area that would be expected to attract up to 30 to 50 teams per tournament.

These tournaments require a minimum of four volleyball courts for nine to 12 hours per day, though six to eight courts provide a significant amount of enhanced flexibility for scheduling. Teams average two people traveling per participant. Most tournament organizers noted that playing on sportcourt is acceptable; however, the higher levels of competition typically require a hardwood court facility. Other facility requirements or preferences include bleachers on the ends of the courts, a public space for a concessions stand, public restrooms, a PA system, and a minimum of 40 to 50 foot ceilings.

### *Other Demand*

Other potential user groups such as USSSA Karate/Taekwondo and AAU Gymnastics indicated a low to moderate level of demand for additional facilities in Elmhurst. Martial arts organizations run year round programs, typically with a greater emphasis during the summer months. Competition participants can range in age from 5 to 18 and can attract as many as 300 participants to a single-day competition. They require approximately 20,000 square feet of contiguous space for competitions, with bleacher seating for a couple hundred.

The gymnastics season typically runs from October to May with meets typically requiring at least 20,000 square feet of space to host tournaments, but prefer closer to 40,000 square feet for larger meets and competitions. Each competition is a single-day event and attract participants from 5 to 18 years old. The Wagner Community Center is generally viewed as appropriate venues at which to host most locally held meets and competitions.

Additional demand may be generated through a partnership with IC Prep. This local private Catholic school has largely outgrown their current footprint. Their one on-campus gym is shared between the high school and elementary school, which forces them to rent gymnasium space at Bensenville facilities for both games and practices. They would like access to a facility that offers at least one championship court that can have the seats pulled back to offer up to two practice courts.

## Summary of Indoor Court Demand

- Overall demand conclusions:
  - Moderate to strong interest levels measured among potential local indoor facility user groups.
  - Moderate interest levels measured among potential non-local indoor facility user groups.
  - Indoor sports demand tends to run year-round, with somewhat higher concentrations of demand from October through March.
- Local demand observations:
  - Potential exists to accommodate local demand and grow existing events with the addition of court space in Elmhurst. There is a general consensus among local indoor sport organizers that Elmhurst has a lack of overall gym space.
  - IC Prep has outgrown their footprint and is currently sharing their two-court gymnasium facility between their high school and elementary school programs.
  - York High School fieldhouse is able to accommodate most of the existing local demand, though occasionally last-minute cancellations due to conflicting YHS activities can negatively impact local user groups.
- Non-local demand observations:
  - Potential exists to draw state-wide, regional and potentially national tournaments with a facility that has six full-sized basketball courts in Elmhurst.
  - State and regional basketball planners noted the lack of “big box”, multi-court facilities throughout the greater-Chicago metro area, and expressed the notion that the development of a larger indoor court facility so close to O’Hare International Airport would provide an enticing opportunity for hosting tournament and competitions.



## *Ice Arena Users*

Based on national statistics, there are approximately 2.1 million individuals that participated in ice hockey at least once in the past year. Of this amount, approximately 42 percent (nearly 900,000) were considered frequent participants, having participated 25 or more days in the past year. Additionally, on an individual basis, ice/figure skating participation is estimated at approximately 11.6 million, with approximately 9 percent (just under one million people) considered frequent participants.

The Sports and Fitness Industry Association noted that while collectively, youth sports experienced a nine percent decline in participation rates of 6 to 17 year olds, hockey actually has experienced a nearly 44 percent rise in participation from 2009 to 2014. Team and individual participation in ice-related activities varies by region more significantly than most other sports—with higher participation in northern-most states in the country (e.g., Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Massachusetts and New York, among others).

Interviews with local community stakeholders and potential complex users, as well as telephone interviews with regional, state and national youth tournament and competition organizers were conducted to understand the potential need for a new ice arena complex. The summaries below and on the following pages provide insights gained from each key user group/category interviewed for this study.



## York Hockey Club



The York Hockey Club (YHC) is a non-profit organization that provides and conducts ice hockey programs for York High School. YHC currently has approximately 40 total players between the Varsity and Junior Varsity teams. Each team's weekly schedule consists of two on-ice practices of approximately an hour and fifteen minutes, one off-ice practice and one or two games (which typically last approximately two hours). Total ice time logged per week averages between 4.5 and 6.5 hours. The season runs from September through February, with playoffs extending into mid-March and a two-week break in games around Thanksgiving and two weeks off at the end of December.

However, since there is no indoor ice available in Elmhurst, both teams are forced to utilize rink space at other venues throughout the area including Addison Ice Arena, Center Ice of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, All Seasons Ice Rinks in Naperville, among others, often starting practice as late as 8:00 or 9:00 at night. Additionally, ice rental rates at some of these facilities can be extremely expensive, which requires a contribution of \$4,100 per player (\$3,100 for goalies) to participate.

York representatives suggest that they would prefer and likely could host all of their activities within a new two-sheet ice rink in Elmhurst.

### Fenwick High School Hockey



The Fenwick Hockey Club is a non-profit, independent club hockey program in cooperation and in conjunction and support with Fenwick High School for Fenwick students. The Club currently consists of three boys teams (one Varsity and two Junior Varsity teams) and one girls team, comprised of approximately 20 players per team (there are approximately 80 total participants combined among the four teams). Practices and home games are played at Ridgeland Common Ice Arena in Oak Park and the Edge Ice Arena in Bensenville. The season runs from September through March, during which the Club consumes approximately 13.5 hours of ice time per week for the boys programs and another 3 to 4 hours of ice time weekly for the girls.

Fenwick Hockey representatives have indicated that retaining enough time slots and time slots at appropriate times for games/practices of high school students has become increasingly difficult. Representatives further indicated that they would likely look to shift the majority of their ice time consumption to a new indoor ice complex in Elmhurst. While this shift is not expected to grow their overall program, it would likely retain much of the activity that is currently being held outside of the market.

### Elmhurst Chiefs Hockey Club



The Elmhurst Chiefs Hockey Club is a not-for-profit Tier III program that provides recreational hockey for players at all skill levels. There are no tryouts or cuts, with roster spots only limited to space available. All players are evaluated in order to equally balance the skill at those levels with multiple teams. Playing time is balanced so players receive an equal amount of ice time. The season runs from September through March, with two practices during the week and a game on the weekend.

The estimated 200 players are divided up by age group, with approximately 50 U8 players (Mites), 50 U10 players (Squirrels), 50 U12 players (Peewees), 20 U14 players (Bantams) and 20 U18 players (Midgets). Practices and games all take place at facilities outside of Elmhurst, including The Edge Ice Arena in Bensenville, the Franklin Park Ice Arena in Franklin Park and the Darien Sportsplex in Darien. It is estimated that the Chiefs consume nearly 1,700 hours of ice rental time per year across these complexes.

The Chiefs would expect to shift as much of their existing operations to a new two-sheet complex in Elmhurst as possible. This complex would provide opportunities to (1) grow the Club by offering additional ice time to people that are turned away, (2) create a girls program, and (3) potentially increase revenues (through the development of in-house run fundraising tournaments, jamborees and other such events) or minimize expenses (through partnerships with local municipalities and other local stakeholders).

### Chicago Blues Hockey Club



The Chicago Blues Hockey Club was founded in 1996 and plays in the Tier II classification (somewhat more competitive than Tier III, but not as much of a commitment as Tier I). The Club competes in the Central States Developmental Hockey League and the Northern Illinois Hockey League and skate out of the Edge Ice Arena in Bensenville. The estimated 250 players are divided up among 17 teams, including four U8 teams (Mites), three U10 teams (Squirts), four U12 teams (Peewees), four U14 teams (Bantams) and 2 U18 teams (Midgets).

It is unlikely that the Blues would shift any significant activity away from the Edge Ice Arena to a new ice rink complex in Elmhurst, as their players are not exclusively, or even primarily, from Elmhurst. Nor do they have any difficulty reserving the ice time they need at their preferred time of day.

### Chicago Bruins Hockey Club



The Chicago Bruins Hockey Club plays at the Addison Ice Arena and is a non-profit organization that offers both Tier II and Tier III level hockey programs. They are also the only area club organization to offer a dedicated girls hockey program. The Bruins have 27 different teams, including five 8U teams (which play under their affiliate the Addison Grizzlies), six 10U (Squirt) teams, seven 12U (Peewee) teams, five 14U (Bantam) teams, one Girls 14U team and three U18 (Midget) teams. In total, there are over 400 kids participating in Bruins hockey.

It is not likely that the Bruins would shift any significant activity away from the Addison Ice Arena for a new indoor ice rink in Elmhurst.

### Potential Non-Local User Groups

#### *Hockey Demand*

State and regional ice arena users indicated an overall interest and need for new indoor ice sheets in the greater Chicago area, citing growing participation rates throughout the country as well as the recent success of the Chicago Blackhawks (of the National Hockey League). Organizers typically require at least two NHL-sized (i.e., 200' x 85') ice sheets in order to be able to consider hosting a weekend tournament. Facilities also need a minimum of four locker rooms per sheet of ice, able to accommodate 18 to 20 players. Arena seating should range anywhere between 500 to 1,000 seats to accommodate spectators visiting for the event. Basic needs for a pro-shop and skate sharpening services is a must for any ice arena facility as well as basic concessions. Some ice arenas partner with bar/restaurant businesses; however, these third party food and beverage business propositions can often be challenging with facilities with variable and specific demographic demand such as ice arenas or similar sports/recreation facilities. The ultimate site/location and adjacency to other customer bases is typically important for this type of partnership possibility.

Tournament organizers such as 200'x85' Tournaments, MyTournaments, Ultimate Hockey Tournaments, and Canlan Classic Tournaments all indicated an interest in organizing and hosting anywhere from five to

ten local and regional tournaments with approximately 25 to 50 teams or more. Importantly, the quantity and quality of existing local hockey clubs and programs suggest a strong base from which to be able to develop a following for tournaments that would be expected to attract a significant base of non-local teams. Importantly, these different clubs can provide opportunities not only to market to varying levels of competition, age ranges and gender, but also could provide a significant base of volunteers to help organize and run tournaments. Further, it is important to recognize that there is a significant base of surrounding hockey clubs and programs throughout the Chicago metropolitan area.

### *Figure Skating & Skate School Demand*

Ice skating users tend to place the most importance of the availability of ice and the location of the venue when considering a facility for hosting programs, competitions, meets and learn-to-skate programs. Regional and national competition organizers noted more limited demand in terms of hosting a competition at a potential new ice arena in Elmhurst, though local figure skating and skate school users gave insight that it would be beneficial for local programming and competitions.

Skate schools tend to cater towards a younger membership base, as they help strengthen the skills of young skaters to go on into more difficult ice skating sports such as figure skating and hockey. Typically, skate schools are operated by a park district, private entity, or a sponsored organization. While Elmhurst already has one outdoor ice rink at the YMCA, an indoor arena could open some doors for younger skaters who may not be able to skate outdoors in inclement weather conditions and during non-winter time periods. Peak seasons run during the winter and indoor arenas are essential to successful skate schools. Typically, skate schools during peak season can attract a couple hundred children, or more, while during the summer smaller programs are run for individual skill building, which tend to be much more sparsely attended.

### *Curling/Other Demand*

Curling organizations indicated a lower demand among surveyed organizations. The indication for most utilization from curling users was from the local users via in-house leagues. Curling is a slowly growing sport that is often overshadowed by other ice users such as hockey and figure skating. Curling can be hosted on an ice sheet that does offer hockey and traditional skating as well, as long as the ice is well taken care of. Curling typically needs less space than a typically ice sheet, with a length of approximately 150 feet and backboards to prevent curling stones from drifting too far. However, there are a few problems that occur when trying to combine curling and ice skating, including ice management. Ice skating damages the ice leaving deep gouges in place that take time to repair, and typically there is not enough time during transition between sports for the healing process, leaving curlers to utilize less than optimal surfaces. Additionally, the lines and markers for curling must be imprinted below the ice, and do not always fit in well with traditional hockey lines.

## Summary of Ice Arena Demand

- Overall demand conclusions:
  - Strong interest levels measured among local hockey programs that are currently forced to practice and play outside of the city of Elmhurst.
  - Moderate interest levels were noted for hosting state, regional and/or national tournaments. Elmhurst's proximity to O'Hare International Airport provides an opportunity to market to, and attract tournament participants from around the world.
  - Figure skating and skate-school programs tend to be more driven by the overall demographics of the market.
- Local demand observations:
  - Demand exists among local hockey clubs that are forced to utilize facilities outside of Elmhurst for practices, games and clinics.
  - The Elmhurst Chiefs, York Hockey Club, Fenwick Hockey Club and others could provide regular and consistent usage of an indoor ice rink.
  - Additional fill-in usage can come from local learn-to-skate programs, figure skating programs, open skate and other activities.
- Non-local demand observations:
  - Potential exists to host five to ten state, regional and potentially national tournaments in Elmhurst.
  - Presence of surrounding established facilities such as the Edge Ice Arena and the Addison Ice arena, suggest that a strong marketing strategy may be required to ensure that tournaments select an Elmhurst venue over others in the market.



## *Indoor Turf Users*

Indoor turf facilities are becoming increasingly more relevant as an indoor sports facility in the northern states throughout the country. These venues can provide indoor practice space for times when inclement weather would have otherwise forced the cancellation of practice. Further, the continued growth in interest and participation rates among outdoor sports such as soccer, lacrosse, rugby and others, tend to encourage access to facilities of this nature.

Many indoor facilities at athletic complexes are constructed to be multipurpose in nature, being flexible to host and accommodate a number of varying sports, recreation and other indoor activities. Oftentimes, indoor turf can also accommodate basketball, volleyball, dance, martial arts and other gymnasium type sports with the assistance of portable hard court or sport court.

A process of in-depth telephone interviews and extensive research was also completed to estimate the amount of existing facility usage and potential unmet demand among local and non-local indoor turf users. These findings are summarized on the following pages.



## Team Elmhurst Soccer Club



Team Elmhurst Soccer Club (TESC) is a non-profit organization focused on player development of kids 6 to 18 years old. Team Elmhurst Select teams play in a division in the top 25 percent of their age group, while Team Elmhurst Premier plays in a division in the second 25 percent. Team Elmhurst Travel accommodates the remaining teams from a competition standpoint.

There are more than 400 boys and girls playing on one of 34 teams during the indoor season, which runs from November through mid-March. Teams have one training session per week and play one game per week, renting out indoor turf space Monday through Thursday for approximately five hours per night.

TESC has increasingly struggled to find enough indoor turf space to accommodate their winter programs and would welcome a new complex. They prefer to play games on a 60 yard x 40 yard field (approximately 180' x 120'), and noted that the four 170' x 120' fields at Max McCook Athletic and Exposition Center have worked well for them in the past.



## Elmhurst FC Soccer/AYSO Region 399



The Elmhurst FC Soccer Club is an extension of the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) Region 399 soccer program as the signature travel program for players seeking a higher level of competition. AYSO currently has approximately 1,600 boys and girls playing on nearly 200 different teams. Elmhurst FC fields teams from ages 8 to 14, practicing twice a week with typically one game on the weekend. The club currently participates in a 15-team winter league at the Westmont Yard and utilizes the Grasshopper Indoor Soccer Facility for approximately 10 to 12 hours per week for practices. These indoor practice sessions run for around 15 weeks during the winter indoor soccer season from November through March.

Typical tournaments the club participates in will have up to 15 teams and over 300 participants. The organization indicated a strong interest in a new multi-purpose indoor turf facility in Elmhurst to accommodate for a growing need for indoor turf facilities in the greater Chicago region as indoor soccer is growing in popularity, and the availability for turf time is becoming more limited.

## Elmhurst Eagles Football and Cheer



The Elmhurst Eagles is a youth football and cheerleading organization that was founded in 1964. An estimated 400 kids participate within 13 football teams and six cheer squads. The football program is offered to kids between 7 and 14 years old with teams consisting of 18 to 24 kids per team. The season typically runs from August through October, with playoffs extending into early November. Teams practice four or five times per week in August until school starts and then three to four times per week during the school year, and play nine games plus playoffs. One practice per week is currently held indoors at York High School. Cheer squads practice on a similar schedule and attend all home and away games. Additionally, all but the youngest cheer squad attend two annual competitions (the youngest squad attends just one).

The greatest area of need for the Eagles programs are the once weekly indoor practice and an available venue for practice during inclement weather. Additionally, Eagles Football would consider developing an indoor 7v7 league, an indoor flag football tournament during the winter/spring months, and/or a two-week clinic in early spring.

## Elmhurst Lacrosse



Elmhurst Lacrosse is a non-profit organization with approximately 400 total players between 7 and 14 years old, with approximately one-third of players being girls. The season runs from the beginning of April through early June; however, there are two weekends in January/February during which Elmhurst Lacrosse hosts indoor clinics/camps at York High School's fieldhouse. They have occasionally used indoor turf facilities at Westmont Yard Indoor Sports Complex in Westmont and the Odeum Expo Center in Villa Park for "tune-ups" prior to the start of the season; however, they have not regularly used these, or other, facilities.

They could hold 4v4 or 5v5 games indoors during March to begin spring practices earlier and would consider offering a winter skills program, in addition to the two weekend clinics they currently offer. Should an indoor turf facility be made available in Elmhurst they would likely relocate as much of their existing, and potentially new utilization to the facility to be closer to their participants.

### Elmhurst Youth Baseball



The Elmhurst Extreme is a full-time travel baseball program affiliated with Elmhurst Youth Baseball (EYB), fielding six teams for kids age 9 to 14. The Extreme teams generally play a 30 to 60 game schedule between league and tournament games. Winter workouts start in January, with games starting in April and going through July. They currently utilize York High School's fieldhouse for winter practices; however, they would prefer a turf facility with high ceilings (30 to 35 feet minimum), a curtaining system and dropdown batting cages. While a new indoor turf facility in Elmhurst is not likely to increase their usage, EYB may provide a regular source of utilization.

### Elmhurst Baseball and Softball League (Explosion and Emeralds)



The Elmhurst Baseball and Softball League offers local recreational league play for Elmhurst residents with eight teams of kids between the ages of 5 and 16. Additionally, they offer a more competitive travel baseball program (Elmhurst Explosion) and softball program (Emeralds), each of whom field one team each that practice twice a week, for two hours per practice from December through March. League representatives indicated that they utilize a variety of facilities, but would definitely prefer to host these practices at an indoor turf facility in Elmhurst. Key facility elements they recommend include as many batting cages as possible, pitching machines for each, 35' ceilings and dropdown curtains to separate practice spaces.

### Elmhurst Cougars Baseball and Softball



The Cougar Baseball and Softball Club is an independent organization of traveling teams from the western suburbs of Chicago formed in 1992 as the original travel teams for Elmhurst. They have expanded to encourage participation from players throughout northern Illinois. Practices begin in January, with the 40 to 60 game season running from April through July. League representatives indicated a desire for indoor turf training facilities for January through March practices, with potential inclement weather practice facilities in April and May. The Cougars have 11 teams with kids ranging from 9 to 18 years old.

## Non-Local User Group Summary

### *Soccer Demand*

Generally, state and regional indoor turf users expressed a need for additional facilities in the greater Chicago area. Chicagoland Indoor Soccer Club expressed interest in organizing and sponsoring in-house leagues and tournaments at any new proposed indoor turf facility in Elmhurst, while other existing local soccer user groups were also optimistic about the opportunity to utilize and program an indoor turf facility. Travel teams such as Elmhurst FC indicated a need for potential practice space, as the only indoor practice space for indoor turf users of Elmhurst is out of town.

Soccer organizations typically require a full-sized field (185'x75') to host games, tournaments, and other types of competitions. Ideally, tournament organizers prefer to have at least two full-sized fields in order to play concurrent games, but due to a lack of large contiguous indoor fields in the greater Chicago area, many organizations have been able to host tournaments with one indoor field. Outer glass on turf fields is preferred to divide and create lower levels of noise for the on-field players.

### *Lacrosse Demand*

Lacrosse is generally a spring and summertime sport; however, tournament and league organizers did express interest in a potential new facility in Elmhurst. Lack of overall turf size at an indoor facility due to inclement weather or for the winter season was the highest driver for utilization. If a new indoor turf facility were to be constructed, it would need to have a large enough turf size to accommodate a full-size lacrosse field in order to host tournaments.

New Wave Lacrosse indicated the growing popularity of lacrosse as a sport and the future need for indoor turf facilities that may accommodate them. It was indicated that in general, for both boys and girls lacrosse that a need for a new facility in the greater Chicago area is needed to accommodate for demand as the market's current indoor turf facilities are nearly over-booked.

### *Other Indoor Turf User Demand*

Other indoor turf users included multipurpose group such as the Parisi Speed School, the Bull-Sox Youth Academy and other local baseball, softball and football organizations. Representatives of these organizations indicated an interest in a potential indoor turf facility in Elmhurst. Most usage would come from partnerships from the organizations allowing them to host indoor classes and sports training programs ranging from three to 8 classes concurrently with anywhere from four to 15 participants per class. These programs would aid local sports teams as well as filling gaps in the facility when other users are not utilizing it.

Possible ways to maximize alternative usage of indoor turf space are to pursue partnerships with organizations such as the Parisi Speed School, and other youth development and sport training programs. Name recognition of well-known programs help marketability and may aid in drawing participants to a new indoor turf facility. Many of these programs will also require an alternative multipurpose training area with sport court or a small fitness area with weights and other types of equipment.

### Summary of Indoor Turf Demand

- Overall demand conclusions:
  - Overall moderate to high level of demand for soccer, lacrosse and other users of indoor turf facilities.
  - In-house leagues, programs and sport specific classes, and travel tournaments would provide the majority of usage at an indoor turf facility.
  - Majority of turf specific utilization occurs during the winter months; as inclement weather prevents outdoor activities.
- Local demand observations:
  - Moderate to strong local interest levels among potential indoor turf facility user groups.
  - Demand for local indoor practice facility space among spring sports user groups relatively strong, as there is little to no access to indoor turf facilities in Elmhurst—organizations are forced to utilize venues throughout the region for practices and games.
  - Demand among league and tournament organizers somewhat more moderate.
  - Typically, indoor youth leagues vary from 10 to 12 teams per league with 12 to 15 players per team.
- Non-local demand observations:
  - Somewhat more limited demand for tournament and/or competition space.
  - Demand for indoor turf space tends to be more locally oriented. However, opportunities exist to host some tournaments/competitions based on the strength of the existing local user groups.



## Aquatic Users

Swimming is the leading individual sport in the U.S. Nationwide, there are approximately 21 million individuals who are characterized as “fitness” swimmers and 2.4 million individuals that swam competitively at least once within the past year. Of these amounts, approximately 17 percent (3.6 million) were considered frequent participants, having swum more than 100 times in the last year. Of the 2.4 million competitive swimmers, approximately 37 percent (882,000) were considered frequent participants, having participated 100 or more days in the last year. Approximately 35 percent (7.5 million) of “fitness” swimmers and 63 percent (1.5 million) competitive swimmers participated at least 50 times.

The following summaries detail insights that were collected from conducting in-depth phone interviews with potential local and non-local users of new Elmhurst aquatic facilities.



## Elmhurst Swim Team



The Elmhurst Swim Team (EST) is a year round swim team. EST has a short course (25-yard) fall/winter swim season and a hybrid long course (25-yard at home, 50-meter at away meets) summer swim season. The fall/winter season is one season that begins in October and ends in March. Stroke Clinics are held before each season. Registration is open to all in the Elmhurst community and in the surrounding communities.

The fall/winter season includes a collection of home dual meets or time trials and a number of away meets. The season culminates with a conference meet that is open to all swimmers and with regional, state, and national meets for swimmers with qualifying times.

The summer season is one session. It begins at the end of the school year, approximately first week of June, and runs through mid- to late-July. Swimmers generally practice Monday through Thursday at York High School. Summer includes all home meets. The season culminates with a conference meet that is open to all swimmers and with regional, state, zone and national meets for swimmers with qualifying times.

EST typically maintains a registered base of between 200 and 250 swimmers. It is estimated that approximately 80 percent are Elmhurst residents. A flat fee is charged per swimmer per session. All practices and home meets occur at York High School. EST has contracted with York for swimming pool practice use between 5:00pm to 7:00pm weekdays. Meets are typically on the weekends, with most away meets hosted within relatively nearby driving distances.

Based on conversations with EST leadership, EST is happy with its practice, use and rental arrangement with York High School and would be unlikely to leave York (as its primary practice facility) for any new natatorium/aquatic facility if it were built. EST could possibly hold, or participate in, a limited number of meets at a potential new facility. However, at this time, EST should not be considered as a potential primary tenant for any new Elmhurst Indoor Facility should it have an aquatic focus.

### British Swim School Elmhurst



The British Swim School is a national organization that offers swimming lessons in smaller communities, such as Elmhurst. They offer programs for all ages, starting at three months to 18 years of age as well as programs designated for adults 18 years and older. The organization oversees over 1,000 participants per year with weekly lessons offered Monday through Sunday, averaging one instructor for every four participants. The British Swim School currently utilizes hotel and private health club pools for its lessons.

Registration trends have been steadily growing in recent years and representatives believe they will soon outgrow their current facilities. With soon-to-be unmet demand needs, Swim School representatives indicated an interest in utilizing a new pool/natatorium facility in Elmhurst with specific pool and/or facility specifications.

### Non-Local User Group Summary

Generally, regional, state and national swimming organizations expressed a high need and demand for a 50-meter aquatic facility in the state of Illinois. Lack of 50-meter pools in the greater Chicago region have created a void and demand for a new potential aquatic facility. Illinois Swimming and USA Swimming both expressed interest in hosting and organizing tournaments in Elmhurst should a 50-meter pool facility be built. Potential to host one to two 1,000 participant state, regional or national level competition events are feasible due to a lack of facilities in the Elmhurst area. However, the planned aquatic center development in Westmont would be expected to result in a high quality, competitive 50-meter pool plus secondary pool that should be the recipient of some of this pent up demand.

### Summary of Aquatic Facility Demand

- Overall demand conclusions:
  - Low to moderate interest levels measured among potential swimming user groups.
- Local demand observations:
  - Majority of local user groups can be accommodated within York High School or other area pools.
  - Some pent-up demand exists for another municipally operated swimming pool.
  - Limited demand for a new 50-meter indoor pool.
- Non-local demand observations:
  - Development of a 50-meter pool with floating bulkheads could attract two or three state, regional or national competitions. These competitions would be expected to host between 500 (state-meet) and 1,100 (national competition) athletes.
  - Careful consideration of this option is necessary, considering the pending development of a new 50-meter competition pool in Westmont.



## Conclusions

The results of the market demand analysis conducted for this study suggest that strong estimated local and non-local demand exists for a gymnasium sports and recreation facility and for an ice sports and recreation facility. The largest accumulation of indoor court spaces is at York High School's fieldhouse, and they are becoming increasingly difficult to access. Developing a minimum four-court facility would be able to accommodate latent local demand. However, in order to attract the larger, non-local tournaments for which demand was also noted, a larger facility (minimum six courts) would be required.

In terms of demand for ice rink space, the only existing local facility is the outdoor rink at the YMCA. All locally-based club hockey, figure skating, learn-to-skate and other ice rink user groups are forced to utilize facilities outside of Elmhurst. Demand was noted for a two-sheet ice facility to accommodate both local and potential non-local tournament, camp and/or clinic activity. Clubs such as York, Fenwick and the Chiefs would all welcome an opportunity to practice and play home games in Elmhurst.

An important consideration in the site selection process for an ice facility, should the decision be made to move forward with developing an ice arena, will be to allow for potentially developing a third sheet of ice at some point in the future. Current demand indicates a two-sheet facility; however, anticipated future growth in local club, figure skating and other programs may eventually require access to a third sheet of ice.

Moderately strong local and non-local demand was noted for an indoor turf facility, as well as for an indoor pool/natatorium. The only existing indoor turf facility in Elmhurst is not large enough to accommodate practice, game, training and other demand. York High School's fieldhouse has served demand well; however, increasingly organizations are looking for a turf field experience for practices and games, and try to avoid practicing on hardwood. As such, these organizations are currently forced to seek indoor turf space outside of Elmhurst city limits.

The Elmhurst and greater Chicago metropolitan area also both presently have limited facility options for swimming. Specifically, there are three 25-yard pools in Elmhurst, but no competition-ready 50-meter pool. Increasingly swim clubs and programs seek out 50-meter pools to be able to host long-course events, as well as short-course by swimming cross pool, rather than along the long axis. York High School currently offers an indoor 25-yard pool that is fairly well maintained and capable of hosting many locally-based events.

Importantly, there is a proposed aquatic center project in Westmont, Illinois that is currently being considered. The development would consist of a 50-meter competition pool and supporting leisure pool at in conjunction with an apartment complex. Should this project move forward, it would present a significantly competitive venue for attracting high-profile state, regional and national meets and competitions. However, even if this project were not to move forward, the local demand was not identified as being sufficient to be able to support operations of a 50-meter pool. York High School swimming and Elmhurst Swim Club did not indicate an interest to relocate to a new facility, even if the facility was of a higher quality than their pool. Other swim clubs and programs have noted a desire for additional pool space and time; however, none of these organizations likely have the financial wherewithal to contribute significantly to construction costs and/or ongoing operations.

## 6.0 FACILITY PROGRAM AND UTILIZATION ANALYSIS

The purpose of this chapter is to build off the market demand research, analysis and conclusions related to a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility to evaluate market indicated facility development options and subsequent induced utilization. Recommendations regarding potential facility components and other aspects evaluated in this chapter are based on the results of the market analysis, including the historical, current and projected demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the market area, an assessment of existing sports and recreation facilities in the marketplace, characteristics of comparable sports facility developments throughout the country, and discussions with potential users of a new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

### Market Supportable Facilities

Based on the results of in-depth interviews with individuals representing local, regional and national sports organizations, as well as discussions with local project stakeholders, the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the local and regional market and current participation levels in youth sports, it is estimated that there are three categories of indoor facilities within the Elmhurst market with demand that could fit the needs of the local and regional community. It is recommended that the complex focus on one of the three types of facilities or a combination of two to maximize potential user engagement. The types of facilities with the most demand, are ice complexes, court space, and indoor turf. These types of facilities require specific building direction and amenities and those specifications are outlined below.

#### 1. Ice Arena Facility

- Two sheets (NHL-sized, 200' x 85'), seating for 1,500 and 250.
- Four to six locker rooms.
- Basic additional characteristics/amenities:
  - Pro-shop with available emergency necessities.
  - Concession facilities.
  - Warm-up areas.
  - Approximate 60,000-square foot facility.

#### 2. Gymnasium Facility

- Six hardwood courts (6 basketball courts, 12 volleyball courts).
- Concession facilities.
- Bleachers, netting equipment, scoreboards, and other standard amenities.
- Approximate 80,000-square foot facility (with approximately 60,000 square feet of floor space).

### 3. Indoor Turf Facilities

- Two full sized fields (185' x 75' or 180' x 80', configurable down to smaller fields).
- Minimum 30' ceiling height.
- Dropdown batting cages for baseball/softball.
- Approximate 40,000-square foot facility.

Building on these market supportable program findings and based on conversations with the study group (representatives of the Elmhurst Park District and the City of Elmhurst), the following three facility scenarios were identified for further analysis:

Scenario 1: Hardcourt Sportsplex

Scenario 2: Hardcourt Sportsplex Plus Turf

Scenario 3: Ice Complex

Scenarios 1 and 2 involve a potential Indoor Sports Facility that is focused around a facility with a hardwood sports surface, with Scenario 2 consisting of a larger facility with an added area of turf space. Scenario 3 would represent an ice complex only, with two sheets of ice.

### Estimated Utilization

A detailed utilization model was developed to consider a large number of variables and inputs to analyze each sport/use for each facility development scenario under review. For instance, when considering different types of usage (i.e., use from local leagues/clubs versus non-local tournaments/meets versus clinics/camps/lessons versus open recreation, etc.), separate assumptions were used for the development of usage and attendance (participants and spectators).

As an initial step in assessing the projected utilization associated with a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility, a detailed analysis was conducted to estimate existing use, participation and attendance for each potential development scenarios under consideration. Next, based on discussions with local sports organizations, regional and national tournament organizers, a review of sports participation trends, and a review of the historical utilization levels of comparable facilities we have developed an estimation of incremental induced market demand for the recommended indoor sports facility in Elmhurst, assuming the program scenarios as previously outlined.

This analysis focuses on the net inducement of new/expanded local and non-local sports league and tournament play in Elmhurst by virtue of the development of the proposed new Indoor Sports Facility as outlined earlier in this chapter. A portion of this new induced market will be accommodated at the new Indoor Sports Facility, while others will be accommodated at other local facilities through the assumption of new periods of availability as some existing demand shifts to the new Facility. Therefore, the incremental induced demand reflects the net effect in the Elmhurst marketplace as a result of the recommended Indoor Facility development and annual operation.

The utilization assumptions assume the facility is managed by professional, competent and experience facility management personnel that will promote events in keeping with the Park District's and City's goals of community involvement and economic impact.

Based on the results of the analysis, Exhibit 1 presents a summary of estimated utilization and attendance by identified scenario. Estimates relate to a stabilized year of operations (assumed to represent the fourth full year of operations).

**Exhibit 1**  
**Estimated Utilization and Attendance by Scenario**

	SCENARIO 1 Hardcourt Sportsplex	SCENARIO 2 Hardcourt Plus Turf	SCENARIO 3 Ice Complex
<b>Tournaments</b>			
Annual Tournaments	30	40	16
Average Teams per Tournament	32	28	14
Total Annual Teams	960	1,120	224
Players Per Team	10	12	18
Spectators Per Player	2.0	2.0	2.0
Average Days Per Tournament	2.1	2.1	2.1
Total Annual Attendance	60,480	84,672	25,402
Percent Elmhurst Teams/Residents	40%	40%	40%
Percent Non-Resident Day Trippers	25%	25%	25%
Percent Non-Residents Overnight Stay	35%	35%	35%
Total Elmhurst Resident Attendance	24,192	33,869	10,161
Total Day Trippers	15,120	21,168	6,350
Total Overnight Guests	21,168	29,635	8,891
<b>Leagues</b>			
Number of League Sessions	24	32	--
Avg. Number of Teams per Session	24	22	--
Total Annual Teams	576	704	--
Games Per Session	10	10	--
Total Annual Team Games	5,760	7,040	--
Players Per Team	10	12	--
Spectators Per Player	0.5	0.5	--
Total Annual Attendance	86,400	126,720	--
Number of League Hours	--	--	4,400
Avg. Participants & Spectators Per Hour	--	--	35
Total Annual Attendance	--	--	154,000
Percent Elmhurst Residents	60%	60%	60%
Percent Non-Resident Day Trippers	40%	40%	40%
Percent Non-Residents Overnight Stay	0%	0%	0%
Total Elmhurst Resident Attendance	51,840	76,032	92,400
Total Day Trippers	34,560	50,688	61,600
Total Overnight Guests	0	0	0
<b>Lessons/Clinics/Misc.</b>			
Number of Hours	4,500	5,700	4,000
Avg. Participants & Spectators Per Hour	15	15	15
Total Annual Attendance	67,500	85,500	60,000
Percent Elmhurst Residents	60%	60%	60%
Percent Non-Resident Day Trippers	30%	30%	30%
Percent Non-Residents Overnight Stay	10%	10%	10%
Total Elmhurst Resident Attendance	40,500	51,300	36,000
Total Day Trippers	20,250	25,650	18,000
Total Overnight Guests	6,750	8,550	6,000

Exhibit 2 presents a summary of total estimated attendance and attendee origin associated with the three identified development scenarios. As shown, upon stabilization (assumed fourth year of operations), the potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility is estimated to attract between 214,000 and 297,000 attendees annually, depending on scenario. While each scenario is expected to generate significant visitation and new hotel room nights for Elmhurst through non-local activity, more than half of the estimated attendance under each scenarios is expected to consist of utilization by Elmhurst residents.

**Exhibit 2**  
**Total Estimated Attendance by Scenario**

	SCENARIO 1 Hardcourt Sportsplex	SCENARIO 2 Hardcourt Plus Turf	SCENARIO 3 Ice Complex
<b>ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE</b>			
Local:			
Elmhurst Residents	116,532	161,201	138,561
Non-Local:			
Non-Resident Day Trippers (Tournaments)	15,120	21,168	6,350
Non-Resident Day Trippers (Other)	54,810	76,338	79,600
Non-Resident Overnight Stay	<u>27,918</u>	<u>38,185</u>	<u>14,891</u>
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>214,380</b>	<b>296,892</b>	<b>239,402</b>
<b>ESTIMATED HOTEL ROOMS</b>			
<b>Total Hotel Room Nights</b>	<b>11,167</b>	<b>15,274</b>	<b>5,956</b>

Note: 'Other' Day Trippers refers to non-Elmhurst resident attendees of leagues, lessons, clinics, etc.

## 7.0 COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS

Based on the results of the market demand and utilization analysis, a cost/benefit analysis was conducted relating to potential construction and operating costs and estimated economic impacts associated with each of the three identified scenarios for a new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. A detailed utilization, economic and financial model was developed to consider a large number of variables and inputs to analyze each sport/use for each facility component under review. For instance, when considering different types of usage (i.e., use from local leagues/clubs versus non-local tournaments/meets versus clinics/camps/lessons versus open recreation, etc.), separate assumptions were used for the development of usage, attendance, rates, fees, and in- and out-of-facility spending estimates.

### Estimated Costs

The purpose of this section is to estimate the key costs (operating and construction) associated with a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. Estimates are presented in 2016 dollars.

### *Financial Operations*

An analysis of estimated operating revenues and expenses associated with each of the three identified scenarios for a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility was conducted. Since detailed facility design, configuration and cost estimates have not yet been completed, the assumptions used in this analysis are based on the results of the market analysis, industry trends, knowledge of the marketplace and financial results from comparable facilities. Additional physical development planning must be completed before more precise estimations of the potential Facility's operating costs can be made, and likewise, estimates of construction costs. Also, upon completion of further planning, revenue and expense assumptions should be updated to reflect changes to the assumptions made herein. These changes could significantly affect the analysis of future operating results.

This presentation is designed to assist project representatives in estimating the financial attributes of the potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility and cannot be considered to be a presentation of expected future results. Accordingly, this analysis may not be useful for any other purpose. The assumptions disclosed herein are not all inclusive, but are those deemed to be significant; however, there will be differences between estimated and actual results, because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected, and these differences may be material.

The majority of major sports and recreation complexes of this nature involve public sector funding participation (both in terms of construction and operations). Most of the facilities throughout the country similar to each of the three scenarios identified herein operate at an annual financial deficit. Non-operating direct support could come from a variety of sources including public sector support (i.e. general funds, dedicated tax proceeds, etc.), grants, philanthropy and other such sources. A typical cost recovery for comparable indoor sports/rec facilities ranges between 50 to 70 percent of total operating costs.

Those indoor sports facilities that are privately-owned and operated throughout the country typically employ unique marketing and booking strategies that maximize operating revenue and minimize operating expenses. For instance, most offer significant in-house programming, clinics, lessons and other such activities. These facilities also tend not to pursue and accommodate significant non-local



tournaments/competitions/meets, thereby resulting in lower economic impact generation for the local community, nor do they typically offer affordable usage for open recreation, schools or non-profits.

Operating revenues and expenses for a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility have been estimated for the three scenarios. Exhibit 1 presents the estimated annual financial operating results for the potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility for a stabilized year of operations (assumed to occur by the fourth full year of operations), presented in 2016 dollars. Additionally, the estimates below do not include any "non-operating" items, such as debt service or capital repair/replacement funding.

**Exhibit 1**  
**Estimated Annual Financial Operating Results by Scenario**  
**(stabilized year of operation, in 2016 dollars)**

	SCENARIO 1 Hardcourt Sportsplex	SCENARIO 2 Hardcourt Plus Turf	SCENARIO 3 Ice Complex
<b>Operating Revenues</b>			
League, Practice, Rec Rentals	\$812,000	\$1,047,000	\$975,000
Tournament Rental Income	\$247,000	\$324,000	\$130,000
Camps and Clinics	\$188,000	\$254,000	\$188,000
Sponsorship	\$260,000	\$296,000	\$200,000
Concessions (Net)	\$302,000	\$380,000	\$295,000
Other Revenue	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$135,000
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$1,859,000</b>	<b>\$2,376,000</b>	<b>\$1,923,000</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Salaries & Wages	\$434,000	\$556,000	\$475,000
League Operations/Programming	\$311,000	\$392,000	\$220,000
Utilities	\$294,000	\$347,000	\$610,000
Repairs & Maintenance	\$137,000	\$182,000	\$240,000
Materials and Supplies	\$98,000	\$134,000	\$150,000
Insurance	\$274,000	\$301,000	\$280,000
General & Administrative	\$162,000	\$194,000	\$150,000
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,710,000</b>	<b>\$2,106,000</b>	<b>\$2,125,000</b>
<b>Net Operating Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$149,000</b>	<b>\$270,000</b>	<b>(\$202,000)</b>

As shown in the exhibit, upon stabilization and not including debt service, a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility (under Scenarios 1 and 2) is estimated to generate an operating profit of approximately \$149,000 and \$270,000 per annum, respectively. Under Scenario 3, a potential new Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility (consisting of a two-sheet ice complex) is estimated to generate an annual operating loss of approximately \$202,000 per annum. This type of annual operating loss is consistent with or better than comparable ice arena facilities located throughout the country.

## Construction Costs

An analysis was conducted associated with order-of-magnitude hard construction costs pursuant to the supportable building program elements presented earlier herein. Site costs (acquisition and preparation) have not been included in this analysis.

Construction costs tend to vary widely among comparable sports facility projects. Many variables exist that influence actual realized construction costs, including type of facility, size, components, level of finish, integrated amenities, costs of goods and services in the local market, location and topography of the site, ingress/egress issues, and other such aspects. Importantly, a detailed architectural concept, design and costing study would be required to specifically estimate construction costs for a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

Exhibit 2 presents a summary of assumed construction costs associated with each of the development scenarios considered for this study.

**Exhibit 2**  
**Hypothetical Order-of-Magnitude Construction Costs by Scenario**  
**(in 2016 dollars)**

	SCENARIO 1 Hardcourt Sportsplex	SCENARIO 2 Hardcourt Plus Turf	SCENARIO 3 Ice Complex
<b>Construction Costs</b> (order-of-magnitude, excluding site)			
<i>Gross square feet</i>	100,000	150,000	85,000
<i>Cost per GSF</i>	\$175	\$165	\$215
<i>Soft cost rate</i>	30%	30%	30%
Hard costs	\$17,500,000	\$24,750,000	\$18,275,000
Soft costs	\$5,250,000	\$7,425,000	\$5,482,500
<b>Total construction</b>	<b>\$22,750,000</b>	<b>\$32,175,000</b>	<b>\$23,757,500</b>

Order-of-magnitude construction costs (excluding site costs) for a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility are estimated to range between \$22.8 million and \$32.2 million (in 2016 dollars).

## Estimated Benefits

While many of the perceived benefits of a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility are intangible, including providing enhanced sports and recreation participation opportunities for local youths and stimulating community pride among other qualitative benefits, the annual operations of the potential Facility can provide quantifiable benefits to an area. Specifically, the annually recurring impacts of an amateur sports and recreation facility begin with the initial direct spending made during operations related to participant fees, camps, clinics, facility rentals, concessions, advertising and other income as well as expenditures made before and after events throughout local hotels, restaurants, retail, entertainment and other establishments.

## *Direct Spending*

The operation of a state-of-the-industry sports and recreation facility can impact the local economy in a variety of ways. Initial direct spending is generated during construction on materials and labor and during operations at events on registration fees, facility rentals, concessions and advertising, as well as before and after events throughout local hotel, restaurant, retail and other establishments.

In order to estimate the incremental economic impact benefits generated to the local economy, certain adjustments must be made to initial direct spending to reflect the fact that all spending is not likely to impact the local economy. Adjustments must be made to account for the fact that a certain amount of spending associated with the potential Facility will be made by local residents and, therefore, likely represents money already spent in the economy in another form. This phenomenon is called displacement and reduces the overall net new impacts. This type of spending is not considered net new to the local economy. Additionally, not all spending associated with the potential Facility will take place in the local economy. A portion of this spending is likely to occur outside the immediate area. This phenomenon is called leakage and reduces the overall impact.

The economic impacts presented in this section represent the estimated net new impacts associated with a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

## *Multiplier Effects*

Economic impacts associated with the potential Facility will likely be further increased through re-spending of the net new direct spending. The total impact is estimated by applying an economic multiplier to initial direct spending to account for the total economic impact. The total output multiplier is used to estimate the aggregate total spending that takes place beginning with the direct spending and continuing through each successive round of re-spending.

Successive rounds of re-spending are generally discussed in terms of their indirect and induced effects on the area economy. Each is discussed in more detail as follows:

- Indirect effects consist of the re-spending of the initial or direct expenditures. These indirect impacts extend further as the dollars constituting the direct expenditures continue to change hands. This process, in principle, could continue indefinitely. However, recipients of these expenditures may spend all or part of it on goods and services outside the market area, put part of these earnings into savings, or pay taxes. This spending halts the process of subsequent expenditure flows and does not generate additional spending or impact within the community after a period of time. This progression is termed leakage and reduces the overall economic impact. Indirect impacts occur in a number of areas including the following:
  - wholesale industry as purchases of food and merchandise products are made;
  - transportation industry as the products are shipped from purchaser to buyer;
  - manufacturing industry as products used to service the sports and recreation facility, sports franchise(s), vendors and others are produced;
  - utility industry as the power to produce goods and services is consumed; and
  - other such industries.
- Induced effects consist of the positive changes in spending, employment, earnings and tax collections generated by personal income associated with the operations of a sports facility.

Specifically, as the economic impact process continues, wages and salaries are earned, increased employment and population are generated, and spending occurs in virtually all business, household and governmental sectors. This represents the induced spending impacts generated by direct expenditures.

The appropriate multipliers to be used are dependent upon certain regional characteristics and also the nature of the expenditure. An area which is capable of producing a wide range of goods and services within its border will have high multipliers, a positive correlation existing between the self-sufficiency of an area's economy and the higher probability of re-spending occurring within the region. If a high proportion of the expenditures must be imported from another geographical region, lower multipliers will result. The multiplier estimates used in this analysis are based on the IMPLAN system, which is currently used by hundreds of universities and government entities throughout the country. IMPLAN is a computer program that performs regional input-output analysis based on approximately 530 industry interrelationships.

### *Estimated Economic Impacts*

Exhibit 3 presents the estimated annual economic impacts associated with the three identified development scenarios for a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility.

**Exhibit 3**  
**Estimated Annual Economic Impact by Scenario**  
**(stabilized year of operations, in 2016 dollars)**

	SCENARIO 1 Hardcourt Sportsplex	SCENARIO 2 Hardcourt Plus Turf	SCENARIO 3 Ice Complex
Direct Spending by Type			
Hotel	\$1,908,036	\$2,645,978	\$1,966,399
Restaurant/Meals	3,816,072	5,291,957	3,932,797
Entertainment/Leisure	513,702	712,379	529,415
Retail/Shopping	880,632	1,221,221	907,569
Other	<u>220,158</u>	<u>305,305</u>	<u>226,892</u>
Total	\$7,338,600	\$10,176,840	\$7,563,072
Indirect/Induced Spending	<u>\$4,549,932</u>	<u>\$6,309,641</u>	<u>\$4,689,105</u>
Total Economic Output	\$11,888,532	\$16,486,481	\$12,252,177
Personal Earnings	\$5,944,266	\$8,243,240	\$6,126,088
Employment (full & part-time jobs)	153	212	158

As presented in the exhibit, the estimated total output (direct spending plus indirect/induced spending) for a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility in a stabilized year of operations (assumed fourth full year of operation) is estimated to range between approximately \$11.9 million and \$16.5 million per annum (in 2016 dollars), depending on the scenario. Additionally, this spending is estimated to annually support

between \$5.9 million and \$8.2 million in earnings (or personal income) in the local Elmhurst economy, along with between 153 and 212 full and part-time jobs throughout the Elmhurst economy, depending on the scenario.

### *Non-Quantifiable Impacts*

In addition to the more quantifiable benefits, some benefits related to the operations of a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility cannot be quantitatively measured. Firstly, the estimated quantitative impacts (outlined in the previous section) of the potential facility in Elmhurst do not include benefits that may be generated from other private sector developments surrounding the Facility such as hotel, restaurant, other retail, and entertainment establishments.

Additionally, other potential qualitative benefits for Elmhurst and its residents could include:

- Enhanced sports and recreation opportunities for local youths and adults;
- Reduction in the need for residents to leave Elmhurst for sports and recreation activities;
- Synergy with the other sports, recreation, entertainment and leisure facilities leading to increased tourism activity;
- Enhanced community pride, self-image, exposure and reputation; and
- Enhanced regional exposure.

These quantifiable economic impacts (through driving new visitation and associated new spending and tax revenue generation) and non-quantifiable benefits are often cited as reasons for upfront and ongoing funding participation in these types of facility projects by the public sector in many communities throughout the country.

## 8.0 FUNDING ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

The purpose of this chapter is to summarize various public and private sector funding opportunities that could represent potential sources of funding to develop a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility and meet any on-going operating requirements and capital reserves. The funding analysis presented herein is not intended to be an exhaustive review of all potential funding sources, but rather a review of the most likely funding sources that may be available specific to this project based on discussions with Elmhurst Park District, City of Elmhurst and other local stakeholders, as well as comparable sports complex funding sources.

### Typical Public Sector Funding Sources

While there are a variety of public sector funding vehicles and revenue sources that have been used in the financing of amateur sports facility projects in communities throughout the country, a large percentage are owned by the public sector and had original or expansion construction funding provided through municipal capital project funding (i.e., transfers from a City's General Fund or Capital Projects Fund, etc.) or through the issuance of General Obligation or Revenue bonds. Types of financing/funding vehicles that are commonly used in amateur sports facility projects throughout the country include:

- General Obligation Bonds
- Revenue Bonds
- Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
- Pay-As-You-Go Financing
- Certificates of Participation
- State/Federal Assistance
- Private/Public Equity & Grants

Under situations where bonds have been issued, debt service is often supported by local tax revenue, which has tended to include the following:

- Sales and use taxes
- Property taxes
- Hotel/motel taxes
- Restaurant/food & beverage taxes
- Sin taxes (alcohol, cigarette, etc.)
- Admissions/entertainment taxes

The types of financing mechanisms typically used in funding venues like the potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility are summarized on the following pages.



## *Funding/Financing Vehicles*

### Revenue Bonds

A frequently used method of sports complex financing is the issuance of revenue bonds. Revenue bonds are special obligations issued by municipalities, counties, and states for which payment is dependent upon revenues generated by the project. The issuer of the bonds pledges to the bondholders the revenues generated by the project being financed. No pledge of state or local ad valorem tax revenues is required; however, other taxes (e.g., sales/use tax, hotel/motel tax, tax increment financing) may be assessed and/or pledged in whole or in part by a municipality or by the state, often with legislative or voter approval, to provide funds necessary to pay off the revenue bond offering.

The major disadvantage associated with revenue bonds relates to interest rates that are typically higher than those associated with general obligation bonds. This is largely due to the fact that revenue bonds are not backed by the full faith and credit of the issuing entity. In addition, funding of a debt service reserve and other credit enhancement out of bond proceeds makes the required bond size larger with higher annual debt service payments.

Revenue bond financing may be structured in such a way that payments may be tied to a lower variable rate in the initial years of operation and converted to a higher fixed rate in later years. This is often advantageous in situations where the particular revenue stream or streams that are pledged to bond debt service are expected to increase annually.

### General Obligation Bonds

General obligation (GO) bonds are backed by a pledge of ad valorem taxes of the issuer. This pledge is generally supported by a commitment from the issuer to repay the principal and interest through whatever means may be necessary, including levying additional taxes. The advantages associated with general obligation bonds revolve around the strength of the credit. The issuance of general obligation bonds typically results in a simple financing that lowers the cost of issuance and reduces the bond size, since a debt service reserve fund is often not required. Also, the strength of the pledge provides a higher credit rating and, therefore, a lower cost of financing a project.

Similar to revenue bonds, general obligation bond financing may also be structured with a lower variable interest rate in the early years of the project with conversion to a fixed rate in later years; however, this could require legislation to be enacted. The primary disadvantage associated with general obligation bonds is that the bonding capacity for other capital needs is reduced. Projects financed with general obligation bonds typically need voter approval. The public may perceive a project, such as a sports complex, as less essential than improved streets, libraries, or fire and police protection, especially if it will necessitate property tax increases. However, based on the results of the Community Survey, as discussed in a previous chapter, the public support for investing in the development of these facilities is encouraging.

## *Debt Service Support Mechanisms*

### Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District

While substantial project funding could be achieved with a property tax increase, this type of funding source has often proved difficult to secure in other communities. Another approach involving the use of property taxes to fund sports facility development is the establishment of tax increment financing (TIF) districts. A TIF district essentially involves capturing assessed valuation growth within a specific area (i.e. TIF district) related to a particular development. TIF often requires enactment of legislation by the State legislature. Typically, a redevelopment agency delineates a project area and declares a base year. The existing base-assessed valuation is taxed as before by each overlapping taxing entity covering a portion of the project area. The additional assessed valuation, added to the tax rolls over the base, is taxed at the same rate as the base valuation. However, the tax revenues attributed to the new incremental assessed valuation are remitted to the redevelopment agency and used to pay debt service. This is accomplished without an increase in the property tax rate paid by local residents and businesses.

The City of Elmhurst currently has four active TIF districts, including: I) Central Business District – expected to close in 2021; II) Lake Street District – expected to close in 2016; III) Route 83/St. Charles District – expected to close in 2019; and, IV) North York Street District – expected to close in 2035. Three of the four districts are operating with a positive fund balance (incremental tax revenue collections have exceeded debt service payments), with the excess balance held in reserve for future capital improvements and debt service payments. A fifth district is proposed for Church Road/Lake Street.

### Hotel/Motel Taxes

There are several industries and geographic areas that could benefit directly and indirectly as a result of activity generated by potential indoor sports facilities. For example, the hotel/motel industry is directly affected by the room nights, room revenue and other hotel spending of tournament, competition or meet attendees and their traveling parties that require an overnight stay in Elmhurst. Currently, the total effective hotel tax in Elmhurst is 10.0 percent, which includes a 4.0 percent assessment that goes to the City of Elmhurst. Currently, City of Elmhurst tax collections are estimated at \$420,000 annually. An increase of 1.0 percent hotel/motel tax assessed within Elmhurst properties would be expected to generate approximately \$100,000 annually that could be allocated to debt service and/or ongoing operations.

### Potential Private Sector Participation and Other Revenue Sources

In recent years, a growing number of communities have explored ways in which the private sector can participate in reducing the overall funding burden borne by the public sector. This participation has taken the form of: (1) naming rights; (2) sponsorships; (3) upfront service provider fees and facility component build-outs; (4) exclusive facility use agreements; and (5) private donations of capital and/or land.

Each of these opportunities for private sector participation in funding the facility should be evaluated. Given the potential costs for construction and the annual costs to operate, such private sector participation may be a necessary component of a successful project.

## Naming Rights and Sponsorships

Naming rights and other unique sponsorships have been increasingly used in funding amateur sports facilities in recent years. Naming rights agreements typically consist of a local corporation paying a fee upfront and/or over a series of consecutive years in exchange for the use of their company's name for the entire facility or various components of it. Naming rights agreements are much more prevalent with professional sports facilities than with other event facilities such as amateur sports facilities. This is primarily attributable to typically much greater exposure potential at professional sports facilities (i.e., national broadcast coverage of events, exposure through other forms of media, millions of annual spectators, etc.). However, corporate value propositions have been increasingly identified for youth sports facilities through health and wellness partnerships and sports apparel retailers, among others.

Some examples of naming rights agreements and sponsorships for youth sports facilities include the following:

- \$2 million over five years for the Discovery Center (Germantown, MD)
- \$1.9 million over ten years for the UW Health Sports Sports Factory (Rockford, IL)
- \$1.5 million for the Cownie Soccer Park (Des Moines, IA)
- \$1.5 million for Toyota of Lewisville Railroad Park (Lewisville, TX)
- \$925,000 over three years for WakeMed Park (Cary, NC)
- \$625,000 over five years at Overland Park Soccer Complex (Overland Park, KS)
- \$500,000 over five years for Bakersfield Soccer Village (Bakersfield, CA)

Based on a review of naming rights revenue generated at other comparable sports complexes and a review of the depth and breadth of the local corporate community, it is estimated that an additional \$500,000 to \$1.75 million could be raised (approximately \$50,000 to \$175,000 annually over ten years) from a comprehensive naming rights program for potential indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst.

## Upfront Service Provider Fees and Facility Component Build-outs

The sale of sports complex pouring rights could provide a meaningful source of annual revenue for the proposed complex. For example, WakeMed Park in Cary, North Carolina signed a three-year, \$50,000 contract with Pepsi for the pouring rights to its sports complex. FieldHouse USA in Frisco, TX, signed a 10-year pouring rights agreement with Coke, worth approximately \$200,000 annually (substantially exceeds industry standards). These funds typically are earmarked to fund ongoing facility operations and not toward upfront project funding.

## Facility Use Agreements

In certain communities, there may be organizations or institutions that have a need for regular and ongoing usage at indoor sports facilities. IC Prep may be a potential candidate for such a partnership in which it may be possible to negotiate up front funding or advance rental payments in exchange for guaranteed use of the facility during certain times of the year. Additionally, Edwards-Elmhurst Health may also be a partner candidate; however, based on conversations with representatives, their level of interest would largely be predicated on the Facility's inclusion of "wellness-oriented" facilities and programming (such as aquatics therapy and/or fitness/membership amenities). Such corporations or institutions may also be involved in the actual design of the event facility to help ensure that their facility needs are addressed.

### Private Donations of Capital and/or Land

Certain communities have succeeded in historical fundraising efforts for various public projects. In these instances, a few high-profile, community-oriented wealthy individuals have provided private donations of capital and/or land to help defray public sector development costs.

Private donations from philanthropic individuals and organizations are often critical in the fundraising efforts for theaters. Local capital campaigns (many times via the establishment of a dedicated endowment fund) tend to be instrumental in establishing seed money and demonstrating local interest in a project. It is suggested that attempts be made to identify seed money of this nature if a determination to pursue development of indoor sports facilities is made.

### Registration Fee Surcharge

A potential source of private sector funding for potential new indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst could include a registration fee surcharge that would be applied in addition to tournament participation fees imposed by third-party organizers. As an example, James W. Cownie Soccer Park in Des Moines, IA implemented a \$4.00 registration fee surcharge to help fund project costs for the facility.

### Parking Fee

Another potential funding source, similar to a registration surcharge, would be the implementation of a parking fee for individuals who take advantage of on-site parking during league and tournament events held at Elmhurst indoor sports facilities. For purposes of this analysis, it is estimated that parking fees would be bonded to provide upfront project cost funding.

### Funding Conclusions and Recommendations

An analysis was conducted to evaluate potential funding sources for a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. A variety of funding sources were considered. It should be noted that the list of sources is by no means intended to be exhaustive or cumulative in nature. Rather, the funding analysis developed herein was intended to identify the most typical or likely sources of project funding based on a review of comparable facilities and the resources that may be specifically available in the local market. The ultimate financing structure of a facility is dependent on political, economic and other issues of various parties that may be involved in developing a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility. In some markets, the public sector has the ability to finance a substantial portion of the project cost, while in other markets it does not. The same is true of the private sector.

Conversations with City of Elmhurst and Elmhurst Park District representatives have indicated that General Obligation bonding is likely the most viable source of funding for developing a potential new Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst. This funding would be backed by the full faith and credit of the City and/or the Park District. While a property tax revenue increase is an option, it is not the only viable mechanism for generating the annual revenue necessary for debt service. Developing a TIF district or extending an existing district nearing closure may provide a significant source of annual revenue. An important consideration will be the ultimate site selected for one or more indoor sports facilities, as it will be important to ensure that attendance and activity generated by sports facility operations would reasonably be expected to impact activity within the designated district.

Another potential source of funding would be through an increase in the City's collection of the hotel/motel tax. As discussed, the total effective hotel/motel tax rate is currently at 10 percent, and a one percent increase is expected to generate approximately \$100,000 annually. As with TIF district funding, it will be important to consider the type of event activity within a potential Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility, specifically whether a significant enough portion of utilization will be generated from individuals requiring an overnight stay. Additionally, site selection for any potential new indoor sports facility may have a significant impact on this potential funding source, as locating a facility too close to hotel properties outside the Elmhurst city limits may limit the overall impact realized by local hotel/motel operators.

Lastly, naming rights sales have been increasingly utilized for amateur sports facility development and/or ongoing operational funding. One example is the recently opened UW Health Sports Factory in Rockford, Illinois that is collecting \$175,000 annually with payments inflated annually to arrive at a ten-year private investment of \$1.9 million. Fully vetting potential private funding partners such as Edward-Elmhurst Health, local sporting goods retailers or other such private sector partners could provide important funding assistance. Important considerations will include, but not be limited to, the nature of the facility, the potential local and non-local reach of leagues, tournaments, clinics, camps and competition, ancillary facilities that may be developed within the venue and the potential opportunity for the funding partner to have increased access to the venue.

As discussed, these partnerships may extend beyond the private sector. Consideration of partnerships with Elmhurst College, IC Prep or other local educational institutions may provide an opportunity to minimize the funding burden on the private sector. One example of a potential partnership opportunity would be for the City and/or Park District to participate in construction funding, while the educational institution would operate the facility without requiring public assistance for ongoing financial operations. Another opportunity may be to enter into an agreement for upfront payment of rent to provide an infusion of upfront funds for debt service. In either scenario, it will be critical that the City, Park District and/or educational institution enter into a use agreement that would guarantee access and rates for both parties. Both options provide opportunities to mitigate some of the risk that would be incurred by the public sector, while raising the overall profile of the facility/facilities by providing an opportunity to attract regular high school and/or collegiate games, tournaments and competitions.

Lastly, consideration could be given to partnering with a private equity partner who would assume the majority burden of construction funding and operating risk. One example of this is Bo Jackson Elite Sports, operated by Sports Facilities Management (SFM). This is a privately built facility consisting of a 115,000-square foot hard/soft indoor facility, with a focus on turf fields. If it were to be developed in Elmhurst, such a facility would ideally be co-located at larger complex (i.e., next to courts facility and/or ice complex). Public contribution would be limited (from as little as land, to land plus incentives, depending on negotiations and outcome/use expectations), opportunity to leverage \$7.0 million or more in private investment. While this model may not be optimized for maximizing the accommodation of the types of local league play and recreational opportunities desired by the Park District and City, midweek access for local clubs and organizations could be protected through upfront negotiations. Additionally, the consolidated private management of a larger complex (i.e., the privately-led turf facility plus a publicly-led courts facility and/or ice complex) could be an opportunity to further defray public sector costs and enhance outcomes.

## APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION



## APPENDIX B: COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

## Appendix B: Community Survey Results

Elmhurst Indoor Sports Facility Online Survey

Summary of Quantified Responses and Verbatim Open-Ended Responses

Survey Date: June 22, 2016 through July 7, 2016

Total Responses: 767

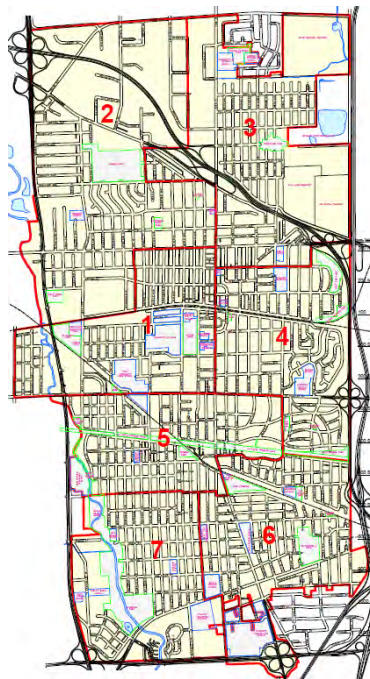
### A. Survey Questionnaire

Thank you for your interest in this community survey to identify whether there is a need for improved community indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst. Conventions, Sports and Leisure International is a consulting firm that is assisting the City of Elmhurst and the Elmhurst Park District with a market demand and feasibility analysis for an Indoor Sports Facility in Elmhurst.

This survey is seeking your feedback on which, if any, components of a new indoor sports facility would best serve the needs of the community. Your participation in this survey is very important so that informed decisions can be made regarding the potential for developing and operating new indoor sport facilities.

Please be as candid with your responses as possible and know that the information you provide will NOT be added to any type of sales-related database and we will not attribute your name, email address or other contact information to the overall results. Thank you in advance for your feedback.

1. Please click on the map where you live, or specify the City of Elmhurst ward in which you reside.  
If you live outside of the City of Elmhurst, please specify your zip code.



- a. Ward 1
- b. Ward 2
- c. Ward 3
- d. Ward 4
- e. Ward 5
- f. Ward 6
- g. Ward 7
- h. Outside of Elmhurst  
(please specify zip code)

2. In an effort to exclude you from future distributions of this survey, please provide your email address:
  
3. Please indicate your age
  - a. Under 18
  - b. 18 to 24
  - c. 25 to 34
  - d. 35 to 44
  - e. 45 to 54
  - f. 55 to 64
  - g. 65 to 74
  - h. 75 or older
  
4. How many members are there in your household?
  - a. 1
  - b. 2
  - c. 3
  - d. 4
  - e. 5 or more
  
5. Please indicate the number of family members within your household that fall into the following age ranges (total should equal the number indicated above):
  - a. 6 and under
  - b. 7 to 11
  - c. 12 to 17
  - d. 18 to 24
  - e. 25 to 34
  - f. 35 to 44
  - g. 45 to 54
  - h. 55 to 64
  - i. 65 to 74
  - j. 75 or older
  
6. Do you and/or members of your household currently use any Elmhurst **indoor** sport facilities such as: gymnasiums (for basketball, volleyball, wrestling, gymnastics, dance, etc.), aquatics or other indoor sport facilities?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No (skip to question 8)
  
7. Please list the names of the facilities you currently utilize in Elmhurst. **(OPEN ENDED)**

8. What are your thoughts on the indoor sports facilities currently available in Elmhurst? **(OPEN ENDED)**
9. Do you and/or members of your household currently use any indoor facilities outside of Elmhurst (i.e., Villa Park, Bensenville, Addison, Westmont, Downers Grove, etc.) such as: gymnasiums (for basketball, volleyball, wrestling, gymnastics, dance, etc.), turf facilities, ice-skating, aquatics, or other indoor sport facilities?
- a. Yes
  - b. No (skip to question 12)
10. Please list the names of the facilities you currently utilize outside of Elmhurst. **(OPEN ENDED)**
11. What are your thoughts on the indoor sports facilities currently available outside of Elmhurst? **(OPEN ENDED)**
12. New indoor facilities are being considered for Elmhurst that could potentially incorporate amenities such as indoor gymnasium space, indoor turf, indoor ice sheet(s) and/or an indoor pool/aquatic center. How would you describe your attitude towards new indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst offering the following amenities?

<u><b>Gymnasium Space</b></u>	<u><b>Indoor Turf</b></u>	<u><b>Ice Rink(s)</b></u>	<u><b>Pool/Natatorium</b></u>
5. Very Positive	5. Very Positive	5. Very Positive	5. Very Positive
4. Somewhat Positive	4. Somewhat Positive	4. Somewhat Positive	4. Somewhat Positive
3. Neutral	3. Neutral	3. Neutral	3. Neutral
2. Somewhat Negative	2. Somewhat Negative	2. Somewhat Negative	2. Somewhat Negative
1. Very Negative	1. Very Negative	1. Very Negative	1. Very Negative

13. Why do you feel this way? **(OPEN ENDED)**

14. What mechanisms would you support to fund potential new indoor sports facilities **(Check all that apply)**?

- ☐ Property Tax Increase
- ☐ User Fees
- ☐ Tournament Rental Revenues
- ☐ Other (Please specify) **(OPEN ENDED)**

15. What are your thoughts on these and other potential mechanisms to support the development and ongoing operations of a potential new indoor sports facility? **(OPEN ENDED)**

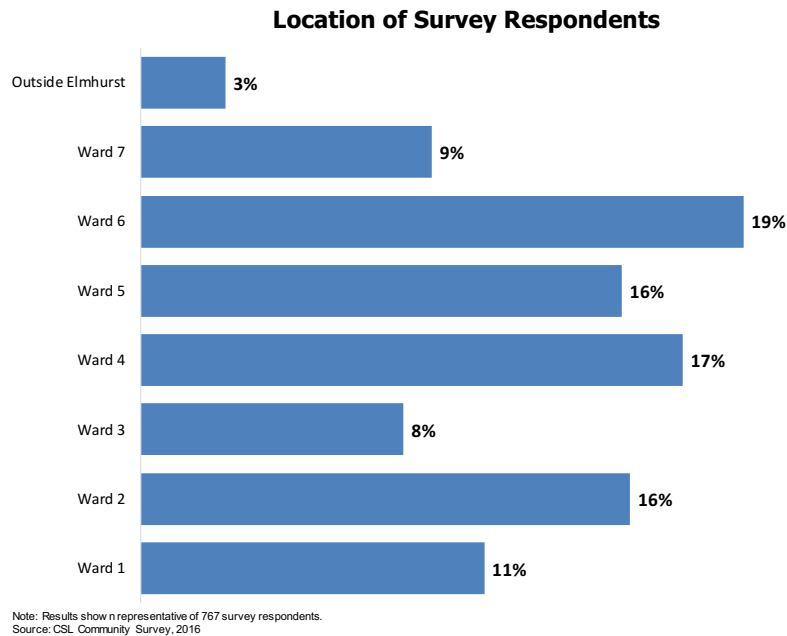
16. What other thoughts or suggestions do you have regarding potential new indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst? **(OPEN ENDED)**

Splash page:

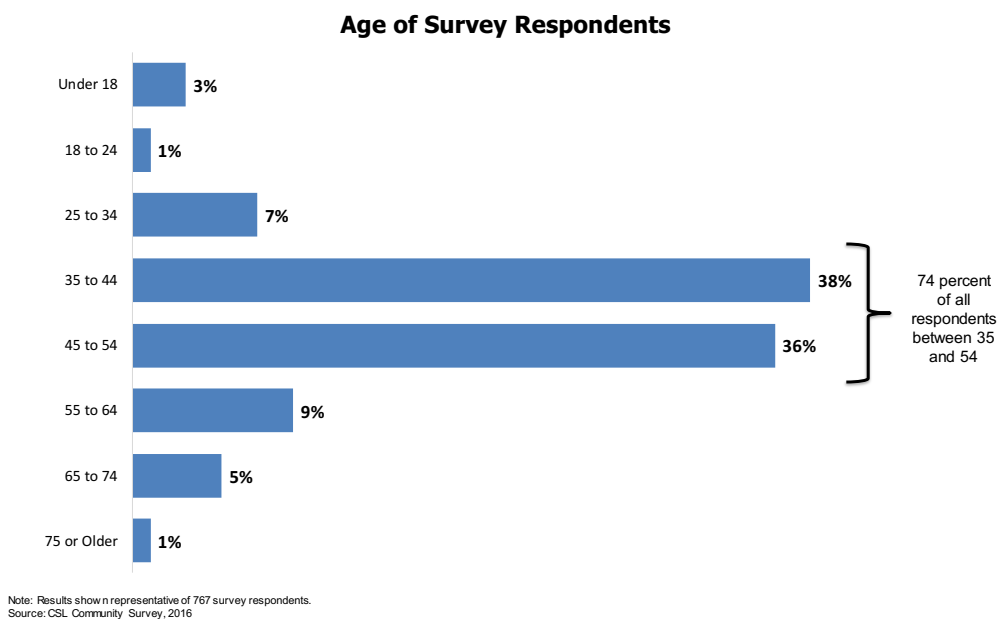
[www.epd.org](http://www.epd.org)

## B. Summary of Quantified Responses

Q1: Please click on the map where you live, or specify the City of Elmhurst ward in which you reside. If you live outside of the City of Elmhurst, please specify your zip code.

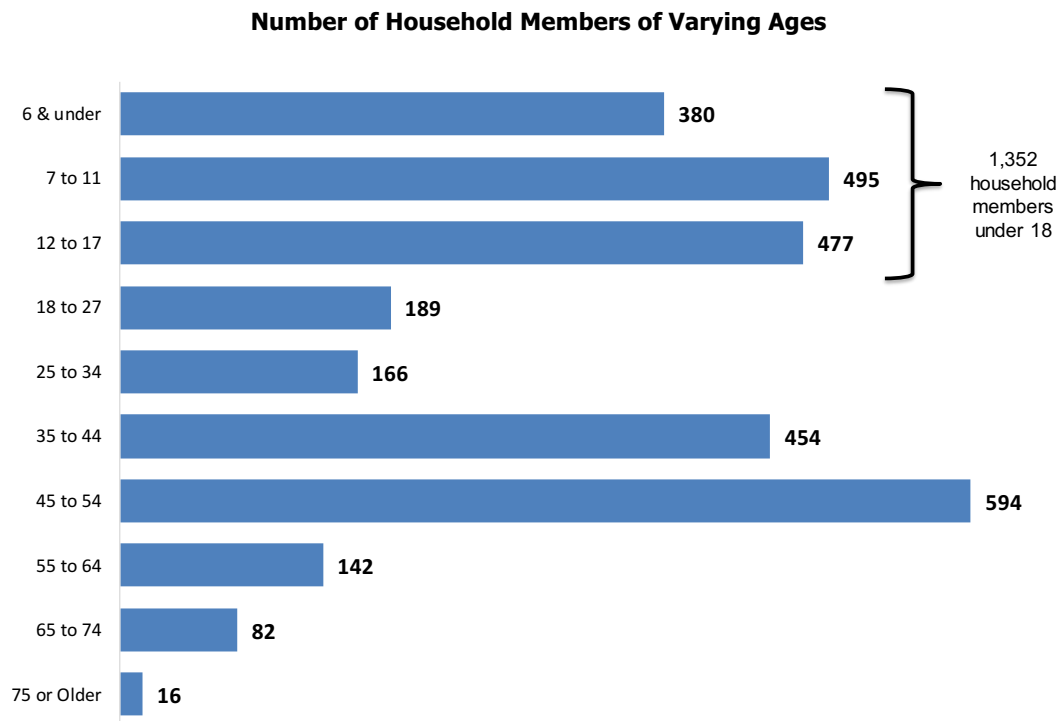


Q3: Please indicate your age



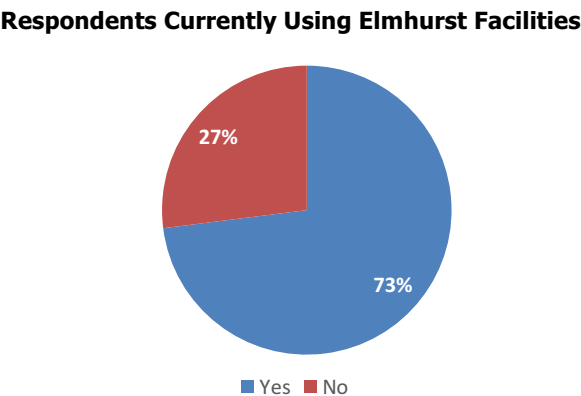


Q5: Please indicate the number of family members within your household that fall into the following age ranges (total should equal the number indicated above):



Note: Results show n representative of 767 survey respondents and 2,995 household members.  
Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

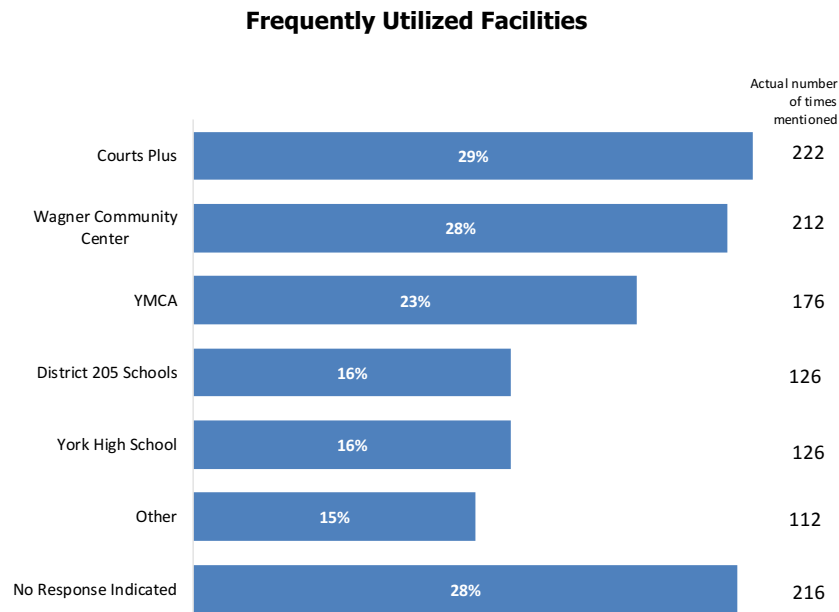
Q6: Do you and/or members of your household currently use any Elmhurst **indoor** sport facilities such as: gymnasiums (for basketball, volleyball, wrestling, gymnastics, dance, etc.), aquatics or other indoor sport facilities?



Note: Results show n representative of 767 survey respondents.  
Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016



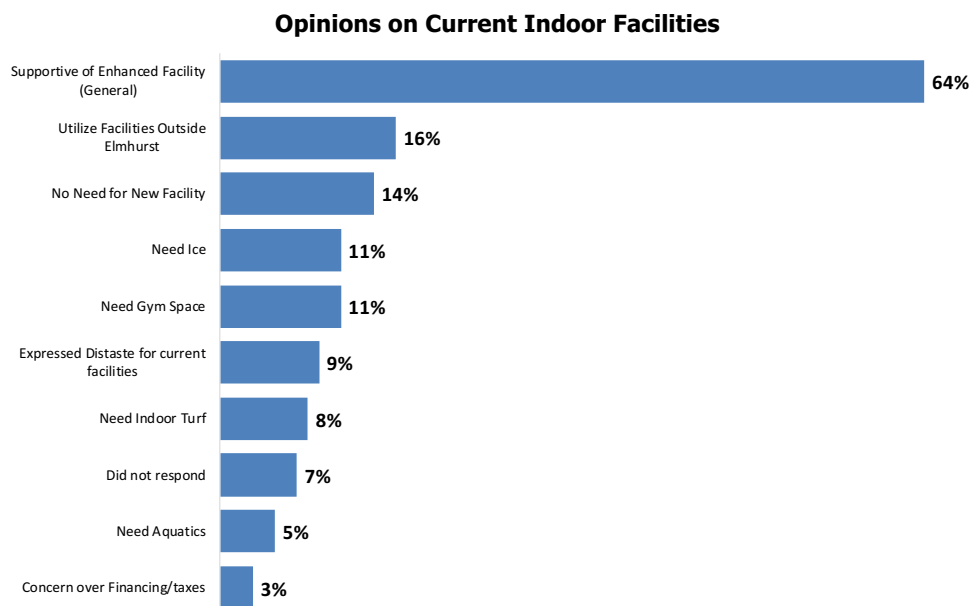
Q7: Please list the names of the facilities you currently utilize in Elmhurst.



*Note: Other section includes: Patriot Fitness, Beyond Center Stage, Orange Fitness, Elmhurst College, Various Private Schools.*

Q8: What are your thoughts on the indoor sports facilities currently available in Elmhurst?

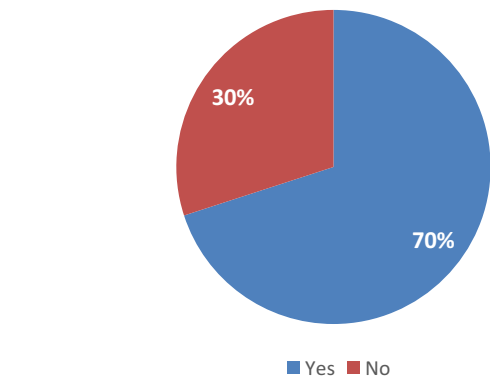
*\*See end of document for complete listing of all open ended responses.*



Note: Results show n representative of 767 survey respondents.  
Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

Q9: Do you and/or members of your household currently use any indoor facilities outside of Elmhurst (i.e., Villa Park, Bensenville, Addison, Westmont, Downers Grove, etc.) such as: gymnasiums (for basketball, volleyball, wrestling, gymnastics, dance, etc.), turf facilities, ice-skating, aquatics, or other indoor sport facilities?

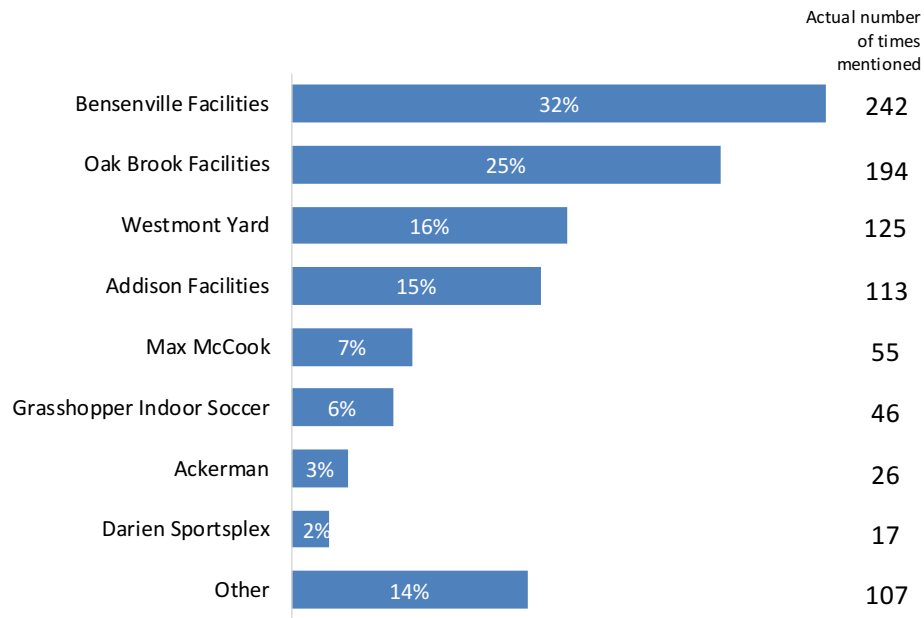
Use of Non-Elmhurst Facilities



Note: Results show n representative of 767 survey respondents.  
 Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

Q10: Please list the names of the facilities you currently utilize outside of Elmhurst.

Frequently Utilized Non-Elmhurst Facilities



Note: "Other" includes The Odeum, LA Fitness, Center Ice of DuPage, Franklin Park Ice Arena, Wheaton Athletic Center, Seven Bridges, Downer's Grove Ice, Romeoville Athletic Center, Schaumburg Sport Center, Melrose Park District and others.

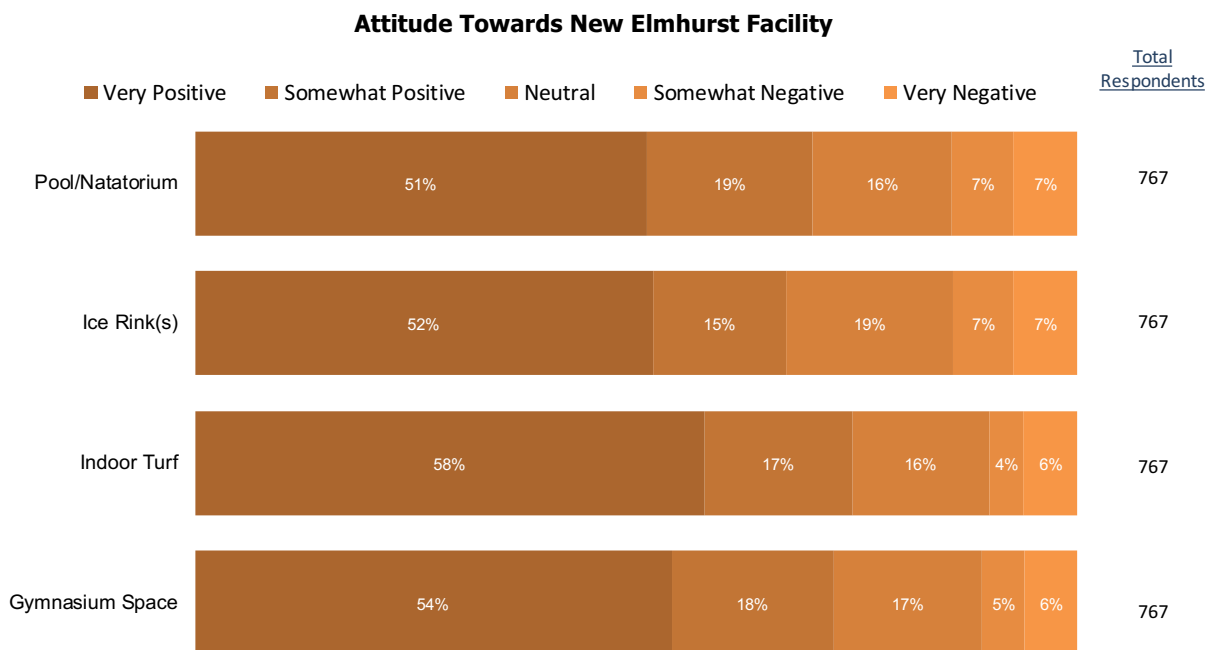


**Q11: What are your thoughts on the indoor sports facilities currently available outside of Elmhurst?**

Consistent Responses

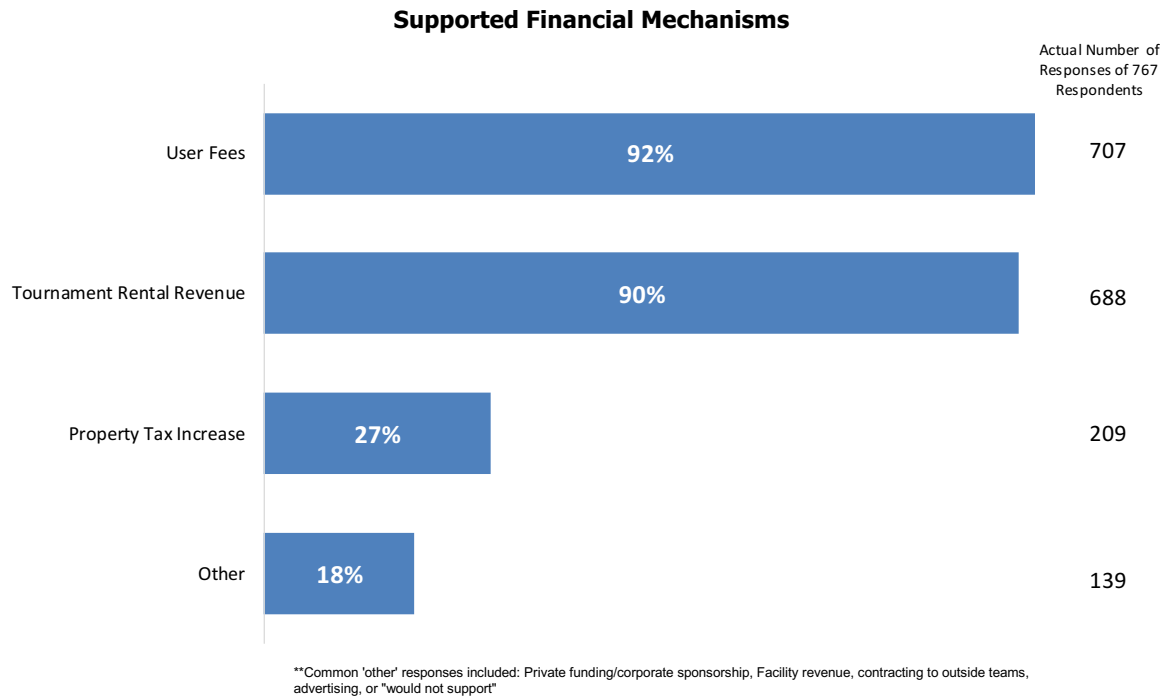
- *General consensus is that out of town facilities are far superior to Elmhurst facilities and families are frustrated with the amount of time that it takes to travel to these facilities and would prefer to spend their money within their own community.*
- Westmont Yard seems to be really popular with layout; Romeoville Athletic complex and Naperville yard are also very popular
- would like an ice facility similar to the edge in Bensenville
- Max McCook is a very nice facility, however traffic control is an issue
- Would like to see multi-sports facility including ice, pool, gym space that could encompass wide variety of athletics & sports
- Elmhurst facilities are extremely inadequate for the demand; many families will spend late nights at practices at facilities such as Bensenville 3+ nights/week
- Pain to travel to out of town facilities
- Grasshopper isn't the greatest facility but is the closest, so those who can't travel far go there out of necessity

**Q12: New indoor facilities are being considered for Elmhurst that could potentially incorporate amenities such as indoor gymnasium space, indoor turf, indoor ice sheet(s) and/or an indoor pool/aquatic center. How would you describe your attitude towards new indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst offering the following amenities?**



Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

**Q14: What mechanisms would you support to fund potential new indoor sports facilities  
(Check all that apply)?**



Note: Results show n representative of 767 survey respondents.  
Source: CSL Community Survey, 2016

## C. Verbatim Open-Ended Responses

Q8: What are your thoughts on the indoor sports facilities currently available in Elmhurst?

**(OPEN ENDED)**

- have little exposure
- They are too limited. Would be beneficial to offer indoor soccer facilities for use during winter season to compliment AYSO program.
- There are not adequate facilities or options.
- Not enough of them
- Badminton Facilities would be great
- Not readily available
- There certainly could be more options for indoor sports
- We don't need to be spending any more taxpayer monies on these facilities.
- Courts Plus is pricy and most facilities are not on our side of town
- Looks like enough to me
- There aren't enough. My kids do gymnastics in Itasca because Wagner is either not available or poor conditions. The kids do basketball in Bensenville because our park district doesn't offer it. They do indoor swim lessons at oak brook. Ice skating was in Addison. I'm spending money elsewhere for this all because our town doesn't have the facilities or offer the programs due to lack of facilities.
- I am not aware of any other than our Courts Plus facility. We are in need!
- they are sufficient
- It's long overdue and very needed. I'm often traveling to surrounding communities that have a nice center while Elmhurst has nothing. Examples (Oak Brook, Glen Ellyn, Downers Grove, Bensenville).
- I like the idea but concerned that Elmhurst does not need another totally separate facility. If this new facility includes updated courts plus and other park district classes would be incredible to have.
- I used to belong to Courts Plus and liked the facility. Our family tends to use more outside 'facilities' offered by Elmhurst -- parks and Prairie Path.
- Indoor hockey would be nice to have
- All for it as long as the Park District pays for the land and construction without borrowing or demanding money from the City of Elmhurst
- They are good but limited
- It should be multi use, and include facilities for physical training/ exercise. Tennis, racket ball, basketball and hockey, indoor soccer. It also should be set up to help with children's programs.
- Crowded. In some cases, outdated.
- I would love to start using the indoor sports facilities. We are bikers and walkers.
- I would like to have something geared to older adults.
- We need an indoor sports facility badly. Elmhurst is a growing community and could definitely afford one.
- Wish we had an indoor aquatics facility similar to Oak Brook
- They are very limited to what they offer.
- Decent but could be better
- It would be great to have one so we don't have to go out of town.



- They are inadequate and quite dated - especially compared to other offerings nearby. We regularly travel to Naperville or Westmont for Naperville Yard and their wonderful programs and play area. We use Oak Brook Park District for their year round swimming lessons. I am always blown away by the facilities of neighboring towns, and ours seems to be seriously lacking.
- Severely lacking
- Definitely needed. We use facilities outside of Elmhurst -- Bensenville indoor ice arena, Bensenville Park District, indoor pools where starting blocks are available, baseball training centers. I'd like to keep our \$ in Elmhurst.
- Facility is old and rundown. No indoor pool for swim lessons.
- they are inadequate
- Very poor and outdated, do not have the modern amenities that I need and therefore I am not a member at any.
- I am in favor of them and would like to see more. We did have a Courts Plus membership but had to cancel due to a new baby and lack of time.
- I think it is an excellent idea. I currently travel several towns away on at least a weekly basis for ice hockey. I would like to introduce my children to ice skating and ice hockey without going several towns away to a facility. Other fathers I have spoken to in town agree with my opinion.
- Would like more options closer to where I live
- Adequate for traditional indoor sports
- they are reasonably good
- Satisfied
- Do not use.
- Crowded
- Poor
- ok
- There are very limited options
- Adequate facilities exist, especially in conjunction with outdoor facilities.
- We have to drive to LaGrange for indoor soccer lessons. Also, the gymnastics gym smells.
- They are great.
- Nice facilities but expensive. Seems to have limited access for people with disabilities.
- More indoor soccer/multi use. Like Westmont yard with indoor play area for winter/rain
- Was disappointed with the courts yoga offerings. So, had to find a private studio
- We are lacking soccer turfs and volleyball sport courts for private clubs. Also basketball courts for open gym times.
- Not adequate, we use more facilities outside Elmhurst
- There is no real gymnasium and Elmhurst, and with the exception of the gymnastic Center, the remaining spaces are not suitable for indoor sports. I would love to see an indoor soccer facility, as well as an indoor and outdoor pool facility.
- Outdated and too small for our community needs.
- Gymnasiums are hard to come by because all the travel teams seem to monopolize the space. TESC, YMCA basketball, Airborne
- Mount Prospect and Bartlett seem to have really nice facilities and larger in scale compared to Elmhurst.
- Not bad. Could be better. I don't use them as much as I used to, so I'm a bit indifferent.
- There are a lot of them. 1. YMCA, 2. Courts Plus, 3. School District 205 has many, 4. Many Churches have gyms, 5. There are kids climbing businesses in Elmhurst, 5. Elmhurst College gyms. How will this be supported? By us the Tax Payers??? Can they be made to pay for themselves???? If you can make it support itself with no taxpayer money, then ok.

- average
- Great Idea
- I am not likely to use it and therefore I would probably be against it because paying for its construction would likely increase my taxes once again.
- I don't think we offer much to ALL our residents. A multi-faceted facility would be great.... Senior citizen center incorporated within the center!
- Courts plus is very nice. I'm sure the YMCA is fine too. But we need a place where teenagers can go and actually play basketball inside. Without large monthly fees
- If its deemed necessary than I would back it.
- Below average. We use them because they are all that is available for kids sports but don't have a membership because of the quality.
- Not nearly as comprehensive as the Fox Valley Park District's Vaughn Athletic Center
- There should be one central facility for ALL of these things. Our family actively participates in programs OUTSIDE Elmhurst for hockey and ice-skating lessons, swimming programs, basketball, volleyball and soccer. It would be better than awesome to participate in programs belonging to the town we live and play in, with people from our own community. And I'd imagine that such a facility would generate a ton of money, just from a convenience point of view.
- limited, need a larger sport facility that can accommodate different sports and events
- Average
- Good facilities, not too crowded during times my wife goes (I am not a member of Courts Plus).
- Inadequate - difficult for all the teams to book space - they're competing over limited York space. We play travel basketball and soccer and every other Park District in the region seems to have amazing indoor facilities with multiple bball courts and turf fields.
- Not good. We have to go to Oak Brook all the time for their facilities.
- Terrible. Embarrassing. Look at Oakbrook, Wheaton. You name it and everyone has a nice indoor facility. We are in dire need of a large multi court basketball/volleyball facility like Oakbrook.
- Too small
- They are very old and unimpressive. For a community with so many young children and families that are very into activities and sports, the facilities do not create an environment that is very welcoming.
- I want an indoor fitness center that is as nice as other facilities in Elmhurst, like the library for instance
- For the amount of activities that people involved in, there is not enough sport facilities for people to practice their passion in.
- Lacking, the courts is very pricy but paid for by the park district. No large indoor track, no volleyball leagues, basketball (that's run by the Y), no indoor soccer. We need something so we don't travel to other communities for these sports
- Would love a bigger indoor pool that is deeper
- I believe it would benefit the town and bring business in locally. Of course it also depends on the location and ensuring there is enough parking and not cause more traffic jams on York Road or the downtown area.
- They need updated.
- We're fine. We use the Courts facilities and are happy there.
- Indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst are in the dark ages compared the communities surrounding us.
- Everything is scattered. Need to have multiple different memberships for different sports. No family swimming pool other than the y.

- Na
- OK
- They are too small and outdated. Also, they are too far north. Need to Be more centrally located
- The Courts and YMCA our current indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst are inadequate and puny compared to other surrounding communities.
- We are lacking larger indoor facilities such as hockey.
- Not enough class time options for preschoolers with working parents
- Not as large as neighboring communities.
- I feel that the Wagner Center needs to be updated. I am tired of driving to other towns to use their facilities which are better.
- Definitely needed.
- They could be better and more versatile
- We definitely need more park district gym space for volleyball, basketball, etc.
- They are a little run down but effective.
- The problem is simple, the courts plus fitness facility is extremely overpriced, there is an LA Fitness that's amazing and only a half mile south of Elmhurst and another one being built in North Elmhurst that will take away even more from the courts. I pay \$500/annually for LA Fitness for my wife and I for everything. The towel rental policy is a joke as well, people are over paying already, then you're charging for towels??! That's literally embarrassing. I'm upset because I literally want to pay my money to the Courts but I don't play tennis, I don't swim and I don't do classes. I lift weights and do cardio and the weightlifting area is laughable and I can't pay \$600/annually for half the amount of equipment. Going back to my initial statement, if the Courts was around \$400/annually for my wife and I, I would reconsider paying less to get less that it offers.
- They aren't adequate for the needs of the community
- Outdated, too small, don't utilize the indoor pool at the courts enough.
- Indoor option is good in Chicagoland
- Elmhurst needs indoor space for soccer and baseball
- We have several fitness clubs available in Elmhurst. I have not experienced any teams looking for a sports facility in Elmhurst
- we need more options including an indoor pool
- We don't have enough, we need an indoor facility that is used for many sports, basketball, soccer, etc.
- Not sufficient
- Inadequate for the size and demographics of the community
- I think this should have been done years ago.
- we need one
- I do not believe there are enough. Currently there is no indoor public or park district facility available with a gym. I have coached basketball in a number of leagues and gym space in Elmhurst is very difficult to get. We work with the YMCA or the public/private schools as best we can. I currently coach for the knights a traveling basketball team comprised of mostly Elmhurst boys and girls. We use space in oak room. We would prefer Elmhurst if a facility was available.
- Not enough facilities available
- They are fine for the smaller, court sports but would love to see a larger facility for field sports like lacrosse and soccer
- Nice
- The town is definitely in need of more indoor sports space. I work with a community sports club in Elmhurst and we typically need to rent space throughout the winter season. In the

past we have been using 8-10 indoor facilities for gym time. Ranging from going to Villa Park and Melrose Park for mostly Elmhurst families.

- Don't think it's necessary.
- Inadequate. No public basketball courts, indoor sport courts, ice rinks, etc. we end up in other cities for most of our indoor activities. Bensenville, Maywood, Oakbrook, etc. for soccer, hockey, basketball, birthday parties, etc.
- Desperately needed
- I think that they are insufficient for what we need them for. As an example- kids are practicing soccer on wooden gymnasium floors, which is not only a small space, but also not the appropriate surface, because there are not indoor facilities for things like soccer and lacrosse practice, we are forced to go outside of Elmhurst (Hillside, Westmont, Naperville), which is not only inconvenient, but also forces us to spend money in communities outside of Elmhurst.
- What indoor sports facilities - extremely limited
- limited
- The facilities are inadequate for children. Unless of course you're into tennis.
- good, but would love an indoor ice rink
- The park district in particular is lacking in facilities and are in desperate need of updating and expanding. Courts Plus should be doubled in size and in its offerings for adults and children. The track should be expanded to 1/4 of a mile to become functional. There overall is not enough space or available times for kids and adults to pursue their interests. There is no indoor soccer or hockey facility.
- could improve
- They are too small and out of date. Plus, there isn't any indoor ice which would be a great addition to Elmhurst for skating and hockey.
- Very underwhelming especially compared to bordering communities
- There are no indoor ice rinks.
- Long overdue.
- Hard to schedule as for HS and colleges (my kids younger)
- An indoor sports facility would be a great enhancement to our community.
- They are woefully inadequate
- Old gyms
- The facilities seem nice but since 3 of our kids participate in ice hockey as their main sport it would be wonderful to have an ice rink within Elmhurst
- There are not enough. York HS is the only large indoor facility we have so it is very hard for Elmhurst teams to find space to play. Many Elmhurst teams are forced to find space outside of Elmhurst. Elmhurst needs additional space for basketball, indoor soccer, ice hockey and volleyball.
- Think it would be great, especially if facility has an ice rink.
- Great idea! Ice rink would be awesome and used all year long?
- Would be fantastic!
- Yes! We need one!!
- We need a multi-sport facility terribly. We don't have enough fields, courts, sheets of ice to accommodate our community. We travel to numerous other communities that have buildings that include soccer, baseball, basketball & ice. These facilities are typically packed with people. Considering our proximity to Chicago, O'Hare & our central location, a well-run facility would provide our community with the resources needed by active children & adults & also produce income for the City.
- Antiquated. Facilities are old, the layout and flow doesn't work, parking lots are poorly designed for bad flow, pick up and drop off areas are hazardous, facility in bad location, facility is not family friendly.

- Very limited facilities at the moment
- York facilities is great, but limited use opportunities. Courts is good, but crowded.
- Pools are good. Ice rinks would be beneficial. Workout facility would be beneficial.
- Elmhurst is WAY overdue to have their own ice facility with 2 sheets of ice. The ice could be contracted and sold before the first shovel hits the ground. Hockey is soaring and we NEED our own ice facility.
- We could use a new indoor, ice rink to support local use such as the Chiefs hockey club, figure skating, learn to skate, etc. There is a dire shortage of ice time in the local area.
- Inadequate, Courts Plus is good for tennis but inadequate for other activities
- No ice rink is a bummer.
- The Wagner Center is the only one I've been to and it is nice for classes for kids. I would like something that is nice for adults as well.
- We are in desperate need of more indoor basketball courts, indoor practice facilities for baseball and lacrosse, indoor ice facilities for hockey.
- I think this question should be phrased as thoughts on the lack of indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst and it's embarrassing. Lacrosse, hockey and soccer are sports that have been exploding in popularity the last 5-7 years and if it wasn't brought to the attention of the city and park district this fact would still be ignored.
- There are not nearly enough. We regularly drive to Naperville, Bensenville and Westmont to use their facilities.
- I think it would be a great idea. My son plays hockey for the Chiefs and has to travel to other suburbs to get practice time. My daughter plays soccer for team Elmhurst and during the winter months she has also had to go to other suburbs for practice.
- Inadequate
- There is no indoor ice available in Elmhurst, only the YMCA ice, which is the only Y in the Chicagoland area Y to have it. Having two kids in travel baseball and soccer, any indoor practices they do if they are not in the York gymnasium, they are going to surrounding communities for those practices.
- I think it is a wonderful idea and think it would be well used and received in our community!
- Initial thoughts are, YES!!!! As a mother of four boys I am tired of driving all over DuPage/Cook County for sports events. However, I do not wish to have a hike in my property taxes in order to provide this facility. Our taxes just recently went up significantly.
- I wish we had a sports facility with gyms for basketball and volleyball and indoor hockey. Would love an Olympic sized pool.
- It's just ok, would like a year round ice rink
- We need more. Sports are on the rise and kids want to do and play more. In addition, we could really use 1-2 more sheets of ice in the local area to support our young hockey players and figure skaters!
- Absolutely needed! I will help fundraise!
- Limited. Most require a membership. We play outside when we can or go outside of Elmhurst (Bensenville for hockey)
- Ok, sometimes costly. We could use an indoor ice rink and Park District does not have an indoor pool.
- They are good but we could use an arena for ice hockey. So much of our money is being spent on Bensenville and in so many other communities
- Pool times are limited and no option for swim lessons or swim team options; no place for indoor basketball or soccer; gymnastics & dance areas are adequate, but don't accommodate for all that are interested in classes- lots of kids get wait listed.
- I and my neighbors drive to other towns daily for our children's athletic practices, matches and tournaments. We visit grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants and other stores NOT in

Elmhurst during these drives. Elmhurst is taking a long time to decide if there is a need. Meanwhile, Elmhurst is missing revenue. All you have to do is ask parents of children who play many different types of sports. They all travel outside of Elmhurst for in-season as well as off-season sporting events.

- None. Occasionally we use the YMCA for swimming and Courts Plus for summer day camps.
- There are not enough indoor facilities for the demand.
- Wish we had more open gyms, swimming pool, indoor turf fields (i.e. Westmont yard)
- Supply is outpaced by demand.
- lacking, facilities for team sports.
- The YMCA is small and the ice rink is not regulation size. The York HS field house is very nice.
- I like the idea. Elmhurst lacks other communities in this area. As a higher end community with the western suburbs, Elmhurst should have some of the best facilities in the area. Sadly, that is not the case when it comes to an indoor facility as being discussed.
- An indoor ice rink would be beneficial to the hockey community. Bordering on the south portion of town makes the most sense, as that is furthest away from the rinks in Addison and Bensenville
- It would be fantastic to have an ice rink. My son plays on Chiefs team and it is difficult to get ice. Sometimes not getting home until 11:30 at night on a school night.
- Overall, the current facilities are very good. Would very much like to see Elmhurst invest in an indoor ice facility where local hockey teams could practice and have games.
- Old, out of date, uncompetitive and not enough facilities.
- Wagner center is fine but mostly for gymnastics and early childhood. We could also use more indoor tennis courts. We would love to have an indoor ice arena as two of our children are involved in Chiefs Hockey Club and Bensenville is a far drive for us.
- We lack adequate facilities for indoor sports like, baseball, basketball, and hockey.
- Ins
- I love Courts Plus but the city could always use more sports facilities, especially if it had an ice rink.
- The can be better utilized.
- n/a
- Fair
- Lacking! We have to go to surrounding towns. I cannot believe Elmhurst does not have an indoor facility!
- improvement needed
- They need to be improved
- Would prefer more open gym time available to residents for basketball/volleyball. Nowhere to go that we're aware of other than public school gyms
- Inadequate - actually pay non-resident fees to go out of town
- What indoor sports facilities? Wagner Center? It's awful.
- York has good facilities but there is a lot of competition for space. Middle schools are marginal facilities at best.
- They are just fine. There are getting to be too many health clubs in town.
- Very limited. Poor facilities. Most other towns have nicer facilities.
- I love the idea!!! We would totally use it!!!
- They are small compared to surrounding towns. We lack indoor soccer fields, baseball facilities and the gymnastics center is tiny compared to other towns. I'm sick of traveling 30+ minutes to go to other indoor facilities
- Seriously lacking! A shame that we can't accommodate our youth programs, Behind the curve compared to nearby towns.
- It would be nice to have a gym or two.



- Would love to see more available especially for kids!
- Not adequate for sports needs
- Not enough...we are not competitive with other towns
- in favor as long as tax cost is not prohibitive
- There are not nearly enough facilities. There is no true gymnasium, there is no real basketball court. There are no indoor soccer facilities. An ice arena would be terrific, but obviously not as pressing and very costly.
- The Wagner Center seems old. I believe it is an old school that was adapted and wasn't created specifically for the park district's needs. We currently have to go to Oakbrook for indoor swim lessons and Bensenville for hockey and ice skating. My 5-year-old still takes dance and gymnastics at the Wagner Center, but my 8-year-old has aged out or advanced beyond the programs offered. There is nothing at indoor facility for him.
- I think it is very lacking for such a big suburb. We play basketball for Bensenville along with so many kids from Elmhurst. It's a big shame that we do not have our own indoor court. We are also in desperate need of an indoor pool for swim lessons all year long. I think Wagner is extremely outdated, and they are doing the best with what they have. I would love to see an indoor sports facility in our town, so I can stay in our district instead of driving to Bensenville, Oak Brook and Itasca.
- Wagner is small and outdated. I have not been to the courts.
- Good, but should have more especially ice rink and indoor pool
- Better facilities for basketball/ volleyball type sports would be nice to have.
- Convenient location, convenient hours' open
- There are not enough for all the sports programs Elmhurst has to offer
- I think the Wagner center is great for younger kids but everything there you have to pay for or be registered in a class. We used it when the kids were younger and I don't have time for a gym membership. We go to Naperville for my kid's indoor sports. Not a fan of driving that far.
- Our indoor activities are most often at the YMCA or school facilities because the park district facilities are inadequate
- There is nowhere near enough space. My son's Elmhurst basketball team practices and plays home games in Oak Brook. And we drive to Carol Stream or McCook for volleyball. When my kids played Lacrosse, they had tryouts and winter clinics in McCook or at the Podium.
- There are too few and they aren't state of the art. In particular, I see a large and growing demand for an ice hockey facility.
- The facilities are adequate, however, I would like to see more support for ice hockey
- lacking
- There is nothing available. We use the surrounding communities and go outside Elmhurst. Other communities have figured out that the arts as well as sports helps build our community. Too bad Elmhurst and figured it out.
- Woefully inadequate as geared towards the geriatric population
- Too expense (The Courts). Too limited (Wagner Center).
- We feel the need for a facility for the children
- inadequate. There is a strong need for 2 indoor ice rinks and 2 indoor soccer fields.
- not adequate for indoor soccer training love the yucca for outdoor hockey indoor pool options fine indoor gymnastics options good
- They are outdated and small
- They are adequate but we need an ice rink.
- Elmhurst Park District lacks a full-size indoor basketball facility. We enjoy Courts Plus.
- Awesome idea. We can stop going to Naperville and giving our business to them. Eat at their restaurants, etc.

- I like the idea of an indoor sports facility. Especially ice rink & gymnastics
- We travel outside of Elmhurst for most of our sports. It would be great to be local and use local facilities and restaurants, etc.
- Would like to see additional indoor facility, ice rink, basketball, pool, etc.
- They are lacking. Timing is never right for cross or multigenerational sports. Open gym for volleyball or basketball with family is impossible. YMCA does not make up for it, and facility is substandard. Pool time hard to come by at convenient times. Parents and swim team kids should have more opportunity.
- What is available has been fine, but many other towns have much nicer facilities that we have used. The indoor facilities are pretty outdated and don't allow for many sports to be played.
- They are lacking. No indoor ice facility, and no indoor pool for year round swim lessons.
- Expensive or inconvenient
- Adequate
- No need.
- Tiny
- Inadequate
- Gym at Wagner Center is too small. Classes fill up super-fast. Not enough open gym time. Would love a larger space for indoor running, baseball, lacrosse. There are no indoor running tracks in Elmhurst other than York H.S.
- A new one would be fantastic
- Elmhurst is in desperate need of a large field house like complex similar to the Oak Brook Park District...need basketball courts.
- Functional, clean, not cutting edge
- They are not very good. The facilities are small, outdated and do not provide all the items our family likes to use. We use facilities in Bensenville and Oak Brook because we cannot find everything we need in Elmhurst.
- They are lacking. No indoor ice facility, and no indoor pool for year round swim lessons.
- Not enough "free play" time - or times are not offered at a time that works for our family.
- Wagner Center for gymnastics seems adequate - well utilized and generally available for lessons and open gym. Dual use (such as use of high school pool for community swim team) should be encouraged and pursued to the extent possible.
- We need an indoor sports facility. My kids cannot play in several sports because I am not able to drive them to other communities for practice. We are in desperate need of an indoor facility for soccer/lacrosse/basketball. AND an indoor pool.
- Need a facility similar to Westmont yard or the Max!
- It would great to have an indoor pool facility!
- We are involved in hockey and swimming. We are using Bensenville facilities for both activities. Would be nice to have a hockey rink in Elmhurst.
- They are practically non-existent apart from gymnastics and dance
- Fine, but could use more open play facilities.
- It is definitely in need. Keep our kids closer to home to continue physical development.
- Could use more indoor sports areas! Year-round Soccer!?
- Grossly inadequate
- They are just and offer limited hours
- It is desperately needed.
- Need much larger facility.
- Hard to schedule time to use. Expensive, crowded
- They are sufficient, if not more than sufficient.
- Elmhurst needs an indoor ice rink.
- Sufficient

- I don't feel the current facilities offer state of the art for swimming, walking and ice sports that our city deserves
- They're fine
- Not good
- There are not enough. 8 and 9 year olds are practicing until 9:30 or 10 pm because there aren't locations open earlier in the evening. 2) It's not even a bargain to practice at the schools. 3) There is not enough variety. It is difficult to believe that Elmhurst Park District does not have one indoor basketball court.
- Too expensive, too far
- Adequate
- Above average
- No way. Not needed
- We need more for older kids and families. Volleyball, basketball, gym, etc.
- I think they are fine. Yet the gymnastics programs in Elmhurst are extremely popular and heavily utilized, it would be nice if the gym was a little but bigger to accommodate more kids or equipment.
- Need more indoor basketball courts for the several indoor leagues. More sheets of ice for hockey teams in area is also needed
- Too small, disjointed, no true community center.
- Great
- We need more play space available for use by smaller children...such as an indoor playground or open gym for children who are 4 and up.
- Address flood issues first.
- No! We have countless sports venues! 5 artificial turf fields the ymca, courts plus, the Wagner center! How about a performing arts center! We haven't created a venue for the arts in over half a century! And we have a community that would embrace this idea. We now also have the parking for it and it would do a great deal more to increase the vibrancy for our downtown than a sports complex. Please reconsider your efforts.
- As long as it's in the Industrial area so don't make more congestion in Elmhurst.
- I think it would be great to have a park district facility with indoor basketball, soccer, volleyball, etc. the YMCA's basketball is very poorly run and expensive, the travel teams are too intense and expensive. Many people leave Elmhurst to play indoor soccer at other facilities as well.
- They are nice, but lack space for sports for older children.
- There are not enough. Wagner is for kids and Courts plus is not very accessible
- They provide good opportunities for a variety of indoor sports.
- The Courts is wonderful and it fits both me and my wife's needs.
- Seem ok
- Given the interest in hockey in Elmhurst surprising we have to spend so much time in Bensenville. Also, would expect and indoor outdoor aquatics facility like those in Elk Grove etc...
- they're okay; not great for a city like Elmhurst. Hockey is a huge sport but all hockey players go to Bensenville and Addison to play; why wouldn't we build a rink here and keep those dollars local; plus, York HS could play at a local rink rather than having to go to Addison for home games
- We like the swimming lessons available through the YMCA.
- Too little for so many people. The schools don't have enough for their own needs so very difficult to use for end and ymca also. Schools need more indoor space (not high school) and epd needs their own

- Three concerns: 1) It seems like most indoor activities are scheduled at the Wagner Center which is inconvenient for residents in the south end of town. 2) We need an indoor running track with a low annual membership fee. I moved to Elmhurst from Glen Ellyn three years ago and at the time they offered access to their indoor track (and nothing else) for \$20 per year. 3) Elmhurst is full of schools with gymnasiums. Could some of these be improved and then used for both school and non-school activities?
- We need indoor soccer field very badly.
- Softball field
- Elmhurst has too many facilities and the additional cost is not justified Government should stick with it proper activities and leave these to the private sector
- Needs to be updated and expanded
- I really enjoy courts plus, they have nice big spaces, I wish that the dance rooms at the Wagner center were bigger so that it is easier to move and do tricks full out.
- Lacking! We leave for swim team and ice skating. Plus, I would like to see an indoor running track.
- They're crowded.
- I feel it should be centrally located if at all possible. The residents living on the south end of town have to drive to the Wagner Center to participate in most sporting events.
- I don't think there are enough of them and there is a very limited amount of space, a lot of other park districts have a really big indoor facility with basketball courts, an indoor track lap, an indoor pool for the winter, and much more that is open to the public. At Elmhurst park district there is a carpeted room for gym classes but the room isn't that large and is very dark plus you have to have a small number of kids in that room because of its size, at epd there is also a gymnastics room but only people who take classes can use it (people who go to fun seekers over the summer should be able to use it to), and then there are 2 really small dance rooms with poles for a wheelchair ramp which takes up a good amount of classroom space
- Not much available. Would be nice to offer an indoor ice rink and indoor pool that's family friendly. Ice rink like Bensenville and indoor pool like Oakbrook.
- They are limited
- Horrible and insufficient! We really don't have a dance studio. The small classroom at Wagner does not fit the growth of the IMPACT program. We currently do not have a soccer facility and we have to travel to Naperville or Hillside to have indoor soccer practice.
- Minimal ability to be able to practice summer sports during winter months
- Elmhurst does not have the appropriate facilities for the activities that my family wants to participate in.
- I hear they're good.
- Not familiar with others
- There are limited options and not enough with open hours.
- limited
- Reasonable.
- Not sure what is available, but need an adult rec soccer league!
- There are a lot of nice outdoor facilities for baseball, soccer, swimming, etc. but large scale indoor facilities for basketball, hockey, indoor soccer, swimming, etc. are lacking.
- They are lacking for large indoor spaces for soccer, basketball, volley ball and maybe even hockey. Wish Elmhurst had one big facility we could keep our kids at instead of going to other suburbs to play sports.
- Availability is limited and the facilities are old. The floor we used for 4th grade boys Y-Ball was dangerous (Conrad Fischer). It was so slippery, it was not uncommon for the boys to slip and fall and hurt themselves (albeit minor) just running up the court.
- They are weak and inadequate for our community.

- They feel dated
- current facilities are Extremely lacking. Elmhurst BADLY needs a facility like the facility in oak brook or Ackerman in Glen Ellyn with basketball courts and turf field that can accommodate multiple sports including soccer. for basketball, yball and travel are all reliant on district 205 gyms, which are terribly overused and in bad shape. - I've never seen a community the size of Elmhurst that does not have a park district facility with basketball courts. as a parent with multiple kids in multiple travel sports, the lack of facilities in Elmhurst is very frustrating.
- Seems we have an abundance of work-out and sports related facilities and businesses.
- The YMCA was a good resource when my children were growing up... family oriented & affordable. We still love the pool at the Y
- Need indoor pool, basketball volleyball.
- the quality of the facilities is inconsistent
- Wish we had indoor tennis in summer. So far we have had 3 tennis lessons with heat greater than 95 And would love the option of indoor swimming lessons any time of year instead of using Oakbrook
- Older and small, not up to date.
- Like it if they won't raise our taxes.
- I think they are adequate
- Terrible for school aged children.
- Just ok. Could be better.
- Very limited
- I wish Elmhurst would of had that when my three sons were young. They played basketball (Airborne) and the gym situation was terrible. We also traveled to other towns for the indoor aquatics. But now my children are grown and I would not want my taxes to go towards that facility.
- Would love to see bigger dance studios; indoor soccer venues
- They seem adequate and are well maintained.
- I think they're terrific
- I am very pleased with Courts Plus. I take a couple of classes a week and play tennis weekly from Sept. through early May. I think we have a good YMCA, but because of my membership at Courts Plus I don't use it.
- Adequate
- N/A
- Not adequate. Facility small and inadequate/not equipped for the number of participants.
- Love the idea!!!
- We're bursting at the seams in some cases. Could use more indoor pools. Yoga and dance studios. But if indeed all these fitness centers are opening then that's more competition and we may not need any more space.
- N/A
- There is a general lack of indoor accessible facilities
- limited, over used, crowded
- There are nearby facilities for indoor sports - Courts Plus, YMCA, Wagner Center, etc. Also surrounding communities -
- They are very lacking. We have to fight for time with the schools and any other organization that is trying to rent out the schools.
- I would love to see more. Specifically, an indoor skate rink.
- not enough space and not appropriate for all age levels
- I think it would be great for the town
- WE love the Odeum for Indoor soccer
- I wish there were an indoor pool for swimming lessons

- I think it would be great for the community, and would create a draw for local business.
- Good if large enough to hold tournaments.
- Good! ...but we need more ice. I hear soccer and baseball are squeezed as well.
- Not enough
- I should use Park District fitness center, but it seems very crowded for activities I would use. Difficult to find open swim lanes or open basketball time.
- I think we need better facilities. We always have to go to other communities to use theirs. I think it's ridiculous that we don't have something better in this community.
- Courts Plus is too expensive YMCA needs to be updated; not big enough / not enough options
- They are lacking. Our teams have to seek out of town facilities for off season and indoor training.
- Gymnastics area is too small. There is not enough room for team practice and normal classes. No place to hold meets or for parents to even watch.
- Yes, Elmhurst desperately needs an indoor sports facility for soccer, basketball, baseball, swimming. The children of the community would benefit from this.
- They are very small and do not have all the needed amenities needed to meet all the sports year around
- Not enough
- Having had the opportunity to travel for swim competitions and seeing several outstanding sports complexes, Elmhurst's facilities do not compare. Three fitness facilities that come to mind are The Centre of Elgin, Pleasant Prairie Recplex (WI), and the Holland Aquatic Center, which have all the fitness components including a community (non-high school) competition pool either 25Y or 50M. Other outstanding outdoor community competition pools can be found in Palatine, Oak Park/Ridgeland Commons, and St. Charles. The reconstruction project at East End was a lost opportunity for a competition pool in our community and I do understand area resident concerns.
- Poor facilities, limited time slots available, over crowded, lack of parking, very dated, subpar
- It would be a great asset to Elmhurst to have a sports facility!
- Need more
- Awesome but can be expanded
- Enough of them already
- Inadequate
- antiquated
- They're fine.
- Minimal, not easily accessible, poor condition/outdated (specifically courts plus)
- Minimal, not easily accessible, poor condition/outdated (specifically courts plus)
- Please don't tax us out of Elmhurst. This facility would be used by few, (hockey teams, etc.), and would be paid for by all. Elmhurst is very expensive to live in now, this will make the costs worse.
- I think it would be great. A real positive addition to bring something like this to Elmhurst.
- Not sufficient.
- Horrible
- You are kidding right? they are non-existent.
- I'm only familiar with Wagner, which is fine for young kids.
- They are so-so. They cover all the bases, but are cramped, with no viewing area. The pool at Courts Plus is crowded and small.
- They are okay. But there are not enough courts available for basketball, volleyball, etc.
- I feel that current indoor facilities is insufficient for certain sports that require larger field space such as soccer and lacrosse.
- Weak



- Our choices are very limited and outdated. Would love to see a multi-use indoor facility that includes an ice rink
- They are OK, especially with all of the private options available. However, we lack an indoor pool that kids can use and an indoor running track.
- Lacking -- our son is a competitive volleyball player (and ex soccer player). We consistently travel to other communities to compete/practice and many dollars are spent in those other communities.
- we need a larger facility, for cold weather sports like hockey, basketball.
- limited
- Needs basketball courts, bigger swimming pool and lots of other amenities
- Adequate for Elmhurst
- solid
- I think there needs to be recreational dance studios where dancers can practice, like tennis courts are very popular in Elmhurst.
- I think it would be helpful, I am just very curious as to where it would be located
- They are fun.
- There is no hockey arena but I'm pretty sure that they're going to build one. I don't really care about anything else.
- they are good and easy to access
- run down, need more space and places
- I think they can be better because they aren't very spacious to many people
- We need another one, a sports court
- If it is close by my house by berens then it would be great since the parks fields and courts are always occupied
- Please bring us an indoor facility that could be cheap enough for teens to go there and play basketball or something of that nature
- The YMCA is okay but a bit expensive. We use other sports facilities that are outside of Elmhurst
- They're fine
- I believe the existing facilities are sufficient for apparent demand. My experience is that they are generally in a good state of repair.
- They are expensive and crowded.
- Not familiar with them. The one that I know of is difficult to get in
- need one
- small and outdated
- Would be nice to have larger indoor facilities for soccer and lacrosse. Would be nice to have more facilities as it is difficult to get time at York for basketball etc.
- Insufficient. For the population and the number of kids under 21 in Elmhurst and surrounding towns, it warrants a full sports facility. We need a facility like Westmont Yard, that has 3 fields, an indoor playroom, and a huge play structure jungle gym
- Long time coming.... Space is a real issue. My kid's activities have been canceled because of space issues or playing and practice is very late because of availability. We need it badly here
- Subpar and never available
- We definitely need an upgrade, I am a coach and my daughter is very active, we have to travel to Oak Brook, Bensenville and McCook and Westmont for a lot of our indoor activities. I have lived in Elmhurst for all 41 years of my life and I love this town, I try my best to eat and play in Elmhurst most of the time and believe it is a shame that we have to travel to other towns for a lot of our recreational activities.
- Very poor conditions compared to other suburbs.
- Need a basketball court

- they suck - it's a shame we are a wealth community and we have 1960's facility. Where do my tax dollars go?
- Lacking, would like basketball/volleyball more available.
- There are currently many great options.
- I like them, and I love our town, however it is just changing too much. I don't like how there is more construction because that makes our town changing. I like our town the way it is, yet some of these indoor sport things are pricey. I hope that our town doesn't change, even though we need a cheap and safe place to work out and etc. Just I don't want part of the park or town cut up.
- who is going to pay for it? have any sites been looked at?
- ok but small.
- Useless
- Limited
- Would love it! We go to Oakbrook park district to play
- Elmhurst need a more competitive indoor facility to host multiple extracurricular activities
- They are too small. The dance studios are too small. Wagner center needs a gym.
- They are lacking! The only full court basketball court is at the YMCA and the court is usually in use. It's difficult to find time to just play with my children. Also, wish there was more opportunity for adult men's leagues. Again, the only indoor pool available to families is at the YMCA. That facility is lacking. It's usually cold and feels old.
- They are well maintained and clean, but I don't really use them because you have to buy a membership to use them for the most part.
- we just moved to the area and are excited to check them out!
- Not enough. Court plus is great and they have done a great job with the space they have. It appears to me they would like to do more tennis tournament, but they do not have the courts to attract the bigger tennis tournaments.
- no opinion, do not use any
- Love it
- I think it would greatly benefit the community.
- not enough space, too crowded for the bigger kids
- I like the courts but don't use at this time
- YES! Please create a state of the art indoor sports facility that will draw in people from outside towns. If you look at neighboring towns, nobody has a GREAT indoor sports facility. We could be the first! There are so many people involved in activities at the Park District. This would be supported and very popular. The waitlists for programs is insane and parents are competitive during registration. My children love the gymnastics program. My daughter just takes classes, but my son is on the gymnastics team.
- There is a pool at the YMCA that is walking distance to my house.
- They are good. Not enough tennis courts
- I would like to see a larger indoor pool. We currently go to Oak Brook for their pool.
- Inadequate. The gymnastics center needs to be much bigger -- so busy all the time with rec and competitive team classes.
- Most are located in school facilities and are unavailable to the public. The courts are nice if you play tennis or racquet ball only.
- There is definitely not enough offered in terms of indoor sports in Elmhurst. I spend thousands of dollars every year on hockey in Bensenville. I have 4 kids playing travel hockey out of Bensenville.
- We would like to see an indoor ice arena in Elmhurst.
- They are lacking -- pool at Courts is very small. There really are no gyms for basketball etc.
- Non and no to more spending.

- They do not use the pool at York High for the community.
- Too expensive & track is too short. Courts is small & crowded. Some of older friends pay minimal \$ to walk each day at their city's facility. Not sure how you do it but our kids and now grand kids play hockey at Y. Unless they are going to close Y, should not be detrimental to ice rink unless building own
- We need more basketball courts and a better gymnastics facility. The gymnastics program is terrific but loses participants as soon as they become advanced because the facilities cannot provide for them.
- It would be an asset to the community. York has difficulty running its programs due to demand and the schools are used constantly. Almost all travel teams go to other communities regularly with few opportunities to host anything in Elmhurst.
- I find indoor sports options to be highly limited. Being involved with hockey, I usually have to travel far outside Elmhurst for sporting activities.
- They are limited to the activities they provide due to either space or parking and or weather conditions.
- Fully support
- Inadequate as compared to other part districts. For a region with such a long winter, seems odd to have such limited indoor facilities with such nice outdoor facilities.
- Courts plus is great and gymnastics program at Wagner as well. It would be nice to have some indoor fields and basketball courts. Even an ice rink indoors would be nice, Elmhurst YMCA is too small and only usable during winter months.
- The only one available is York's Fieldhouse and if you aren't Team Elmhurst you cannot use - much like most of the outdoor facilities.
- They are limited and lack up to date resources in comparison to other surrounding communities. Glen Ellyn's Rec center is unbelievable
- Beyond just the workout facilities, Courts Plus is pretty much limited to racquet sports and swimming. There aren't any options for indoor soccer.
- Non existent
- There are virtually none, and I would very much appreciate one. Especially for basketball.
- need more free open gym basketball
- They are older and lacking in quality and space
- They are mostly school gyms, not sports facilities. Scheduling is very difficult because of the amount of groups, teams and programs that request to use them.
- Yes! We would enthusiastically support an indoor facility, especially during the colder months.
- They are old and of poor quality
- Need more
- Elmhurst's indoor sports facilities are completely inadequate to the present-day needs of the community. Our indoor facilities (The Courts, Wagner Center, and various public school gymnasiums) cannot satisfy the present (much less the growing) demand among various kids' sports (basketball, volleyball, swimming, soccer, baseball, football, cheer, hockey), or the desire among adults to engage in similar indoor sports. The community's present indoor facilities appear to have been designed decades ago for a community demographic that is different than the one Elmhurst has evolved into over the past 8-10 years. It is past time for Elmhurst to replace or supplement the facilities it presently has.
- It's great! Would bring income to Elmhurst that residents are bringing to other towns
- Lacking for soccer specifically.
- Generally, they are fine, but probably don't qualify as state-of-the-art. It would be nice to have a large indoor space with multi-purpose fields that could be used for soccer and flag football in the winter months. There are sufficient fields in and around Elmhurst, so I wouldn't

be supportive of the expense for a permanent building for indoor fields, but would be supportive of a collapsible dome that could come down in the warmer months.

- Outdated and terrible.
- Inadequate
- Lacking
- the city of Elmhurst is in dire need of an all-purpose sports facility.
- Not adequate - always driving to other towns' community centers and sports facilities
- Inadequate. Kids play indoor soccer in Hillside or Westmont
- Didn't realize they were open for public use?
- I think that open space with turf could really be utilized well by many of the travel baseball and softball teams during their winter workouts from January through April. Most of them currently use the York High School gymnasium and it would be 100% better being able to train on turf. Same goes for kids working up towards High School tryouts. You can go to a training facility to rent a pitching or hitting cage but, unless you are coming with a full team, you can't get the space to do any other type of work. If the new facility also had some hitting and batting cages, you could probably get all four travel organizations just in Elmhurst to use the space.
- They are ok but surrounding suburbs are better
- It depends on which sports are included, but we definitely have a need for aquatic sports in other areas. Hopefully year round, indoor-outdoor. Possibly Berens park?
- pretty lame place to fence
- Lacking indoor pool, soccer fields
- Adequate, but not great. York Fieldhouse is nice. YMCA is okay
- I think it is needed
- I think it is needed
- All I am currently aware of is Courts Plus, and I think it is a great facility. But not everyone can pay for it.
- Ok for our stage in life, but understanding it would be good for younger families
- Besides gyms we really don't have any that I know of
- There is great demand for an indoor sports facility (basketball courts, ice sheets, swimming pool, turf, etc. that is all under the same roof) in Elmhurst. Many other suburbs have one; Elmhurst should as well.
- Needs to be updated
- We pay enough taxes I don't want to pay for something that we will not use. Just like the fields at Berens park with that special turf on it I never use it but I always see visitors from other towns using it. If the rich want it than raise taxes for the rich with their McMansions. I have a three bedroom one bath house I more than pay my fair share.
- They are great. Currently not using them but when we did in the past they met our needs.
- We have enough already: Courts, YMCA, 2 pools, all school gyms, yoga studios, private gyms, private exercise facilities and two new exercise facilities opening soon that are very big!
- Most facilities are school owned while the park district facility is dated and does not service indoor team sports.
- They are run down and not good.
- Yes, we believe an indoor sports facility is needed in Elmhurst. But it should be funded by the users, not by raising taxes.
- too expensive
- We have not used any indoor facilities but might be open to using them in the future.
- They are way too small and need to be much larger to accommodate volleyball, indoor baseball, indoor soccer and other summer sports that need winter practice facilities. Hugely lacking--spend hours driving to other municipal facilities out of Elmhurst

- Yes, there should be an indoor facility. It stinks to have to go all over DuPage County to find indoor field space.
- This is much needed. There are several youth sports teams in Elmhurst that need an indoor facility to practice and/or host games. Currently I rent Oak Brook Park District when I need a workout court for my Airborne team - which is usually in the Fall and Spring but I could see using a facility like this in the Winter when York HS isn't available. Other sports clubs such as soccer and baseball would use a facility like this for rainy season workouts.
- I think it would be good Elmhurst, but wouldn't want it to interfere with the business of any existing company like the new business company that teaches kids to swim.
- Not enough space for multiple activities. Swimming at Courts Plus is only for adults. No indoor soccer venue - Elmhurst is a big soccer town. Elmhurst park district gymnastics center at Wagner Center is overcrowded.
- Nice, clean
- crowded
- It is needed
- We are a bit limited
- That it needs to be updated. We live in the most beautiful town; our facilities should feel the same way. It will only drive more business and people wanting to live in Elmhurst.
- The Courts and the Y are excellent facilities and are currently threatened by the great increase in new fitness centers opening in downtown and near downtown. Fitness Formula, Orange Theory, and the building at the former Hotel site will threaten both existing facilities while not offering the community aspects of either
- I think it will be an asset to the young people in town. A place to encourage them to play sports.
- They are fine but I have 5 grandchildren in Elmhurst
- We use local schools the Wagner center and even the Courts. They are only available depending on the school usage The Wagner center only has 1 small gym and a gymnastic gym. If you have more than one child in a program, you could be driving across town trying to get from one gym to another
- Very inadequate. Not enough basketball gyms, sometimes Airborne can't even practice. The HS is the only place to play in the entire city. Other schools' gyms are too small. Also, when we travel to other towns, it's embarrassing to see how nice their facility is and all we have is courts plus, which is landlocked and too small. We need to keep it, especially since HS kids can walk to it from York, but we need a bigger, better facility.
- There are none except school gyms and private enterprises
- Unnecessary and expensive
- need more indoor basketball courts
- It is without a doubt that Elmhurst needs an indoor facility in this community. Sports for youth and adults is an ever expanding industry. From my knowledge, every community west of us has a one or several indoor facilities to accommodate the year around demand for access to sports. Elmhurst is deprived because our YMCA is the worst in the western suburbs, the high school can relieve this burden, but is overpriced and over booked and many community members believe we are paying twice (taxes and rental) for use of the facility. If you build it, they will use it.
- Not needed. Let's make better use of the facilities we already pay for such as those in elementary schools, high schools, middle schools, and The Courts.
- I think we've been lacking in terms of indoor turf for sports like soccer and La Crosse, etc. Other towns like Glen Ellyn have added a lot to their community through their indoor facilities.
- I'd like to see a dedicated sports facility.
- Not applicable

- I think it's a fantastic idea and one that should have been done a long time ago.
- They are inadequate. Our kids play travel basketball out of Oak Brook because Elmhurst does not have a good place for them to play. My daughter does travel volleyball out of River Forest. We visit a lot of facilities in other cities and Elmhurst needs comparable facilities. There is definitely a strong demand for a facility.
- More than adequate
- Don't need it. We need a Community Center were all of Elmhurst can participate in various activities.
- No good and too expensive for what they offer
- it would add to the appeal of the community
- Terrific as the high school should be used for HS events
- N/A
- I think Elmhurst can share facilities with the public schools. I've been playing park district volleyball for years in Naperville, and all our games are in junior high schools or elementary schools. Taxpayer dollars would be better spent somewhere else. There is a need for a better fitness facility. The Courts is small and outdated, which is why we cancelled our membership. If you combined a fitness facility with an indoor sports area, that would make sense.
- Fairly good. Could this concept be tethered to existing facilities such as York High School or Wagner?
- I think it is a must and strongly support it
- Long overdue
- I think they are fine but I would like to see an indoor facility for indoor soccer maybe another indoor pool with lap lanes.
- We absolutely need one. There is no comprehensive sports facility near us. We sometimes go to oak brook to use their indoor pool or basketball courts. As our kids were growing up we always wished there was something bigger and better than the courts plus facility that has no basketball and a pool that's really geared for adults. There is also nowhere for the kids to play volleyball. We would have used a sports facility constantly if we had had one. We would still use it with our younger kids and when the older ones come home from college. We definitely need this in our community!
- ok. Nothing for kids wanting indoor soccer or year around hockey. Nothing to draw people from out of the immediate area to Elmhurst.
- Would be nice to have something like the Westmont facility in Elmhurst. There's nothing like it here.
- I would love it
- They are mediocre.
- There are not many options
- Can't handle the needs of the residents and the space required. Residents must go outside of Elmhurst for facilities. Groups are fighting for the space at the gyms.
- I grew up in Elmhurst and played park district sports and until recently, was a member of courts plus. Before going away to college, I played indoor basketball at both at the Wagner Community Center (Washington & Madison) and also at the YMCA. After moving back to Elmhurst with my family, I played organized basketball at the Oak Brook park district. Since graduating from York, a new indoor fieldhouse was built, a new community center was built at Berens Park, and a variety of outdoor skate parks were built. With all of the facilities at the grade schools, junior high schools, high school, and existing park district facilities both in Elmhurst and Oak Brook, I do not see a need for another indoor sports facility. What I do see a need for is better access to the facilities within Elmhurst for residents. When looking at Elmhurst versus other communities, there could be an improvement in paths along the Salt



Creek Trail, across York over Rt. 38/88 & under 290. Resources could be better allocated in other places rather than putting them into a facility that seems redundant.

- we need more space - too crowded which is why we rarely use these spaces
- There isn't a really good indoor facility in Elmhurst. We are constantly going to sporting events in other towns.
- None
- They are numerous and sufficient to support the community.
- The Courts are underutilized by the majority of the residents and overpriced. The high school has too many groups that utilize its facilities.
- We used to utilize The Courts and The YMCA when our children were young. I was glad we had them in the community. Very nice. Don't know of any other sports facilities. The Y is pretty old though.
- Not enough facilities
- There are not enough, the high school is what is primarily used
- This has actually been an embarrassing void in Elmhurst forever. What indoor sports facilities? Not for the sports just mentioned...basketball, volleyball, wrestling and gymnastics. Especially basketball. Elmhurst Dist. 205 supports these sports for indoor facilities here in town. My children are older now but the youth in Elmhurst DESPERATELY NEEDS an indoor sports facility!!!
- There are not enough. The school district has the most facilities, but outside use is incredibly expensive and greatly limited.
- Would love to have more near us!
- They are disjointed and individual and sometimes cost prohibitive. Having one for all would be a great asset to the whole community, even if divided into adjacent buildings on the same campus.
- Fine for in-house sports. We go outside Elmhurst for travel sports in-door facilities, other than airborne basketball.
- While there are a number of facilities demand exceeds available space.
- The facilities are nice. But I think it is necessary to have an indoor facility so that sports can practice year around
- Probably could use more, but don't want to use tax money to subsidize it
- they are acceptable, but dated
- Yes, the gymnastic program is very successful and kids come from other suburbs to our program. We can use more space and a pit.
- As a long time basketball player, the need for indoor basketball courts is acute. None at the Courts. Limited at the YMCA. That would be my first priority. Courts and Y have good pools. Also open up York during none use time.
- I think it would be highly used and valued if Elmhurst built an indoor sports facility.
- We love the courts for work out and water aerobics. The water could be warmer.
- They are just Ok-Courts too crowded.
- Yes, I think that we need an indoor sports facility because for my indoor soccer, we had to drive over 30 minutes to Romeoville for the indoor sports facility. Also for lots of other sports like volleyball, my sister had to go to La Grange.
- Since we do not use any of them we do not have an opinion.
- would love basketball courts for teens, hockey rink, or better indoor practice center for sports
- Limited as far as Ice related activities.
- I think it would be a great addition.
- Good but could use another indoor pool and indoor ice rink
- I being an elite gymnast at the facility in the Wagner Center, find the facility to be far too small for the team programs, only to add many unexperienced youth classes and camps to the mix.

Not only is the facility far too small, but it also does not have the necessities I need to further myself in my gymnastics career (such as pits, events, spotting belts, etc.)

- Poor- inconsistent quality of space, inadequate access to bathrooms/water in the schools, poor viewing areas, building access creates problems for some schools (vandalism) when kids roam away from gym, at times school facilities are not unlocked when they should be creating problems for our group to access when reserved/needed
- Too spread out. Pity that there is not an aquatic indoor facility for all. Oak brook has a great facility to model after. Courts is fine just not the all-encompassing facility it needs to be to compete with others.
- I think it would be a great asset for all ages in the community. Possibly bringing more people to Elmhurst.
- Courts plus has narrow stairs to locker rooms. Track too short at Courts Plus
- They are not nearly as good as other communities in nearby suburbs. The school gyms are dated and can't handle the events being held. We lag behind communities who have better facilities either in middle schools or park district facilities.
- We need a better facility to serve the community.
- I think the existing facilities are limited and a bit small.
- They seem to be outdated and limited in their offering.
- They are just okay. Not really close enough to my house to be useful.
- The indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst are significantly inferior compared with other comparable communities. Many competing suburbs have both indoor field houses and indoor gyms. Each year, at least 1,000 families, and probably many more, participate in indoor sports in other communities because Elmhurst does not have such facilities here. The athletes using other facilities play soccer, lacrosse, basketball, baseball, softball, hockey, and more. I am aware of no indoor field houses with turf in Elmhurst. While we have several gyms, most are outdated and inefficient. Furthermore, most of the gyms are difficult to efficiently rent and too costly, because of the way D 205 handles such rentals. Finally, while there is a fieldhouse at York, it does not have turf, and have as inferior basketball surface. Additionally, it is not really "available" to the community given existing uses by YHS and its "partners."
- They are good
- Could be better
- Inadequate for team sports that our grandchildren participate in, such as basketball.
- they are fine
- I think there are enough sports facilities already in Elmhurst including a new facility currently being built on the north end of Elmhurst
- Nonexistent for anything other than basketball and volleyball
- Too many programs are at Webster on the north side. Need something on left side
- Yes
- Inadequate. The Courts for tennis and fitness is good. Other indoor facilities do not exist except for school gyms which are difficult to schedule and use.
- The Courts is a great place. I've taken tennis lessons, played on leagues, enjoyed water aerobics as well as swimming laps. I've also used the fitness floor.
- Not impressed. Cost too much money. Viewed as a work out facility not a sports complex.
- We are in need of an indoor baseball facility.
- Limited activities in winter.
- Not enough
- They are old-school and out of step with the needs of modern athletes.
- Facilities are too spread out. It's difficult to know what is happening where
- They are lacking.
- They are outdated.

- School specific or need to pay to use (Courts Plus, Y). Would be great to have something like Oak Brook has.
- There are not enough indoor facilities in Elmhurst. We need to go to Oak Brook or other cities to use there's often.
- Great idea.... long time coming
- There is no place to go for basketball or volleyball as you can't use York gym unless you sneak into the facility. The YMCA has one small court- always unavailable and you have to be a member.
- Old, small, not what I expected from the amount we pay in taxes.
- None existent for the most part. YMCA is overpopulated and very old. Courts Plus is the same.
- Dated, limited sports, expensive for what it is
- Need bigger/better gymnastics center with modern, up to date equipment and a practice pit.
- I think it is a fantastic idea and will be utilized by most everyone in town.
- Fine but outdated
- They are ok, but small and a little dated. I would love something closer for the North side.
- They are outdated and not easily accessible during after work hours.
- gymnastics center is nice. not good bball or dance facilities
- Great facility
- Over spending
- It would be wonderful as I find we are driving my son for to indoor baseball facilities outside of Elmhurst during the fall and winter months on a weekly basis.
- it would be amazing. currently we drive all over Elmhurst for a variety of practices at odd times because there isn't enough space during the seasons. there is not one facility that works for all of these - York hs being the best, but very over scheduled with everything going on. we even drive to hillside for winter soccer league - this could be done here in Elmhurst. There is also a need for another pool in Elmhurst with the influx of new families moving north of north for the past 10-15 years...east end is way over crowded and berens is the perfect spot for this.
- We could use a good facility that can be flexible and used for many activities and built and used wisely.
- Not enough facilities available
- Need more convenient indoor courts that are accessible for open play
- They are great for what they offer.
- I don't think that the Courts Plus facilities are worth the fee.
- Rather dated
- There's a definite need for one
- Limited availability, overused and outdated.
- An indoor sports facility would be a great addition for the city and eliminate the need to travel so far out. Could also make Elmhurst even more of a destination for club teams, semi-pro athletes. Indoor swimming would be very nice to use as well. Many cities have large recreation centers that make them more inviting to younger families, like Palatine, Lincolnwood.
- Good
- YMCA and Wagner Center are substandard to what was available in Edina, MN where we moved from (I grew up in Elmhurst). I am seeking other places for swim, gymnastics, workout, etc. Also, having an indoor ice arena in town would be fantastic. We were going to Addison, and Bensenville but takes too much time to commute over during the week and have since dropped our weekly lessons.
- More available space is needed
- I think it would be a good thing, and would worth it even if property taxes need to go up.

- We need more. We travel to Bensenville, Hillside, LaGrange, Lisle and Glen Ellyn frequently to use indoor sports facilities--not to mention other towns for birthday party type events, etc.
- They are limited. I think it is because certain groups (Elmhurst Airborne, ICCP, sign up for more dates than they use or need for certain indoor facilities (like the school's gyms) and then cancel at the last minute.
- For many years I have thought an indoor facility in Elmhurst would be a great idea. I am jealous of other communities such as Glen Ellyn who have an indoor and outdoor facility for many activities and classrooms all in one location.
- They are inadequate and very poor in comparison to facilities in every other town to which we travel (and we frequent many other indoor facilities). It is also extremely difficult to get gym time at the Elmhurst facilities because they are so small and in such high demand.
- Between schools, YMCA, Courts Plus and various private gym/workout facilities, there are ample options for indoor sports activities.
- The courts are somewhat limited, and the YMCA is not up to standard. Other Park District facilities are overwhelmed with the current demand of patrons utilizing them. The schools are also providing updated accommodations for demand usage.
- Lacking basketball courts. Courts Plus does little for me due to no basketball courts. The local YMCA does have one basketball court but it is often a zoo and is hard to find room to play.
- The number of available indoor facilities is inadequate. For individuals, it may be sufficient (i.e.: Courts Plus), but for teams and/or groups essentially non-existent.
- Bad because all our family of 5 in our household cares about is ice hockey. Since there is none in Elmhurst, we have to travel to other towns.
- pleased with courts plus and use regularly
- Compared to other communities, the facilities are basically non-existent. Our 3 children all play travel sports and in every case they either practice and/or play in facilities outside of Elmhurst. This is in spite of the fact that each of these teams is named as Elmhurst teams (Elmhurst Knights, Elmhurst FC, Elmhurst Lacrosse).
- Would like more indoor swimming, expanded fitness center(s), specific indoor play/activity center for young children
- They are inadequate, both in structure and the ability to find open time to use them. Communities around us have facilities that encompass much more for both children and adults. Many of my children's teams have utilized these spaces but I would much rather be able to stay in Elmhurst.
- Like the Y and Courts Plus but would like to see large indoor facility for ice hockey and other indoor sports
- Inadequate for a town our size with the number of kids and active adults that would use it and have to travel to other towns to do so
- They are a bit outdated and old. The space is limited as well.
- I feel Elmhurst could benefit from an indoor sports facility, especially something that appeals to teens and young adults. I would especially like to see an indoor ice rink. We currently don't have any reliable year round ice in town.
- Courts Plus is inadequate. The YMCA is less adequate than Courts. I don't know of any other facilities available in Elmhurst that are available to the public.
- Very poor relative to surrounding communities.
- Inadequate and/or too restrictive
- Average - the gymnasium at Wagner is small vs. the amount of programs/kids.
- Our facilities are very poor compared to other towns.
- Very limited in what is offered
- Very limited options, we use hockey rinks outside of Elmhurst

- Not adequate. Needs updating. They need a locker facility for changing from one activity to another or coming straight from school. Not enough lockers during winter with large coats.
- Lacking compared other nearby cities
- They are lacking compared to other facilities in the area. No large turf area for soccer/lacrosse, baseball for indoor games/practice
- We need more indoor open play opportunities for winter months. It is important for kids to exercise, but it can be hard in inclement weather. The existing class options are very limited. We need more open play, drop in options.
- The facilities are out of date, old and small. They offer little conveniences for families. We are forced to drive to out of the way suburbs for indoor soccer, basketball and LAX. We are in need of a larger sports complex and a gym such as Lifetime Fitness.
- We do not have a place for indoor soccer, baseball, basketball for kid's programs.
- I would think it would be beneficial to the community
- Seems they are crowded and class/activity availability is reduced (as evidence from constantly being wait listed) due to space.
- There is a great need. We have spent many years in travel basketball and Elmhurst does not have the facilities that other towns have in terms of indoor courts.
- Pool is often crowded and has an awkward combination of recreational swimmers, triathletes and competitive adult swimmers, and water walkers. The pool is not suitable for teaching and is difficult to use for lap swimming or training when water classes are underway. Disabled lift renders one lane of the pool unusable by more than one person at a time, while the steps and hot tub access on the other side makes that outside lane unusable for lap swimming most of the time. Water walkers often take up some of the three inside lanes (the ones that should be used by lap swimmers). Pool size and configuration is inadequate for swim training programs (stroke clinics, masters swimming, etc.), swim lessons, triathlete clinics and training, water polo, synchronized swimming, etc. Pool depth is unsuitable for deep water aerobics or deep water safety and rescue training. Pool temperature is a compromise at best that leaves it too warm for any serious interval swimming and too cold for any therapy-type programs. Fitness floor is poorly designed, has inadequate stretching area, and a track that is too short for serious training with way too much cross traffic to be safe. Children are sometimes inadequately supervised, and are allowed to use the fitness floor when it is crowded with adults. This facility was originally "sold" to the community as an "adult" facility and it has become disproportionately about kids (just walk through the facility and count the signs and posters about kid programs versus adult programs to get an idea).
- Would like larger gymnastics space.
- We really don't have a true indoor sports facility.
- It would be well used by many, many groups. We have a great need for one in Elmhurst!
- They aren't many options
- Very limited in places to use, times open and availability. For basketball and softball/baseball Elmhurst does not have adequate facilities available.
- N/A
- The Wagner Center needs to be updated. The Courts was great when we used to go there.
- Adequate but nothing special. I would think we could do much better given our tax base.
- They are lacking in a few areas. mainly indoor aquatics and sports fields. A field house with track would be great for winter months!
- they are just ok. meet the basic needs
- They're good.
- Sufficient for toddler sports but lacking for older children and adults. Other nearby towns offer better facilities.

- My children enjoy basketball and as far as I know the only basketball options are Bensenville park district and the YMCA.
- we need a place for basketball leagues for kids and adults. Courts Plus is great for working out but we need a place for league sports to be played
- haven't used courts in years, patriot boxing for team Elmhurst soccer, horrible facilities for what they pay in taxes and for what the community should offer
- We don't have adequate space to handle tournaments or one facility where families can go for all activities
- Good gym and tennis courts at Courts. Limited experience with gym for children gymnastics at Wagner.
- Average. Would love an option on the south side of town?
- I believe the current indoor sports facilities work well for the community, however there are sports or events that we leave the community for due to availability or lack of facility; such as, Bensenville basketball and hockey programs or out of town indoor Lacrosse or Soccer.
- Courts is okay but is old and does not have basketball courts. YMCA is old, small weight area, and the 1 basketball court is always over crowded. We need more indoor basketball courts.
- The ymca could be modernized and expanded to maybe become a community hub with more adult and senior offerings; indoor sports offerings for children are very nice at Wagner and some at Courts plus; For people who move to the community new (like we did) an easier to navigate course brochures (through the community website???)that includes all classes and facilities (incl. Library)would be nice,- when we came, it took me some time to understand how ymca, courts plus, library and park district interlink
- Must have to keep Elmhurst competitive with other Western Suburbs
- We have plenty of Gyms in Elmhurst in the schools. You need to partner with them more.
- Very limited
- One location would be ideal but having at different locations is good because you can find something closer to your home.
- Would like to see an indoor family pool
- Good options, and indoor facility with turf would be nice.
- We would love an indoor sports facility. Soccer is a huge all-year-round sport, and right now, we are either crammed into Patriot Boxing, or have to travel to Grasshopper in Hillside or Westmont yards. There are so many basketball and swimming programs at the Oakbrook Park district- we would love to be able to do those sports indoors in Elmhurst.
- Beautiful facility but the swimming facilities are lacking.
- The sports facilities in Elmhurst are nice and are convenient for many. I do believe that a new sports facility would really be useful for the town of Elmhurst and really draw in a crowd of all different ages.
- between the high school gyms, LA Fitness in Oakbrook, and soon to be in Elmhurst, the Courts Plus, YMCA, and many other outlets such as grade school, middle school gyms, yoga studios, personal training facilities. I think building a sports facility is a not a good investment, unless it will be large enough to attract outside competitive intramural sports at an affordable cost.
- Our indoor sports facility needs are met.
- There are some nice ones that offer and variety of sporting options
- I would very much like to see an indoor sports facility
- Inadequate
- Lacking, extremely inadequate
- There is not enough. We use Bensenville and Oak Brook for organized basketball and drive to Lisle for indoor baseball practice. There are no indoor facilities for my daughter to train in volleyball.
- Want it



- I think it would be a great asset to the town
- There are none! A sports facility should be a free standing facility that houses turf fields, courts, ice rink, and/or a pool.
- We have plenty now. Every school in Elmhurst has one or more gyms, there is Courts Plus, YMCA, Wagner, the trampoline facility, many private buildings have gyms/pools. Do not spend money on more facilities. It is a shame the outdoor facilities are being turned into flood retention swamps that are going to be pretty much useless for any activities.
- Not great.
- Love the idea
- Used to belong to Courts for over 30 years. Cancelled membership. Too crowded. inadequate facilities for cost. Poor staff supervision. Not in favor of any new facility. Not willing to pay more taxes because younger parents want more. Demand is insufficient. Existing school and other facilities are sufficient. Many more needs than a new facility. Never support new facility.
- Gym time is very limited and difficult to procure on a repetitive basis. The surrounding communities offer much better alternatives for gym space.
- I support the indoor sports facility in Elmhurst.
- They are pretty good.
- need more facilities
- fine, no need to expand
- Good
- I would love a multipurpose facility for volleyball, basketball, soccer
- not needed
- they are pretty good
- great!
- Not sure what all is available, but doesn't seem like much
- Very limited. I coach Elmhurst Airborne and see many other cities with nice, large indoor facilities. Wish we had one.
- I think we have what we need already
- They are fine
- Besides the YMCA I'm really not aware of any- which is a problem in itself.
- They are lacking. A facility akin to the Oak Brook Park District and Aquatic Center would be pretty awesome (indoor courts, indoor pool, gym) and something the entire community could use/benefit from.
- Sorely needed.
- Definitely needed in order to meet the needs of all ages of users, but particularly those between the ages of 18 and 45. All three of our children moved back home after college and would have loved to have volleyball and basketball facilities available. Now that they have moved out, such facilities would be a draw for them to come back to Elmhurst when they are ready to purchase a home.
- Probably good idea depending on costs involved and ongoing maintenance needs. Should be centrally located in Elmhurst, possibly downtown to continue growth in city center.
- I'm new to the area (moved to Elmhurst in August 2015), but I think that they seem sufficient between the YMCA, Courts Plus, etc. However, I am not aware of any indoor sports facilities owned by the Park District though I could easily be wrong given the fact that I am new.
- It's a bit of a hodge podge. And we don't belong to the Courts because I don't think it's a good value.
- Don't need a money losing ice skating surface but the rest of the proposal is ok
- Are there any?! Would love a community gymnasium for basketball and tennis and indoor activity and running around in winter months.
- Nothing really available aside from the courts. Need a bigger venue for team sports.

- Dated and small
- good
- They are just okay.
- We need indoor soccer fields
- YMCA and Courts Plus are great options. I would like to see more options for swimming at Courts Plus for younger kids to swim.
- Mimic Des Plaines or Glendale Heights as both offer fabulous opportunities, especially for alternate weather plans for the kids. Indoor soccer, indoor playgrounds, indoor walking/running track. It would be absolutely fabulous if 24/7 access to a gym could be acquired, especially with the modern security options now available.
- I think the indoor sports facilities are good. I have used them in the past and if I was going to go to one I wouldn't hesitate going again.
- Fine with what's offered by the park district and private sector
- Not adequate
- We really need an indoor facility, our school gyms are overused by basketball, soccer, and other sports organizations. It is very difficult to reserve space. Elmhurst needs an indoor facility for basketball/volleyball courts and indoor soccer on turf. Surrounding towns have beautiful indoor community facilities such as the Ackerman Sports Complex in Glen Ellyn and the Oakbrook Park District facility and I'm always surprised that Elmhurst does not have a comparable facility.
- I believe we are lacking in an indoor facility like Grasshopper or Westmont Yard where soccer and basketball can be played with appropriate space. My husband stopped playing basketball at the Ymca as the court was too small - difficult for family to watch as limited sideline viewing spots. We go to Grasshopper often as our kids are in soccer leagues. Would be great to have something in town.
- Good but lacking indoor ice rink which could be very beneficial to the community with such a big interest in hockey. The only issue with the school gyms is size.
- Lack of available space, limited time. Not enough space. We use Hillside, Oakbrook, and Westmont more because Elmhurst is never available.
- My kids figure skate, so we use facilities outside of Elmhurst in the surrounding communities (Bensenville, Oak Park, Addison, Downers Grove, Woodridge).
- The schools that are used do not fit the needs of the sport being played. The gyms are too small and not safe.
- Not enough space
- no opinion
- Old equipment, not enough equipment. Slow at getting the new, latest equipment.
- They're minimally adequate compared to towns such as Elk Grove, Darien, Rolling Meadows and Hoffman Estates. Elmhurst lacks a centralized facility that offers 3-4 sports such as swimming, soccer, hockey and basketball. I would also add that with Elmhurst being a hockey town, there is a need for a roller hockey court/rink complete with boards and glass like a real ice arena. This is more of an outdoor idea but still a need.
- We have very little. Wagner center is not enough for this community. Public schools are fine for team events, but there needs an open gym for basketball, volleyball or other indoor sports. An indoor swimming pool other than Courts would be nice.
- They are limited and a bit dated but at least they are available.
- We need more indoor tennis courts. We have found it very difficult to schedule private lessons with pros at courts plus, which has caused us to move to Oak Brook park district for lessons. We also don't have an indoor soccer facility which means most folks drive to other cities for winter practices. The pool at courts plus is great for lap swimming and rarely seems filled to maximum during the hours we use it.

- We have excellent new private facilities coming on line soon. The PUBLIC facilities should be phased out so as not to compete with the private facilities.
- All for it but would want to see what it does to my property taxes first.
- Would be nice for the youth of Elmhurst but only if it makes financial sense.
- they're ok
- Garbage
- Would be nice to have 1 large facility that the entire community could use including ice rinks. There is a large amount of hockey players that spent large amounts of money out side of Elmhurst.
- Waiting for indoor soccer, I have to go Melrose park to play
- they seem nice to do activities in.
- there is no indoor space available for soccer in town. We go to hillside, Westmont and Schaumburg for indoor facilities. Space needs to be available for that.
- We already have some wonderful indoor sports facilities. What I'm aching for is a building devoted to fine arts. It would be nice to balance the sports facilities with at least one building where kids could get their creativity on (and adults!) to use for theater, dance, comedy, performance, etc. We have so many talented people in our city, and our community theaters and dance troupes and singing groups mostly meet in church basements or ill-suited school auditoriums. It would be a great reflection on Elmhurst to show that we value kids taking part in performance and fine arts as well as team sports and athletics.
- YMCA pool has too much chlorine; Courts plus pool is not family friendly So We joined oak brook Rec center
- Balanced. See a need for larger indoor aquatics, basketball, and potential soccer / ice. Also could expand gymnastics with additional space.
- no strong opinion
- It is very needed for hockey. Our family belongs to the Chiefs Hockey Club which is predominately Elmhurst residents, but we play in Bensenville as there is no regulation rink in Elmhurst.
- Courts Plus is geared to a very elderly crowd. Pool is too small and very few tennis courts. Class rooms are too small. Wagner center gymnasium is small and overcrowded and needs additional equipment. Dance classes are way too small. And there isn't an indoor soccer facility anywhere. YMCA is old and decrepit, very disjointed. Deforest is overpriced.
- I have lived in Elmhurst my entire life, raised 3 children and have always been very disappointed in our facilities compared to other communities.
- Great idea - the high school is getting beat up with all the rentals
- An indoor aquatics facility for lessons and free swim would be fabulous! We travel to Oakbrook for swim lessons and have to pay non-resident fees. Also, we travel to Bensenville for indoor hockey and figure skating and lessons. An indoor ice rink would be great!
- They are small and do not have a lot of activities for all ages.
- Indoor playground for kids (e.g., like the one in La Grange)

Q11: What are your thoughts on the indoor sports facilities currently available outside of Elmhurst?  
**(OPEN ENDED)**

- little exposure
- Westmont Yard is GREAT. Elmhurst could totally use something like it.
- Nice facilities
- I am impressed with Oak Brook and its facilities. I am not currently a member at either right now, but use OBPD in the winters. Not as big a Fan of LA Fitness
- Bensenville and oak brook park districts offer nice clean facilities with a great assortment of programs.
- We are in particular need of an ice facility and the surrounding ice facilities, while they provide ice, they are lacking a diverse offering to support other indoor sports and are not of the quantity needed to fully support the high demand of our ice sports, namely hockey.
- They are nice
- Very nice, to bad Elmhurst is 10 years behind our neighbors.
- Pretty well utilized and could use some more open gym time
- Ice rinks are the only sports venues outside of Elmhurst that I use.
- Veterans Park District has a walking track at the Leoni Center. You can't beat the price.
- They have more of the exercise classes I like. None of the Les Mills stuff.
- They are adequate and are useful for basketball, lacrosse, and soccer
- Oak brook is a really nice facility. not familiar w/others
- The oak brook pool is fantastic. We cool use a facility like that.
- Very nice but would like to stay local
- There are a lot of great options, but quite a drive. I feel that an indoor sports complex with turf fields, play area, maybe a pool would be a huge success here. We know so many people that are willing to drive to Naperville, Westmont, McHenry for indoor soccer venues, and they would be so happy to have one here. Oak Park has a new gymnastics facility that is quite amazing as well with a lot of open play times.
- Much better options
- Prefer that the facilities host all types of sports under one roof. Great basketball courts at other facilities. Triple Play Academy in Antioch is an excellent example of something that could be useful in Elmhurst -- indoor, with availability to train during cold, rainy or winter months. Owner (Mark McQueen) is willing to consult with the park district. Would be surprised if someone doesn't enter the Elmhurst market with this type of facility before the city/park district have the chance to act.
- They are better and offer greater programs than those in Elmhurst
- There are several in the area, however they are not of the best quality, often being old and worn down. Franklin Park has recently spent several million upgrading their ice rink to great effect. The ice is of a better and more consistent quality, as well as the boards, glass, and benches. Unfortunately, the rest of their facility is still in somewhat disrepair, with leaks from the roof putting holes in the ice and rendering it dangerous.
- Generally nicer, better maintained
- they are good
- Below average
- Nice, but far!!!

- Most are very nice and updated, but are too far or difficult to get to in a decent amount of time.
- They are nice, big, able to hold big events.
- I think it is a terrible idea. We currently have a Park Dist. that is able to handle the needs of our community. Our town has larger issues it should be directing its attention towards. Flooded homes due to poor infrastructure, schools in Elmhurst in desperate need of updating/repair and empty store fronts are just a few of the more urgent issues that come to my mind.
- Naperville is just built (or is building?) an indoor space. Two things that I was impressed with was their focus on serving seniors with an indoor walking track as well as dedicated space for their SRA and their participants with special needs.
- We love Westmont yard!
- Downers is amazing
- Fully dedicated, better equipped
- I am very impressed with the ice skating facilities in both Bensenville and Addison, and I wish there was an option closer for indoor soccer.
- Newer and meet the needs. Would love an indoor pool, indoor track, ice rink
- Often grander in scale and serve as nice community centers
- The Edge is Ice specific, and we're not too into any ice activities. But it's great to have around should ice specific activities come up. We use McCook for dance competitions my daughter is involved in. It's great for that, but they have horrible traffic control
- Positive
- Like them
- Significantly better in physical quality, size and programming
- Seems like other cities have bigger, more comprehensive facilities
- Most of the facilities we've used to date have been very nice, well-kept and seem to offer a lot, in addition to Elmhurst's already wonderful park district programs and sports options. But getting to facilities outside town is almost always a hassle. And I'd much rather spend my money IN Elmhurst. Why can't there be a facility (with similarities to the York HS field house) that houses more?
- Schaumburg and Glen Ellyn have great indoor facilities
- More inclusive,
- I would probably use Courts Plus, but my health insurance gives me a discount at Life Start through Silver Sneakers. I'm satisfied there.
- Much nicer: newer, larger spaces, more courts, exclusive use to sports teams and rec leagues, offer food/beverages regularly (not just when teams want to staff the concession stand at York)
- They have better facilities.
- We are way behind. So many of the surrounding areas have nice indoor facilities. Airborne has to play at York hs or middle schools, Knights basketball moved to Oakbrook. We must improve.
- limited
- Many have newer facilities or their staff/coaches are more experienced and welcoming
- Gottlieb has a beautiful health facility
- They're fine.
- There are many facilities offered by other communities that allow my child to pursue his sporting interest's year round. Many of those communities have less financial ability than Elmhurst, yet they are doing a better job of providing facilities for their communities.
- A lot of other towns have sports facilities- Elk Grove has an awesome one, swimming at oak brook park district is great too.
- Unsure

- Way better than ours
- Many surrounding towns have built larger multi-plex facilities which can service many different sports. We especially love the Darien sports plex- with facilities for ice, lacrosse, soccer and karate!
- It seems many of the other park districts have a facility superior to our options. But they also don't have all the fitness center we do for adults. Our main concern is the options for our young kids, which are limited near home. Especially with indoor swim year round
- I use those facilities for birthday parties and for indoor sports. I feel they are better than what we have to offer in Elmhurst and I would rather spend my money in Elmhurst.
- More options
- Different towns hold different things, like Bensenville has a great hockey rink.
- Beautiful facilities but so far to drive kids everywhere!
- The only thing Elmhurst doesn't have is an ice rink but there are so many surrounding Elmhurst (also the YMCA in Elmhurst in the winter) that it's not a very big deal there isn't an indoor rink in Elmhurst.
- The ice rinks are old
- Much better programs, and Elmhurst would benefit from a multipurpose indoor facility with a turf and ice rink.
- Indoor swimming other than the ymca would be good
- I have no use for indoor sports facility...only fitness clubs
- they are adequate
- Max McCook is terrific and so is Ackerman in Glen Ellyn. New gym in Romeoville is great too
- Decent, full service, we play ice hockey and there is nowhere in Elmhurst to play until the winter at the ymca
- I think they are excellent.
- Glen Ellyn's Ackerman is phenomenal. It's a shame that Elmhurst doesn't have something like this.
- we need one with everything
- They are limited as well as they are designed for their own towns and then take on the overflow from others.
- Too far
- They are great - love the multi-use aspect of them. Always busy (highly used)
- We have very few options
- Way better than Elmhurst. Could be improved upon.
- Otis why we leave Elmhurst
- Some are very nice- e.g. the new facility that was built in Naperville- Naperville Yards. it is multi-function and large. Grasshopper in Hillside is not a nice facility but is PACKED all weekend with indoor soccer. Westmont Yards is also a nice facility but only has 3 fields. Odeum in Villa Park is also run down/ not a nice facility but functional.
- They are inadequate for the families in Elmhurst. It's ridiculous
- Bensenville in particular is amazing. Clean, up to date, well organized.
- good
- I feel like there are better options outside of Elmhurst. For example, Oak Brook aquatics center has a great set up for both recreational and athletic swimming. In addition, it has indoor basketball courts that can be used for pickup games, etc. There is nowhere in Elmhurst to do those things right now. In addition, I think Elmhurst would benefit greatly from a facility with indoor ice. Ice skating and hockey are growing in popularity and it would be beneficial to the community to be able to have its own ice program.



- It would be nice to have these types of facilities in Elmhurst to help ease travel and keep revenue in Elmhurst
- Some are nicer than others. The Edge and Darien Sportsplex are some of the nicer facilities.
- The facilities are adequate. We are at the Edge in Bensenville 3 days a week. When we are there, the majority of people we see are from Elmhurst. I would imagine our time spent at the Edge will increase as our other 2 kids start playing hockey.
- They are good, but not real convenient to get to.
- I think they can be improved on.
- Ice time is very hard to come by
- much better ice offerings.
- We really like the Edge but would love something closer to home and to know that we were supporting our town when we used the ice facility
- Community centers such as those found in Glen Ellyn with indoor fields and ice rinks are great!
- It is nice but over crowded
- We do not have good choices here for inside sports use. I have traveled around the close suburbs and have watched my children play on in very nice sports facilities. Elmhurst needs one.
- They are great, would be nice to have one in Elmhurst.
- It is fine, but a pain to travel to multiple times per week.
- The best facilities offer space for soccer, basketball & hockey. Also should consider adding a restaurant / bar.
- Would love to keep my money in town and cut down on travel. Would probably use facility more if it was well planned building with great hours, parking. Would love it to be for Elmhurst residents only.
- Bensenville has very good indoor ice rink facilities.
- Edge in Bensenville is very good. Other hockey facilities are old and not impressive. Oak Brook park district is good for basketball.
- Na
- Elmhurst can build a state of the art facility and Elmhurst residents can cease leaving town to play hockey. Bensenville, Addison & Darien have decent facilities but a mix of all three would be ideal. Two sheets of ice, restaurant, workout facilities, etc.
- Overall we lack good indoor facilities. We have wonderful outdoor facilities, but critical, popular facilities such as a year-round indoor hockey rink are needed. Most other similar towns (demographically) have indoor ice rinks (i.e Park Ridge - Oakton Ice Arena). We would support building such a facility to support youth hockey programs, such as the Elmhurst-based Chiefs Hockey Club.
- Addison could use major improvements; Edge is an overall nice facility. Challenge is ice time because of very high demand in the area
- There are more available than in Elmhurst.
- other communities have far superior inside training/sports facilities. We should be able to host basketball tournaments, and provide training facilities for our athletic teams. We pay a lot of taxes and I don't feel we have adequate park district facilities to support our community's sporting teams.
- They give the members of their respective communities the ability to participate in a far wider variety of sports yearlong. They also host tournaments and special events that attract families from other communities and out of state, which gives them and other local business an opportunity to increase revenues.
- Most of these facilities are of good quality, I just wish we didn't have to drive so far to get them. I would really like to see a facility that combines ice and turf facilities in Elmhurst.
- Too long of a drive to get to them.

- Ok
- Oak Park has built a great new facility with one sheet of ices inside and one outside. Most of the other facilities for indoor practice are private space in industrial parks.
- they work but I wish they were closer to Elmhurst
- I am confused by this question. We currently travel outside of Elmhurst to play indoor hockey, soccer and lacrosse.
- Addison Ice Rink is depressing and smells terrible. Especially the locker rooms. The Edge and Aquatic center are nice The Wheaton Sports Complex is beautiful - love their sports courts.
- They are nice but too far to drive
- Solid
- Need updating.
- Like them a lot. Farther drive but we use them because we need them.
- There are not many, so we have to use other facilities for indoor sports.
- They are bigger and better equipped
- Better than ours
- Very nice! Romeoville and the new Naperville building on Quincy St. are great examples of multi-use complexes that are missing in Elmhurst.
- They are adequate for our needs, but could be more modern.
- The Edge in Bensenville has more demand than availability. The Addison Ice facility is a dump.
- More offerings than here
- No opinion.
- Lack of available ice
- The Oak brook aquatic facility is great in the winter. The edge ice arena is nice but the ice time is often booked full. The Addison Ice arena is old and out dated.
- They are adequate. Addison is quite run down and only the ice itself seems to be worthy of use. I would rate this as 4 out of 10. The locker room facilities are poor. The Edge is nicer, but also showing its age. This would be 5 or 6 out of 10.
- There are some great multiplexes in other communities that certainly bring in a lot of people from other areas. Through the food portion, and rental fees, a lot of Elmhurst money is getting spent elsewhere.
- Always busy
- The treatment that our team gets from indoor sports facilities in other towns is poor. We are limited in options, the expense is very high and our young drivers are required to travel after curfew hours to drive to more distant facilities.
- Much more competitive. Glen Ellyn Ackerman Facility is great comparison for what Elmhurst should have (+ rink, + pool)
- They are nice and well done but too far away
- There isn't a single facility in the Western suburbs that serves the needs of the communities with baseball, soccer, basketball, volleyball, lacrosse, gymnastics, aquatics and hockey.
- 
- The Edge is a much better facility than Addison Ice but at both facilities ice is at a premium. If there was an indoor facility with other alternatives or additional opportunities to Courts Plus I feel it would be used.
- 
- Many of the Chicagoland ice rinks are getting old. There are not enough ice surfaces for the demand in the area.
- Good, cover more options
- Surround towns have way better facilities. The "gym" at Wagner is useless, even for Biddy Sports.

- nice
- They are 100 better than Elmhurst
- Tired of the drive. Would prefer something closer that also provides some tax revenue to the city.
- As a swimmer, I think that pool time is much like ice time for hockey - hard to have a lot of open time since there aren't a lot of facilities
- There are so many fantastic facilities outside of Elmhurst that I utilize. I'd prefer to spend my money in my own community.
- Some other surrounding communities have very nice community facilities. Oak Brook, Carol Stream, Schaumburg, Orland Park are ones that are impressive. We have been to many for basketball tournaments.
- There are many more options. Would like to use Elmhurst but the facilities are not there for hockey, soccer, baseball, etc.
- No good
- They are nice. If Elmhurst does this, I want it to be big with a lot of openings for multiple sports.
- Some are better than others, we should look to be one of the best
- They provide a good option for sports during the winter season.
- Naperville Yard and Westmont Yard are very nice and well utilized.
- Useful
- would be nice to have something in town like The Max or Edge
- They are superior to what Wagner offers.
- We go there because they provide what we need and Elmhurst does not. My son plays hockey and my daughter figure skates, but Elmhurst doesn't have an ice rink. My kids take swim lessons year-round, but Elmhurst doesn't have an indoor pool.
- I like Oak Brook the best. Bensenville is well organized and my son enjoyed playing basketball. I'd love to be able to stay in town.
- Far
- Every time I walk into one, I think, why does Elmhurst not have something like this...WE ARE FALLING BEHIND...
- It's what Elmhurst needs. A place for teams to go and use the facilities - not just all registered park district classes.
- They serve our needs
- My son plays basketball for The Knights and we travel all over the western suburbs. We are always amazed at the great sports facilities in all the other towns and feel embarrassed that our great city of Elmhurst has nothing like it. Instead we chose to build an indoor tennis facility. I only know one family who plays tennis and they go to Oak Brook.
- Just average -- nothing special. They're not the nicest places but they're functional
- I love the support for ice hockey and facilities in other towns
- They are wonderful. Will continue to spend our money there.
- Fairly available
- They have indoor ice, nothing like that in Elmhurst.
- We feel there is a need for a sports facility for the children.
- The Edge is nice. I hear Oak Brook has a nice waterpark
- good variety, large, allow for indoor play despite weather
- They are old ice rinks and are not in good shape. The ice is bad because it is so overused.
- let's try and keep it in house. It will attract needed business around the complex and inside
- They are older and at capacity.

- I use them because that is all that is available
- Much nicer, newer, larger, more programs offered.
- Towns of comparable size and wealth with less demand have better facilities or have them in the works.
- Many are much larger which means they can offer many more opportunities for sports.
- Bensenville has a great park district run indoor facility for figure skating, ice hockey and swimming. And the facility also houses a minor league team to generate revenue
- Fantastic
- Nice
- Lots of great options
- Schaumburg is amazing. My son plays indoor baseball GAMES there. They have space to host gymnastics competitions and basketball tournaments. Multiple games playing at once. Their indoor aquatic center is great for winter indoor pool parties! We also like Elk Grove indoor aquatic center.
- They are fine. Want it closer
- Great complexes that Elmhurst needs!
- Oakbrook Aquatic Center offers great options for year round aquatics programs. The exercise facility is also modern, clean and enjoyable to use.
- Bensenville has a great park district run indoor facility for figure skating, ice hockey and swimming. And the facility also houses a minor league team to generate revenue
- They are much better than what we currently have in Elmhurst. Which is nothing.
- Great facilities but hate driving so far
- They provide an indoor pool that we utilize for swim lessons.
- The Bensenville water park unfortunately is way better and nicer than the one in Elmhurst. The ice rinks in Bensenville are beautiful too
- I wish they were closer. I think it's great how they are large enough to hold tournaments, rent out for parties etc.
- Don't really have any
- I have to pay money outside of Elmhurst and travel outside of Elmhurst.
- Westmont Yard is the most multipurpose facility that many sports can use.
- Nice well maintained cost effective
- They are well utilized and an asset to their communities. Most are well appointed with lots of space, parking and concession services. It just stinks to have to travel outside of our community to play sports.
- Much better than in Elmhurst
- Many offer amazing facilities that we don't have
- They too are sufficient.
- None.
- Addison & Bensenville are superior in size and cost even to non- residence users.
- They're fine
- Great
- They are too far away yet multiple teams have their home field in one of these far-away facilities.
- Less expensive
- I'm glad those tax payers are funding them. They're empty a lot, facilities with Astro turf fields.
- I think they are sufficient and good alternatives to what Elmhurst offers.
- I would like to be able to stay closer to home

- They are much better than Elmhurst's.
- Elk Grove and Lagrange have fantastic facilities. It's disappointing that we can't provide the same for children here.
- Many are very nice and have a variety of options. They are far however.
- They have more space and activities for older children
- Poorly located with less than adequate parking
- The ice skating is nice but really because of the quality of instructors and programming. Similarly, we have done swimming lessons at the YMCA because it is year round and indoors.
- Much better and higher end outside of Elmhurst
- They are okay but would be nice not to have to drive to these places
- None
- They offer nice benefits not available in Elmhurst.
- They are very good and serve their communities.
- Softball field
- seems the need nothing more needed
- There are many larger spaces for winter practices.
- The Edge is nice but limited to skating.
- They have better basketball gyms.
- I believe the Oak Brook Complex is very nice although the pool gets extremely crowded. It is nice to have a place to go for with the family to participate in different programs.
- They are really nice and large and way better than Elmhurst
- They are fine, but would prefer one within our town and closer to home.
- Much better than what we have here. Grasshopper is just ok but it serves the purpose. Westmont Yard is a bit cleaner and brighter. We have used the Addison facility for dance competitions and the Bensenville for ice skating and their indoor pool for swim lessons.
- They are really nice and large and way better than Elmhurst
- Other communities have facilities that support the activities that our family participates in. Most of these facilities don't have a wide range of activities that they can support within their facility or a holistic approach to support the community. The Yard in Naperville which recently opened be would one of the closer examples of a facility that can support multiple sporting activities / events. With a few enhancements to support additional activities that facility could be a model for Elmhurst.
- There are some decent options, but none that are very close
- They're nice, we would use them more if they were closer.
- Some really nice facilities. But have to travel to get there.
- Having kids that played travel soccer and travel basketball, I have seen a bunch of facilities over the years. The facilities are great. Oak Brook, Schaumburg, Bartlett, Romeoville, Barrington all have great multi-purpose facilities off the top of my head.
- Some of the y's have great facilities. Not sure why we can't.
- see prior answer -- neighboring towns all have great indoor basketball and/or turf facilities that Elmhurst teams are forced to use because Elmhurst has NOTHING! and those facilities are at full us all of the time -- building this type of facility in Elmhurst would easily pay for itself just from basketball and soccer teams.
- Much better
- Westmont Yard is very new and offers the opportunity for a variety of activities and programs
- Like them as an option but would love to stay local
- Much nicer

- Many other towns have MUCH better indoor aquatics options. Considering our weather 3/4 of the year, an indoor aquatic facility with other sports options would be great.
- Very nice, always busy.
- Hoffman and Hanover Park have great indoor tennis facilities and are geared for family. Same with the rinks.
- Great especially when the weather doesn't want to cooperate. Also nice sometimes to do sports indoors when its scorching hot outside
- Gym facilities outside of the park district are not that well maintained and not very clean. Fees to use these facilities can be steep and in many cases have little to no supervision.
- Happy to have them but would prefer Elmhurst
- no opinion.
- Great open gyms
- better
- The facilities are much better than anything Elmhurst has to offer. It's embarrassing to go to other less affluent towns and they have much better facilities than us.
- Ice rink in Bensenville provides ice for Elmhurst Chiefs Hockey but the facility is two buildings - would love to have ice rinks and indoor turf here in Elmhurst
- Crowded
- There are many great facilities
- The Oak Brook indoor pool is very, very nice.
- Outside of McCook, they are generally run-down and unwelcoming.
- Overall, good quality. Not large enough on grand scale.
- Always busy
- More community friendly
- Oak Brook seems to be most accessible. Glen Ellyn (or Wheaton?) complex off of St Charles/Geneva Road is amazing.
- Some are good, some are not
- nice facilities, great selection of activities and modern amenities
- Ackerman is a great facility! Great turf field (!!), basketball, indoor running track (!!), baseball training facility (partnership with Bulls/Sox Academy). No ice, but meets the needs of so many other sports/teams.
- They are much larger so many more events can be held there.
- They are adequate.
- Westmont yard is great
- Much better
- Superior to anything we have in Elmhurst.
- Satisfactory for hockey
- They are fine and appropriate for their communities.
- More options, more competition, decently accessible
- More options, more competition, decently accessible
- Oak Brook's facilities are very nice and clean. Staff are always very nice and knowledgeable.
- It is shocking we don't have something like these available to our children. 2 of the nicest are Fountain in Carol Stream and Ackerman in Glen Ellyn.
- Very nice
- Wheaton Sports Center is much larger and better maintained. I do not believe it is a park district facility.
- Would love to have something for indoor soccer. I would think it would bring in revenue dollars for Elmhurst. Would love to not have to travel 30 minutes to use an indoor facility.



- They need to be professionally run to maximize usage. You cannot have an attitude of if you build it they will come. You need to actively market the facility and have a very experienced person run the facility.
- Tons of options, most are great facilities.
- Mostly located in office/industrial areas. Have to drive to get "extras" - coffee, lunch etc. Far from Elmhurst.
- Wish they were closer
- Adequate for the area
- Still need hockey
- they are also good but has more activities
- They are better than most of Elmhurst's places but the availability is scarce.
- better than us
- They are nice but need more space
- They are generally pretty nice. The basketball courts in Oakbrook are quite nice and are well kept
- Some are in good conditions, but most are poorly taken care of.
- Seems like other towns have some newer facilities. Elmhurst facilities other than York are typically small.
- Westmont Yard is fantastic, and has a variety of uses for different age kids, from childcare, playroom, fields for sports games and camps, birthday parties, etc.
- Very nice, my kids okay bball at oak room and swim there too. It's a shame we have to leave our town to access these things. It would be nice to have not only space for kids enrolled in organized sports but also the opportunity for open gym as well.
- Much nicer and encompass many sports
- They are what we need, we live in a great town, we should not have to travel all over the Western Suburbs for our recreational activities sitting in traffic and giving these other towns our hard earned money. In my humble opinion I believe we are missing the boat, we should 1) keep our tax paying families in Elmhurst at our own facilities and 2) get the people from our neighboring towns to pay to come to our facilities.
- Some are great and offer state of the art facilities for many sports in one place.
- Some are too far away
- They are nice and state of the art - normally with nice indoor swimming pools.
- ok but the commute is horrible and the fees are high for nonresidents.
- Limited
- We love them!
- That they should be in Elmhurst. As a gymnastics parent, I feel that Elmhurst needs to renew and expand a facility to support this very popular and rapidly growing sport
- Very nice, more variety and larger than Elmhurst facilities.
- I think they're great and wish we had something similar here in Elmhurst!
- The facilities satisfy our sport needs, it is just a hustle to drive the kids on a bad weather day.
- Lakeshore Fitness is a great facility. I should use it more often.
- Bensenville facilities are great
- They are clean and well run, but I wish they were closer.
- junky and too expensive
- some towns like Darien have nice facilities for soccer and tennis
- I would not support a facility outside of Elmhurst. I would prefer it be in my town.
- They are fine

- Oak Brook Pool is awesome
- Bigger! Spread out from one another.
- They provide just basic areas to play specific sports. Villa park provides their schools for youth basketball, and are dated. Addison and Bensenville provide Hockey and some basketball and are adequate . Oak brook has a great facility to play basketball and swim.
- There are some incredible facilities in other towns. Elmhurst is missing out on a huge opportunity. Families that use large indoor facilities spend a large amount of money in those towns and just at the indoor location... pro shop, concession, parties
- They do the job, in the sense that there is indoor ice for skating and hockey. They are not fancy. You can skate there for 1.5 hours for between \$7-10.
- ambivalent. It's a 3-minute drive. Shared facility so who cares if it falls inside one community or another.
- Most facilities are satisfactory but crowded and difficult to get to,
- The ones we attend have ice skating and hockey year around.
- Westmont is a great location
- They are nice but something closer to home would be much better and easier to use.
- Much better with availability and much nicer facilities
- The Max in McCook would be the model for a facility that I'd like to see in Elmhurst. Many available uses for soccer, baseball, basketball, and volleyball.
- Dumpy and dated, need to be maintained better.
- Too far and far too few, and not high quality.
- Older, lacking in space
- Nice, but they are mostly specialized for single sports, exception would Oak Brook PD
- They're great. Kids love them.
- Better than Elmhurst
- Good
- The Ackerman facility in Glen Ellyn contains a good mix of indoor facilities: it provides ample personal fitness space for group and individual training, indoor baseball and soccer facilities, basketball and volleyball facilities. It lacks the indoor aquatics facilities that Elmhurst lacks (the lap pool at The Courts is small and nearly always crowded) would need to have. Westmont Yards is a very good indoor soccer facility. The Grasshopper facility is just barely good enough - small and the quality of the turf and other facilities get the job done but it caters to those who want/need a place to play soccer near Elmhurst and don't care much about the amenities. The same is true for The Odeum.
- They are lacking
- The Odeum is bad, smelly, bad crowd. The Westmont yard is good, flexibility for different sports, good crowd and clean.
- It's great. They are expensive leagues to play in, though, but that is probably a result of the quality of the facility.
- way better than Elmhurst
- Ok but location is problematic. Prefer an Elmhurst based facility
- They are too far away
- The only facilities we use are Grasshopper indoor soccer facility and Westmont yard. I think they both serve a purpose and attract from the surrounding areas but Grasshopper isn't located in the best area and it's not well maintained. The turf there is poor. Westmont yard is a nice facility but it's too far from us and it's not structured correctly to make use of all the space they have.
- Downers Grove and Glen Ellyn have very nice facilities that serve a wide number of interests and needs

- Better
- The facilities at York HS are fantastic. The YMCA needs an upgrade!
- Most are old, dark and outdated. Something new with lots of natural light would be a lot more welcoming.
- I like the facility at Oakbrook as a model, it's not super large but has a spa, lazy river and slides. We've attended many birthday parties there, but I'd rather see the money spent in Elmhurst!
- Love that OB Park District has year round indoor pool for free swim, lessons, swim team, as well as tennis center
- Some Towns have really nice facilities, others not so much. We're kind of in the middle.
- They are good. Very needed in Elmhurst
- My family and I only use these facilities because we don't have a facility such as these in Elmhurst. I'd rather spend my time and money in Elmhurst.
- well kept, very organized
- They seem more modern and more accommodating for team sports
- They are much more modern and larger.
- The facility in Glen Ellyn is the best one.
- Awful
- Some are good, some are bad.
- A lot of travel basketball teams we play during season host their games at an indoor park district sports facilities. We also play tournaments that host their games at a place like this. I think rentals would become a big business for this facility. Currently Breakaway Basketball and Elmhurst Knights rent out the Oak Brook Park District and getting court time over there is becoming harder and harder. I think this would invite opportunities to hold camps, practices and tournaments as well as allow open gym sessions where residents can play basketball.
- They are nice. I live in North Elmhurst and would continue to go where I go now depending on where this facility is located.
- every town should have one....so we don't have to travel out of town
- Westmont yard is great for soccer
- We typically use the indoor soccer facilities outside of Elmhurst. Would be very convenient to have something local and also have a facility that can host tournaments.
- They are extremely nice!!! They bring people in from all over as well.
- The Edge in Bensenville is a great facility.
- None
- they are nice
- The indoor facilities are amazing. Everywhere I go to take my children, I mention how great it would be for Elmhurst to have its own facility and keep the money and people in Elmhurst. People travel so far for access to sports facilities and Elmhurst needs its own.
- Much better than The Courts.
- Greatly enhance sports opportunities in the community. I would think that they generate a decent amount of revenue as well since they're always at capacity in afternoons, evenings, and weekends.
- Not sure
- The facilities are great. Glen Ellyn's facilities is top notch. Every basketball camp my kids attend is in Oak Brook. It's a shame that Elmhurst didn't have the hindsight to invest in something like this. Unfortunately, Elmhurst leaders have chosen to build parking decks, apartment buildings and water fountains.
- Oak Brook, Carol Stream have really nice facilities.
- Way better

- Need one in town. Too many kids
- Niiice
- It doesn't bother me that other cities utilize public school gyms.
- They are nice but would live to have one closer to home.
- Good for the residents
- Some of them are great but they are not in our community and they cost more for Elmhurst residents. We need something for the kids. It keeps them out of trouble if they have a facility where they can play
- Lots of options
- Good
- Better options are available outside Elmhurst
- Better space and facilities to handle the needs of many different groups at the same time.
- It appears that an indoor sports facility would be a suboptimal use of taxpayer dollars because there is a host of indoor facilities nearby that serve the same purpose. The sports mentioned in previous questions require a coach, and likely already have their own facilities (Aerial Gymnastics, True Prodigy & Patriot for wrestling, each District 205 school has a volleyball court & basketball court, Edge ice arena, pools at York and Courts Plus, etc.). There are facilities either in Elmhurst or very nearby that would meet the needs of an indoor facility. Elmhurst needs to do a better job at publicizing the existing facilities and also them accessible.
- love the Wellness Center in Downers Grove. I was disappointed something similar was not built into the massive Elmhurst Hospital
- We are using facilities outside of Elmhurst every week. There are no decent facilities here.
- There are numerous facilities available.
- It is a great facility. We have the whole team traveling to another town because Elmhurst does not offer something we can use.
- They offer more then what Elmhurst does
- They are all very nice facilities...each having something that makes them unique. I just wish we had one in Elmhurst.
- They are fantastic facilities that provide community and surrounding community members with fantastic opportunities for training and competing.
- Insufficient to support the volume of travel sport activity practice times.
- I feel there is a shortage of space available for demand.
- I think the facilities are good but I would I prefer having one in Elmhurst. I think that it's a great because they allow kids to play certain sports year around, where they normally would be limited to only playing them seasonally due to weather.
- No opinion
- better than Elmhurst
- great for the individual sport it provides but far!
- A facility like Ackerman in Glen Ellyn would be wonderful.
- I don't like that I have to drive far away in the winter time, especially when I have a lot of homework to do and then I end up staying up late.
- They are nice to have - all we have is what York high school can fit in
- They meet our needs die indoor swimming and indoor lacrosse
- I've only dealt with oak brook, but like their indoor aquatic facility and ability to have swim lessons year round. Many families there are Elmhurst families anyway! Sad that \$\$ is going out for lessons during the school year
- Glen Ellyn, Downers Grove and Oak Brook have good facilities that allow for multi-functional use including Exercise, Court Sports (Basketball, Volleyball, Racquet Ball, Field Sports (Lacrosse, Soccer etc.) and other activities. The key is making the facilities

- Other towns seem to have more modern indoor and outdoor facilities. It doesn't seem like upgrading the facilities in Elmhurst has been a priority.
- Addison Ice Arena= terrible. Edge Ice Arena= very nice. Center Ice= old and moldy.
- Good but could be better maintained.
- Existing facilities are significantly subpar. The facilities that we do have are inefficiently managed for public use, and not really effectively available for organized use by the community. As a community, this is an area where we significantly underperform our peer communities.
- There is a good variety available nearby
- They are fine
- Many good ones with turf
- Good
- Some of them are great. They welcome out of town users. They are reasonably priced.
- We don't have a current indoor facility to hit and field for baseball.
- I'm glad they exist.
- At least they have them
- There are a wide range for many needs.
- State of the art.
- Oak Brook facility is awesome.
- They are good but I wish we had more in our own city. No place to play indoor soccer and other sports. Oak Brook has a very nice facility.
- Very good- but expensive and inconvenient for non-residents
- They are quite nice. Better than what's available here.
- Many are much larger, newer and more available to customers. We would rather travel than use existing EPD facilities.
- Oakbrook is nice. The edge ice arena is nice but needs some updating.
- they are much better equipped but far to go.
- I would rather have one here.
- Much better
- the Ice Rinks are outdated with Poor rental equipment. The gymnasiums are typical with limited equipment to use/borrow.
- Better and less spending
- They are exactly what is needed in Elmhurst
- I've heard the one in Westmont is amazing. we use hillside for winter soccer and it's not a great place, but it's the only facility available for this.
- provide access to recreational options that aren't available in Elmhurst
- Much higher quality and the inclusion of an indoor soccer facility is very useful
- They're great. Westmont yard is ideal for all ages
- Not a fan of having to travel to use another city's facilities or paying them money to do so. Would rather keep that in my community
- Plenty available and reasonable
- They are OK but too far for weekly lessons, etc... traffic is horrible here and it takes too much time during the week with school, etc.
- No comment
- Nice but would rather support our own town and not have to drive so far away due to traffic, etc.
- We are limited. Courts Plus not attractive & does not meet needs.

- Beautiful, spacious, accommodating. We spend a significant amount of money to utilize these facilities.
- Very good from what they provide to out of district customers. Specially the mature group of people who need facilities to live a better life style in activities and sports.
- They are very nice. It's a shame that I have to drive outside of Elmhurst to be able to play basketball.
- The best indoor facility is Max McCook due to its size (allows for indoor lacrosse, soccer, even football in addition to basketball and volleyball courts). Wheaton Park District also has indoor turf. Oakbrook has nice courts for basketball and volleyball however no indoor turf space - which is increasingly in demand.
- Bensenville is nice, however, their rinks are aging and it would be nice to have a rink in Elmhurst.
- this facility is only for tennis so Elmhurst facility meets my needs better. friends I play tennis with in Oakbrook do not want to pay the outside park district fee.
- There are a lot of very good facilities outside of Elmhurst. The shame of the current situation is that all of the Elmhurst teams that utilize facilities outside Elmhurst and thus support other communities other than our own.
- They are beautiful and great for the community but too far away.
- They are nice and much better than what Elmhurst has to offer
- Again, most are fine, but slightly outdated and far to drive to.
- The facilities are very busy supporting the athletic endeavors of Elmhurst residents. I believe that Elmhurst would provide the support and usage to justify a facility like the Oak Brook facility, especially if at least of full sheet of ice were included.
- They are much better than ours
- OBPD is very nice, but it's not in Elmhurst
- The facilities outside of Elmhurst are significantly better
- Prefer to not have to travel outside Elmhurst!!!
- There aren't many indoor sports facilities around that are of high quality. There seems to be a lack of ice availability in Elmhurst (e.g. the high school hockey team has to use an Addison Ice facility and the Elmhurst Chiefs needs to use the Bensenville ice facility). For indoor soccer (i.e. winter teams & training) teams utilize a facility in Worth, 20 - 30 mins away.
- Much better quality and space.
- Many have indoor recreational pools
- They are very nice especially Schaumburg and Ackerman for multiple sport usage. They attract teams for all over the Western suburbs for their use.
- They are far away.
- We love it but would like to see one like it in Elmhurst
- Travel distance is long but it supports the teams our children play with
- They usually have availability for different activities and seem well run by staff
- They are better designed, and do a much better job serving adults who wish to work out at times and places that are free of children and/or where the adult-to-child mix is better managed.
- Nice, but not close to home.
- Oakbrook has a wonderful park district sports complex. When my kids were younger we drove there for indoor swim lessons. They have great basketball courts.
- Seems like they are far away. Some more well run than others.
- They are nice for year round sports and birthday parties
- They have facilities to accommodate the sports in their towns. We play travel sports and surrounding towns have excellent indoor facilities. Our teams are constantly fighting for time



on poorly maintained fields outside and York gym times available since there are no indoor facilities.

- Facilities are adequate, but would prefer closer to home.
- Good.
- The oak brook aquatic center is awesome! We go there all the time in the colder months. We live the pool and splash area and indoor slide.
- vary based on place
- Better facilities - indoor pool offered, indoor track and updated classrooms/play areas. Elmhurst offers a wide array of programming - the facilities used are dated or lacking compared to several surrounding towns
- At least they have some even if they aren't top notch

Q13. Why do you feel this way?

- my child is getting older and I think she would use those as she grows up
- Options for indoor sports is very limited in Elmhurst. Would be nice for residents, especially children, to have the opportunity to play year round.
- I have two boys that are very active and love sports. I'd love to have an option in Elmhurst for birthday parties other than Pump It UP.
- Elmhurst would benefit tremendously from an indoor facility that has a pool, track, ice rink, etc., that's NOT associated with a gym, i.e., Courts or the Y.
- Active community.
- We already have two pools, but I think play space to utilize in the winter would be great.
- I would like to see more indoor sports options in Elmhurst
- Save the money and lower my property taxes which increased 38% from 2014 to 2015.
- I don't utilize gym space (nor does my hubby). However, we both run and it would be nice to have an indoor alternative besides treadmills, especially in the winter months
- The Courts provides, exercise, pool, and many other places for games such as tennis, space for dancing.... The only sports which can't be enjoyed in that facility would be ice skating indoors. All the rest can be accommodated if there is a need or strong support for it.
- It's needed
- Ice hockey is growing in demand, year over year, and local clubs are currently unable to meet demand. Kids are turned away yearly due to the lack of ice facilities in Elmhurst and the immediate area.
- we have numerous resources already available; not wisest use of limited financial resources
- We already have many hockey rinks in the area.
- It would be nice to shorten our travels and keep our money in Elmhurst.
- We do not travel to the nearby ice arenas but would be more inclined to go if there was one in Elmhurst. Same goes for an indoor pool outside of Courts Plus, that would be open year round.
- Always nice to have options without needing to travel when you have small children
- there is no public indoor turf field in Elmhurst
- It would give our family more ways to be active and stay within the community
- It offers a broad base of physical activities
- Those would be the facilities we would use most likely
- It would only make Elmhurst more attractive
- I think ice skating would be an asset and I would use the rink.
- Basketball and Lacrosse are becoming or have become huge in this area. With the upper middle class of Elmhurst, we would take advantage of these programs.
- We don't use ice skating right now. YMCA & Park District classes are always full for soccer, swim lessons, basketball, etc. If all in same facility (bonus if childcare available), I think our family would frequent this facility

- It would be great to have an indoor pool (where you don't have to be a member to attend - i.e. Courts Plus) to swim all year long - swim lessons, swim classes, exercise classes, open swim, tot time, etc. Too many of my friends go to the Oakbrook Pool for their indoor facility.
- Winter is long here, and better indoor facilities would be great.
- Want to stay local
- We personally do not use ice rinks very often, and I feel that there is a greater demand and need for indoor aquatics, turf and gymnastics.
- For a town this size with a sizable tax base, facilities are lacking. I love that the YMCA has an outdoor rink! Getting fields or practice space is soooooo hard.
- We are active with all of the aforementioned -- swimming, baseball, basketball, hockey -- and would love indoor facilities.
- Swim lessons are only held for 8 weeks in the summer and they are outside. If there is bad weather, it is canceled and not always made up. Need swim lessons in the winter as well.
- It is a shame that our family and many others in Elmhurst have to travel outside of our town. It is even worse that the significant money spent supports communities that we do not live in.
- I love all of the options, anything athletic that we can do as a family would be wonderful. I am a huge proponent of this idea and hope it can be done.
- I think it would be a tremendous asset to the community and provide additional recreation options
- The park district already has gymnasium facilities at the Wagner Center, as well as there being a gymnasium for high school use at York High School. There is an indoor pool at both Courts Plus and the YMCA. There is no current indoor turf or ice rink in the city that I am aware of. There is an ice rink at the YMCA, but it is outdoors and at the mercy of the weather, as well as having very poor facilities. I am not aware of any locker rooms available and there is extremely limited viewing for spectators, in addition to seemingly being priced to dissuade non-members from using the ice.
- Indoor sports facilities are helpful in winter
- Great recreational and athletic opportunities, offseason training opportunities. Added value for Elmhurst residents. Better training/preparation for young athletes.
- well, there is no indoor ice rink
- It's what my family and myself might utilize.
- Why do we need more of what we already have?
- Our family has always enjoyed the facilities at the courts and outdoor pools but it seems like more and more people are using them and it would be nice to have more space
- Tons of families, want to stay in town to enjoy activities with people we go to school with etc...
- positive for all
- I think Elmhurst should have a real, indoor ice rink, not just the outdoor one located at the YMCA.
- Elmhurst doesn't lack park/athletic facilities, and lacking additional information it's impossible to evaluate what other alternative uses are.
- An indoor pool facility similar to Oakbrook would be great for kids for swim lessons. We stopped taking park district swim lessons because it was often too cold for my kids. It'd be nice to also have indoor turf. Perhaps games wouldn't have to be cancelled as often. Although I wonder with the state of finding for our schools and the flooding issues if the City of Elmhurst has their priorities in the right order
- Other issues in Elmhurst should be a bigger priority. A Sports Facility isn't going to stop homes from flooding, prevent classroom size from growing and fill empty store fronts downtown. Our town needs to focus on the issues at hand.
- Just based on my needs and needs of community vs costs and increased taxes.
- We love sports and would love to enjoy all year long!
- When I compare what is available in Elmhurst compared to other communities, I find it doesn't measure up.
- My family is very interested in volleyball, basketball, and soccer.
- Would keep \$ and players in town. Would provide for more optionality....

- We have a very active and young community, and I think the facilities would be well utilized.
- In a town this great, our park district sucks!! Needs more offerings
- I support communities providing places for students to be active.
- The only basketball court is the YMCA in town and getting free time on that is impossible.
- I would swim more often if there was a good indoor swimming location in Elmhurst. Gym space could be useful, maybe thin out some of the crowd at the courts. But I haven't used those facilities in a long time. Indoor turf and Ice space are not things that I (or my family) would ever really use
- We do not need to compete against the YMCA Ice Rink. 2. Prove there is enough Business to cover itself and not need taxpayers paying for it? Look at Oakbrook and how they are forced to rent out rooms for stupid non-related Financial Rip off events. If it is for Sports/exercise, make it only if the users of it pay for it. Do Not Raise my Taxes, or I will vote you out.
- Would provide a good space for exercise and sporting activities
- Current Courts Plus Facility is small and antiquated
- As I stated previously, I am not likely to use any of the facilities.
- Growth and age of residents
- We don't need an indoor ice rink. You can just drive a mile and go to the edge ice arena. We need basketball courts. There are gymnastics facilities also around
- Because I like being able to use a singular location for all.
- Huge benefit to be able to use a local facility and keep not only our money in the city but attract new families.
- I feel differently about different attributes. Difficult to sum up in one stmt.
- Convenience!!! Ability to carpool with neighbors. Ability to participate in programs that I'm not willing to drive far, for. I'd much rather spend locally. Residential rates. Minimize the downtime.... for us, that means minimizing the possibility of being stuck on field somewhere in Rockford with a four-hour layover, between sports games. BRUTAL!
- no available turf areas.
- Our family would utilize indoor basketball / soccer and aquatic center.
- I doubt I would use any of the previously mentioned facilities if new ones were built in Elmhurst. However, this is a kid-friendly town and I would like it to continue to be one. New indoor facilities would be great for the kids in Elmhurst, and so for that reason I would be in favor of them being built.
- Ice rinks and pools already exist in Elmhurst or nearby and much more expensive than turf or gym space to build and maintain. We do NOT have any indoor turf and have very little gym space so there is a greater need for this space.
- I have three kids that would do use it for years.
- Firsthand experience.
- The current facilities are too old and run down. They don't reflect the type of community this town really has.
- Daughter plays soccer. So do many of her friends
- Because as an active person I feel it's important for people to remain fit and healthy this is the perfect place for people to practice a healthy lifestyle
- We need it. We are an active community
- I like using the pool. Don't care about another gym. There are multiple gyms in Elmhurst
- Elmhurst is a very family orientated community and I believe it would also add to the location property values.
- Because I have 3 boys
- We moved to Elmhurst because it's an outdoor community with great outdoor amenities. Kids spend way too much time indoors, it's not healthy. Plus, I'm very concerned about the very high property taxes we already pay, I don't want to see an increase.
- Because we have poor facilities, causing community members to leave the community in order to pursue their interests.

- We sometimes go to Addison for indoor ice skating. I would love to stay in Elmhurst if we had an indoor rink. Similarly, the aquatic center in Oak Brook is amazing and there is not even close to it in Elmhurst.
- Na
- Don't need it, higher taxes
- We need more options for our kids during the winter
- I have seen the sports facilities utilized by grandchildren in Wheaton, Glen Ellyn, and Naperville, they far surpass what Elmhurst has to offer.
- Because we need something in Elmhurst for our children's sports instead of driving to other towns for their facilities...and spending our money there instead of in our own town!
- Because the current class offerings either leave us on waiting lists, taking classes at inconvenient times or leaving the area to find something that works for our kids.
- Swim family; many other indoor facilities, especially turf in neighboring communities. Unsure if needed here at this time.
- I feel our facilities need updating. I am tired of spending my money in other towns or having to drive outside of Elmhurst for facilities. I would rather my kids be able to ice skate indoors in Elmhurst and use a fun indoor pool for birthday parties. The Courts pool is boring.
- These are activities my family likes to do.
- I have never grown up getting into hockey or swimming because Elmhurst did not have the facilities
- It would be great to have a local space for our teams and leagues to be able to use! Would bring the community together and make families' lives much easier!
- There are many gymnasiums that can be utilized but the city is lacking ice rinks, indoor pool / swimming facilities. I know many people that travel outside of the city for these amenities. I plan on enrolling my kids at Goldfish due to the short EPD swim lesson availability.
- If we have to spend an unnecessary several million dollars, the logic of what will get used the most is an ice rink. Hockey is the #4 most popular sport in America, there is an abundance of beautiful for all and baseball fields in Elmhurst already. An indoor ice rink is the only thing that makes sense.
- My son plays hockey and LAX
- People have been going elsewhere, because of nicer, newer, updated facilities.
- Woodridge is too far to go for swimming
- Few options during winter months
- I have been in Elmhurst 23 years and have not encountered any groups looking for a "indoor sports complex". The Odeum in Villa Park tried to be used as an indoor sports facility and has no real success.
- I think we need as many options as possible for all children.
- We need more local space for the kid's activities and to host practices and games, with ample seating to watch
- I would love to keep my money in Elmhurst, just not able to
- There is a definite demand for additional facilities for the long winter months.
- My kids are in a ton of these activities and it's unfortunate that we have to leave Elmhurst to find these services.
- it is needed
- There are no public gyms in Elmhurst aside from outdoor basketball courts. As a coach there is no place to go unless you approach a school or a facility that requires membership. The need for an indoor gym is apparent. Indoor turf pool and ice rink would be great but I am not sure the cost vs the usage.
- Need these closer to home
- Based on the area of interest (sports) our family participates in.
- There isn't enough gym space in town with all the other user group needs.
- We have enough fitness facilities in this area. (Between the park district, Y and private fitness clubs)

- Dislike my money going to other towns. It's sad how bad the athletic facilities are in such a great town.
- We are lacking in indoor options. My son is in the gymnastics program and it is ridiculously crowded. Facilities needed for advanced gymnastics are lacking tremendously
- We would use this facility all of the time. We have kids in sports that require turf fields as well as competitive swimming as well as indoor gymnasium spaces (wrestling). We do not have hockey player's/ ice skaters so this is not as important to us.
- Number of people with potential to utilized these offerings
- could provide much needed space
- I consistently travel to other municipalities and I am ashamed that the Elmhurst facilities are subpar compared to Downers Grove, Carol Stream, Bensenville, Schaumburg & etc.
- All 3 of my sons play hockey and an indoor facility in Elmhurst would be more convenient
- Childhood (and adult) obesity is on the rise. It is recommended that children get 1 hour of physical activity per day. Currently the elementary schools have 30 minutes of Physical Education twice per week. Additional facilities and programs (competitive and non-competitive) would help to provide opportunities that are convenient for the public and available at a greater extent than they are at the current time.
- Elmhurst needs an ice rink for the community
- I know that my kids would utilize all aspects of an indoor facility as described in the previous question. My daughter does gymnastics, dance and soccer, my son participates on the Chiefs Hockey team and they both have been on the swim team in the summers.
- I have older children who have not been able to use an Elmhurst based facility and it would be nice if my younger child had this opportunity
- All are needed, but indoor pool, ice rink and indoor turf would be especially nice. Indoor turf would be good for winter soccer practice and training.
- Elmhurst is a world class city with a lot of wonderful attributes. It would round off the city nicely to have these facilities.
- I have two boys who play many different sports including hockey, swimming, baseball and soccer. A new facility closer to home for my boys' sports would be amazing. Especially with turf for winter baseball/soccer practice and ice for hockey.
- I think it would be a great benefit to our community. It would be a logistical improvement (don't need to drive to other communities to participate in sports).
- There are many Elmhurst residents who are very involved in hockey. It's growing by leaps and bounds and ice time is very difficult to get
- activities
- Our family would definitely use an ice rink, pool and turf. It seems that their school gymnasiums could be used as gym space.
- The York pool seems sufficient for swim team use, however we have no ice rink and not enough indoor turf fields or gym space for volleyball and basketball teams.
- Think an ice rink(s) would be very beneficial to the Elmhurst community.
- We don't have year round ice in Elmhurst. We are very active community. This type of facilities would be used.
- Would be a great addition to our community.
- I would love to have a skating rink close by and a facility for basketball.
- Every one of those items would be fully utilized by our community.
- We, kids and adults, spend many hours each week practicing and playing hockey. Swimming is also a great activity for all.
- Our kids practice multiple sports including hockey and gymnastics. For hockey we always have to go outside Elmhurst. This is disappointing especially given the strong participation and support for the Elmhurst Chiefs Hockey clubs.
- Shortage of hockey facilities in Chicago is a major problem and limits the opportunity for people to play the sport.
- Feels like we have enough pools at York, courts, ymca. Only one outdoor ice rink.



- I have been deeply involved with hockey for 45 years as a player, coach and administrator. Elmhurst is a fabulous town that lacks one thing - an ICE RINK. I know you will do the math . . . and math wins. The amount of revenue a rink would bring is enormous - people flocking here for games, etc. Hockey is only on the upswing and we need to give our residents a couple sheets of ice at a state of the art facility. I could go on and on :)
- Dire need for ice rink to support the popularity of boys/girls youth hockey, figure skating, learn to skate, open skate, etc.
- Outdoor pools are strong, have Y and Courts plus for indoor pools. While we could use more turf and gym space, ice rink is the big gap. Can always play turf sports outdoors year round, can't play ice sports outdoors year round
- I think there is a need for more Ice time, based on the growth of hockey in Elmhurst over the past year. We need the support of the city to make sure ice time isn't taken away from Elmhurst residents. By traveling to other townships, hockey families are beholden to other communities.
- I would like somewhere nearby to take my family to ice skate any time of year. I would like somewhere to try lap swimming for fitness any time of year.
- My kids play baseball, basketball, lacrosse, tennis, golf and hockey. We routinely see limited practice time because we don't have facilities available to support all of these teams. We could host tournaments etc. if we had more/better facilities. In addition to that our youth hockey programs are growing and are in need of more sheets of ice for practice.
- Currently, Elmhurst only offers the YMCA as a very limited option for hockey. Local hockey organizations can't find enough ice to support growth in their programs. There are only 2 outdoor turf fields in Elmhurst that can be used for soccer and lacrosse. Having an indoor facility would allow programs in these sports to continue to grow. Having a facility that can host tournaments and special events year round would also have a positive financial impact for Elmhurst businesses. An indoor facility would be an additional feather in the city's cap to attract home buyers to Elmhurst as well.
- Elmhurst has no indoor ice or turf facilities so we have to go to neighboring (and not so neighboring) towns to get these facilities. There are a number of gymnasiums already (every school, the Y) but more space could certainly be utilized. An indoor pool facility would be nice, but only if it is done right, not just so-so like The Hub's splash park and mini-golf.
- We have pools throughout Elmhurst but no ice rink.
- Hockey player
- There is no good private option for ice hockey. A city needs to be behind it and the demand is there for one sheet for sure. It would be booked up by the Chiefs men's leagues etc. The demand would be there. The indoor turf would attract multiple teams, soccer lacrosse. There are private options for the gymnasiums and there are already pools, so those got lower marks.
- We currently use or know people who use all of these options. We are often short on time slots and have been in clubs where enrollment has been limited due to lack of ability to get into these sorts of facilities in other towns.
- Our town needs an ice rink. Between my children and myself, we play out of Addison or the Edge. Not only is it a 15-20-minute drive, but ice time is limited.
- our family loves to play all sports!
- 4 of the 5 members in my family play hockey
- Many Elmhurst residents go elsewhere to play hockey, swim, or join clubs that have gyms. The town could really use more places locally and I know families and residents would use the new facilities if installed.
- We give all his money to other communities - it is crazy. We can absolutely afford to have this in our own town!
- We play hockey, gymnastics, lacrosse and baseball. Both my kids swim too and right now they go to Oakbrook.
- We travel a lot to other cities that offer these facilities. It would be nice for Elmhurst to have one.
- We keep giving and supporting other communities. We need to keep the money in Elmhurst



- It makes our town competitive with neighboring communities & gives our families reasonable ways to explore various activities & sports w/o driving all over or paying for private facilities.
- I think a field or turf can be utilized by many more different sports - football, soccer, lacrosse, baseball to name a few. If you combined participants in these sports it would be many more athletes to provide a complex to use than hockey players. If the sports complex included a gym this would incorporate basketball, volleyball, tennis and a place to do conditioning exercises for all sports. My family enjoys ice skating and watching hockey, but I don't think this represents the entire community's need.
- We do a lot of skating and would like to do it closer to home. A pool would be nice also.
- Elmhurst needs an indoor facility that can accommodate ice hockey, baseball, soccer, lacrosse, and gymnastics
- I have three young kids, and I exercise, too. I would love to go to one centrally located facility, instead of needing memberships to Courts, YMCA, and personal fitness facilities, while fitting in trips to Wagner.
- This is where I see the most need for additional space to meet needs.
- Continued growth of youth hockey and lacrosse. importance of team athletics to Elmhurst youths and importance of high quality facilities. Community pride
- Elmhurst is a very active community and with cold weather for half the year it's very attractive to have some indoor options. The Chiefs and Blues youth hockey programs are growing and some young athletes are being turned away due to not enough ice time to support all the teams. The York HS hockey team uses the Addison Ice rink and it's in bad shape.
- Currently, there are only facilities in neighboring communities and neither are adequate. Having a facility that can be used year round (unlike the ice at the YMCA) and incorporates all of the proposed options, would be a benefit to our community.
- Commented previously on availability of indoor rinks nearby. As to pools, we do have the Y in town, and there are pools near to south Elmhurst already, Oak Brook and the Glass Court and pool on Roosevelt.
- Because of late nights with my son at other rinks
- With the YMCA and Courts Plus facilities, I feel that there are plenty of aquatic facilities and there for a new facility would not/should not have them. Indoor turf would be helpful for York High School teams who practice in cold weather. However, I strongly support the inclusion of one or more indoor ice rinks for use by Elmhurst hockey clubs.
- We currently need these facilities! We are traveling outside our towns to facilities that meet our needs yet our kids demand them in Elmhurst.
- Our family would get the most use out of an indoor ice rink as there is currently no other indoor ice rink in the immediate area. Hockey is also becoming an increasingly popular sport every year and the rate of participation is quickly outpacing the amount of currently available ice time.
- As previously shared, there aren't other single facilities that provide access to all these sports/activities.
- Both of my teenagers' ice skate and they would utilize the ice. I would like to ice skate more but we are limited in Elmhurst by just having access to the outdoor rink at the YMCA. I feel the pool at Courts Plus and the outdoor park pools are adequate to serve the pool needs.
- There is far more action needed for storm water mitigation before the City spends more time and money on new projects. Too many homes have been damaged by sewer back-up, and the City continues to try to pass the blame on the homeowners, and expects other city entities to accept part of the cost of correcting the issue. As long as the city allows overbuilding on lots, this problem will only get worse. city entities to
- There is a shortage of ice sheets in Chicago and there is a tremendous amount of growth in hockey and lacrosse in our area.
- It is important for a city the size of Elmhurst to provide a larger variety of options regarding different sport facilities. Also, my son is young and interested in hockey and we are finding that the increase interest in ice hockey is making it more and more difficult to obtain sufficient ice time.

- I have two boys that would use a gym or turf field. My kids don't play hockey so no indoor ice arena does not bother me and we live close to the Oak Brook park district and like their swim lessons.
- this is what we use
- Out facilities are in adequate
- Feel we should have better facilities available. So many families are leaving the area to use facilities in surrounding communities, which is disappointing given how much property tax we pay.
- As previously mentioned, pool and ice times seem to be at a premium
- I want to keep the money I spend in my community.
- Our kids have gravitated to sports that use gym space versus turf fields. We have been members of the ymca for years because of pool, ice rink and gym. Courts plus just doesn't offer enough various things that our family has been interested in.
- Just too many health and sports facilities now. Several have pools and many are cheaper than the park facility such as the Courts.
- We pay good money to live here and should have more, nicer facilities. Why spend our money outside of Elmhurst? There are already multiple indoor pools within Elmhurst so think we can use the space for other facilities.
- I love sports
- Elmhurst needs to be current. Sports are growing and we shouldn't have to leave our town to go to sporting events. Keep the income in Elmhurst!!
- There is no full sized ice in Elmhurst, Addison is some of the most expensive - could easily take those clients (one of which is the York hockey club). There needs to be more basketball courts. Has there been any consideration to partnering with the schools - adding on to those spaces.
- Our family enjoys skating, swimming and sports. An indoor facility would provide year-long opportunities.
- Great opportunities to keep young people positively engaged and healthy!
- It's an asset for Elmhurst to have more facilities to accommodate our growing sports community.
- Beneficial to our residents and for our property value
- because
- The YMCA offers ice and indoor swimming, but I find their programming and customer service to be SEVERELY lacking. I would MUCH rather spend my money at the EPD. I would also love an indoor pool that doesn't require a Courts Plus membership. More classes could be offered, more kids and adults could be serviced, leagues could occur, the space could be rented out, etc.
- If Elmhurst had those things, I would be more tempted to go there instead of other towns. The exception might be hockey -- we have to go where my son's team has home ice -- right now, that is Bensenville.
- I think the Pool should be first on the list. With so many water accidents it is important for families to be able to have swim lessons all year round. I think our town is very athletic, a turf field as well as basketball court would be great. If there is space an ice rink would be terrific as well! I'd like to add that if you have all of this in one building please consider a coffee shop for parents who are waiting for their children. Thanks!
- Many park districts have nice indoor pool options and ice rinks. Would like to see Elmhurst have similar enmities.
- Just because my family interests
- Basketball courts are lacking here.
- Ice rink would be a nice addition.
- Other nearby towns have these facilities, why not Elmhurst? It is much needed for the kids in this town and sports! It WILL be used!!!!!! Support the kids of Elmhurst...Our park district has the money, support our community, it's not just about the outdoor parks anymore. Get with the times!

- I think we have plenty of outdoor pools. It's inside stuff that we could use without being forced to buy a membership.
- Elmhurst is a top notch city, but we are lacking a facility like this to serve our activity-minded residents. Reference the Libertyville Sports Complex as an example of a facility that would thrive in Elmhurst.
- There are so many basketball, lacrosse, baseball & soccer teams in this city that would hugely benefit from indoor turf & court space. While our kids do not play hockey, there are plenty of kids who do and would benefit from an ice rink. I do not believe there is enough kids who swim to justify the cost of a pool. They can continue to use York HS.
- Overall, I'm very enthusiastic about this. Especially the ice sheets. There is an acute shortage of ice throughout the region as hockey keeps growing in popularity. But in general, athletics are extremely important to so many kids (and adults) in this neighborhood and we don't really have a decent facility to support that in this community.
- Again, the facilities for ice hockey are limited to the YMCA in the winter season only. For anyone that plays hockey they put the year and even in winter, would benefit immensely from an indoor facility for hockey.
- I am concerned my already VERY HIGH TAXES are going to go even higher. Also, when I visit Berens park, most of the patrons are not from Elmhurst. My taxes are paying for nice parks for other communities to use.
- Because we use those facilities that are not in Elmhurst
- Hockey will continue to be the fastest growing sport in the country
- We don't have an indoor ice facility in Elmhurst
- The YMCA where I attend water aerobics classes seems to be limited in space especially in the ice rinks.
- Elmhurst had needed an indoor ice rink for many years as the parks do not flood ice rinks anymore. An indoor waterpark would be great for the winter.
- I think there are enough swimming options in Elmhurst both indoor and outdoor
- The pool at Courts is very small
- We have many pool options. We have no indoor ice rink options in Elmhurst. Indoor turf would be good for indoor soccer.
- I would use an indoor gymnasium for sports like basketball, but I don't have a need for indoor turf. I'm not much of a swimmer.
- Hockey is becoming popular more than ever!
- We need more ice time to meet growing demand. Gymnastics is also increasing
- We are lacking a decent indoor turf field. We have to travel to Westmont or use the small, undesirable turf field connected to Patriot boxing...not ideal for kids
- If we offer more options I. Elmhurst, there will be more business in our town and less people traveling elsewhere to get the services they are looking for.
- I don't think indoor ice is needed because of recreational, beginning and advanced opportunities. On soccer, I'm at a bit of a loss on why we would add unless there is a clear lack of opportunity using other facilities in the area.
- My children play sports and having a better indoor facility may allow us to actually play in an Elmhurst league.
- There are SO many kids in Elmhurst that are so into sports it could only be a welcome addition to Elmhurst!
- We'd use
- I would not want our taxes to go up due to an indoor sports arena
- Too expensive
- Property appeal
- Indoor aquatic center will be great for all year round swimming lessons for the kids
- We have so many kids participating in travel sports. We visit many areas. Elmhurst is seriously lacking. We need space for our high school hockey team to call home IN ELMHURST. So many kids are playing hockey and basketball in Bensenville because Elmhurst lacks space. Gymnastics is all moving to specialty gyms because Elmhurst is too crowded OR unavailable.

- Elmhurst is a growing community with lots of kids in activities. It is needed for us to stay local.
- Want to be able to stay in town and not utilize other town facilities.
- We use pools now.
- The two items I am very positive about are the facilities we go out of Elmhurst to use now. I believe indoor turf would be used by the community since soccer is very popular here.
- There are SO many kids in Elmhurst that are so into sports it could only be a welcome addition to Elmhurst!
- Not sure
- I don't have enough information to assess supply and demand for the specified uses.
- I feel like more gymnasium space and a pool facility would benefit the entire community. Toddlers to seniors can enjoy time in an indoor pool- from swim lessons to water aerobics to swimming laps and therapy. And a gymnasium can be also be utilized by people of all ages- all different sports and activities. An ice arena has very limited use for a small subset of the community (hockey players).
- Need indoor soccer facility close.
- As my children get older we would likely utilize it!
- We live in Elmhurst. It would be nice to have all these facilities closer. And it would be better for the city
- Our gymnastics space is ok as is. What is missing is large multipurpose space (e.g. volleyball, basketball, soccer space) that can be used year round. An indoor aquatic space for winter use
- Indoor pool and ice skating seem like they'd be used a lot by residents, especially an ice rink. More ability to keep people active, especially during the winter, would be a huge positive.
- Again to keep money here and convenience.
- I have two young very active kids that would absolutely love to utilize this. I am a single mom so my options are limited and I would prefer to utilize local amenities that are affordable
- Personal preferences and sports family participates in.
- Would be nice to have variety near by
- We have played travel baseball, and now play travel volleyball. We have used practice and training facilities outside of Elmhurst which has taken a toll on our family because of time spent driving to and from. It is ridiculous that a town like Elmhurst does not have an indoor facility given the amount of youth sports our kids play.
- We would just love it!!
- These are things I would use
- The people who will make the money on this, besides the consultants, are the developers. Seems to be a pre-determined outcome.
- At times there is a lack of ice space at the other arenas.
- We do not need more structures that eat up ground space. Part of this is a flooding issue
- I would use the very positive facilities and know many people who would use the others.
- Would love to swim year round.
- This is what is missing in Elmhurst a decent indoor pool and playing fields. Ice rinks are available at the y and gymnasium are available at Wagner already.
- Because we need it.
- I would love an indoor pool
- There are too many ice rinks nearby. They are very, very expensive to run/maintain.
- We currently don't have a use for additional indoor space.
- Not needed
- I feel a pool for kids would be nice in winter
- I don't see the need to spend money on ice rink or indoor pool. There are more than enough alternatives close to Elmhurst already. We need more space in the schools, the schools are getting crowded and there is a ton of new residences going up, homes, condos, apartments!
- I feel there is indoor pool, at courts plus and YMCA but other facilities are needed
- My family would use those things but what we really need is dance studio space. We would feel VERY positive about larger dance studios. Wagner center is too small.
- Pool space, hours and offerings could be expanded to include fluid running.

- It would be nice to provide indoor opportunities for children to engage in active play within our community, especially during the winter. It is frustrating to have to drive to other communities to find indoor play facilities.
- Flood issues more important.
- We have many sports venues.
- I think there is enough pools, gym and outdoor turf here in Elmhurst
- Not sure if the gymnasium means a gym for basketball and volleyball or a gymnasium for gymnastics. We already have a gymnastics one, so I would be all for a basketball or several. Pools and ice rinks can't be used for multiple purposes and sports, while turf and gyms can be used for a variety of activities. So I think money is better spent on the indoor turf and gym courts.
- It would be nice to have a space for indoor activities for older children, leagues, camps, etc.
- Elmhurst has a big population of hockey players that have to go to Addison or Bensenville
- I think the current facilities are adequate. I do not think this is a good reason for a property tax increase.
- Haven't got a good answer. The activity that's proposed is not one that fits my needs. I'm sure the appeal would suit younger families more.
- Need indoor swimming lessons. Also an indoor track would be good. Indoor ice skating also. We live in IL and we need to have weather independent facilities.
- My kids and husband all play hockey. the pools here are old and nothing is a destination
- we don't have these today; we have a gymnasium but it's old and smelly
- Elmhurst has the YMCA and Courts Plus already.
- Personal experience with the sports my kids chose to play
- I do not think we need an ice rink because it would not seem to have a wide benefit.
- We need indoor soccer facilities. We have the others.
- These are the most commonly used facilities
- cost to taxpayers
- It's a chance for the park district to make money and have local facilities all season long
- Because I feel we could use most of those amenities beside the gymnasium we have a miss gymnasium at the Wagner center
- There is such need for our kids and adult clubs would benefit too. We want to be one of the premier cities in the Chicagoland area. We need a facility like this to elevate our offerings.
- Because we need gymnastics space and options such as ice skating. Our facilities are full and don't have open gym hours. Especially need basketball space, gymnastics space and indoor ice rink.
- I believe it would be nice to have a place to go to run indoors if the weather is bad. An ice hockey rink could be added to the outside of the structure similar to the YMCA if necessary. I would like to see a facility with a nice track, weight equipment, and weight loss programs.
- I feel like Elmhurst at the moment just doesn't have a lot of things to do and is small so I think that those adjustments would be nice so I wouldn't have to go to another town to use their ice rink or indoor pool in the winter
- My son is in hockey and we have to go elsewhere and the Y is too expensive since we aren't members and the facility is dated and small.
- Based on need of the community and supply.
- Soccer is huge in Elmhurst and it would benefit the community to have an indoor facility. Also, having a decent size pool would be fantastic. Courts Plus overall is just old and outdated. The pool is dark and only used by the elderly.
- I would like my son to be able to practice baseball, football, and hockey year round
- I feel like Elmhurst at the moment just doesn't have a lot of things to do and is small so I think that those adjustments would be nice so I wouldn't have to go to another town to use their ice rink or indoor pool in the winter
- We drive too much revenue to the neighboring communities and spend all of our dollars outside the community. We could use a multi-use facility that provides benefits to our community (physical, mental, etc.) as well as drives revenue back into our community.



Additionally, Elmhurst has a very strong sense of community. This type of facility would continue to strengthen our community as more residents become involved in local activities.

- Don't use them at all.
- Improve attractiveness of Elmhurst, property values
- I am really looking for a place for basketball and volleyball in Elmhurst that is not shared with the high schools because that provides limited time options to play. An indoor turf field would be great to for indoor soccer leagues in the winter time and other athletic competitions for the youth in Elmhurst.
- We have great facilities more would be better but the costs must be weighed against the benefits
- I'd like a closer place to ice skate without hauling the family up to Bensenville.
- Need an adult rec soccer space. Also a place for kids to encourage them to participate in a multitude of sports at a recreational level.
- Recreation options in the winter time especially get more difficult to find, and it would be great to have more options close to home.
- Ice rinks are incredibly expensive to build and maintain. Don't think the community should take on that debt. Turf fields can be used for multiple sports such as soccer, football, lacrosse and the like. Swimming has York High School but another pool might be good in winter.
- There is enough hockey space in the area in addition to the fact that they Elmhurst YMCA has a great ice rink already. Same with the pool.
- Elmhurst needs a better community sports complex.
- Having an indoor pool would be wonderful for swim lessons & swim team experiences.
- see prior answers. Elmhurst needs new gym and indoor turf space immediately! would greatly increase quality of life and property values in Elmhurst
- The only thing that I might participate in is the pool.
- I do not want a real estate tax increase, perhaps the park district can cooperate with the YMCA to offer what they think may be missing in the community... a gymnasium, dance studio and such...
- We don't have it
- I think it would be great to have a central location for indoor sports but feel that there are enough indoor options for pools and ice in close towns
- Would love more options to keep kids busy and not drive so far
- More choices to keep us a healthy community.
- Don't think we need turf or gymnastics. The gymnastics area at Wagner is fine.
- Elmhurst does not have the money for this!
- We need an indoor pool for kids, indoor is rink, a place the community and go to.
- Already said
- This will allow us to have indoor training for activities year round.
- I think that outdoors sports should be seasonal and an indoor turf is not necessary. An aquatic center would be nice.
- Because of my kids' interests, and because I think there'd be significant participation in venues that offer these features.
- Lots of Elmhurst residents are going out of town to use these types of facilities. We would be more likely to use them if they were in town.
- I think they would be useful and would be an asset to the community.
- I am not likely to use the facility as my needs are met by existing facilities.
- Skating and gymnastics is a growing field. Right now though the numbers may be down in hockey.... Numbers are fluctuating right now between the AAA vs Central States Regions there is so many discrepancies....
- Great for rainy days, hot days, when allergies are bad. Allows everyone to still stay active just indoors instead of outdoors
- I have seen the gymnastics program grow over the last 7 years. There are residents who wish to participate in the program, but are unable to due to space/time restrictions at the Wagner Center. If the gymnastics facility were expanded, it could allow for Cheer and Coed Cheer



programs as well. Elmhurst has no indoor swimming facility with exception of the Courts and an aquatic center would be welcomed. Currently no indoor ice facility (hockey and figure skating would be a wonderful addition to the district's programs.

- My kids would use the ice and turf
- at capacity
- More to do in Winter Time!
- Preference would be for large open space for courts, fields, and running lanes for training
- such facilities aren't satisfactory
- A salt water pool -
- Good gym space will be a great addition to the town. You can also use it for tournaments/events to bring a lot of outside people into Elmhurst to spend money. There isn't any indoor turf space in Elmhurst at all. I feel a pool and ice space would provide less opportunity for this as less people competitively swim or skate.
- I feel that I really lack sports for my kids during the off seasons. I would love for my son to play soccer, swim, and ice skate year round. I know I could go to other towns but I am more inclined to register my kids for sports that are within Elmhurst.
- We need to go out of Elmhurst for these facilities and would love to have them here in town.
- Great for families and the local community
- Don't really use them and the Odeum is so close for indoor sports. How does this effect our already to high taxes?
- I just answered this question.
- Seems like there are plenty of indoor pools.
- Good for the area to attract new tournaments. However, do need feasibility studies to support developments.
- This spring for baseball, Lacrosse explains it all. No fields for practice. York Hockey pays above market value to owner of Addison Ice which is not compliant to fire codes and is run on shoestring budget. Unsafe boards, run down Zambonis and filthy locker rooms with non-functioning (but full) toilets.
- I feel it would bring in more revenue.
- My children swim and play soccer. It would be nice to be more local. That said, if more "capacity" simply meant it too was crowded, my interest would diminish. Chicken and egg dilemma. . .
- We need indoor turf for off season lacrosse, soccer. we need volleyball facilities, and a nice competitive pool would be good. Our gymnastics facility needs to be much better - with separated space for the little kids and competitive teams.
- it's much needed
- There are so few options for indoor turf, yet so many youth soccer clubs in the area that need that space for training, indoor leagues, etc. Would also love to see a two-level gymnasium like they have at Ackerman - basketball courts with an elevated running/walking track around the perimeter. Elmhurst is such a huge running community, but we have no indoor facilities to support this beyond the hamster wheel at Courts. I feel that the Bensenville, Addison, and Y ice are likely sufficient (as a non-hockey family). An indoor pool would be a huge asset for serious swimmers and youth lessons year round - as there are so few lanes at courts and outdoor lessons for kids (even in the summer) are less than ideal (based on fluctuating weather conditions).
- I think the more there is to offer the more people will do their sports in Elmhurst.
- My children will use the indoor track, gymnastic center and pool.
- The y is very small can't accommodate large crowds also kids want to play all year around to help develop their skills
- We have an outstanding community in Elmhurst and we NEED to have a top notch facility like the communities I previously mentioned. If there is the opportunity to make a multi-use facility a reality, our Park District and other governing bodies would be remiss to let the opportunity pass by. Build it and they will come. This would be a positive for our community and make an already very desirable city even more so, and along with it, likely increased

property values. Our reality is that children are specializing in sports at younger ages and they should have an awesome facility to further their athletic talents in. All community members' fitness will benefit too. Who wouldn't like a new, modern facility to go to? A partnership with Elmhurst Hospital would also bring in the therapeutic lens, Healthy Driven, lens. The potential of this is very exciting to me. I hope this happens.

- Tired of using subpar facilities here in Elmhurst, tired of driving and spending money at facilities in other villages.
- Asset to community. Wish we had a facility when my three kids were growing up. Healthy recreation is a positive choice for all residents.
- It would get tons of use
- Like hockey.
- Taxes are already too high in Elmhurst
- Because Elmhurst is a town where people should be coming to Elmhurst for an indoor sports complex. Elmhurst residents should not have to go to surrounding towns for indoor sports
- I don't really want my taxes to go up...
- Redundant to some degree. We already have access to indoor pools (YMCA, York, Courts), indoor gymnasium (Wagner), ice rink (Edge, which is close and Y outdoors). As for indoor turf, we use McCook and Westmont Yard, which are easy to get to, but more importantly, there are health concerns with artificial turf. I prefer outdoor natural grass fields.
- The kids if Elmhurst should have facilities equal to the communities around us. Oak brook, oak park, Hillside, Lyons, all have options similar to this for their children, it would be another great asset for Elmhurst.
- Most options benefit few people and not all the members of the community.
- I think it would be great to have facilities that would encourage our Elmhurst families to be more active and enjoy certain sports that we used to have to go outside of our town to participate in.
- There is a real need
- The kids need somewhere to go and sports is very big in Elmhurst
- If we are world class city then we should act as one and have such facilities, not parking lots, smoke shops et al.
- There is gymnasium space in the schools. Not the other types of space.
- I have not seen attractive Elmhurst facilities in any of these categories. Sports are important to our family and we would like to go to a facility within our community.
- Would like more opportunity to use facilities like these, especially ice time and pools.
- Elmhurst already has two facilities with an indoor pool. I can think of three facilities that could be used as a gymnasium. An indoor ice rink could be good since we only have one outdoor facility, however, that being said, there are relatively close, nearby indoor facilities for ice rinks. Definitely need a space with indoor turf for soccer and lacrosse type sports.
- I see the demand. The fact our kids need to go to other communities to play sports is wrong
- We would utilize the turf, gymnasium and ice more than the pool I believe
- I think the Wagner Center space is already sufficient for gymnastics.
- Soccer/volleyball is on the increase - new clubs are popping up all over. Big tournament plays for both sports. Year round play with both genders. Both genders play these sports. Equipment needs are low making the players and their families mobile and able to run out to get extras from our retailers. (food, shopping etc.).
- bringing family positive business to Elmhurst
- Already have pools. Need Paddle Tennis
- I have kids who play basketball, Lacrosse, football and some still taking swim lessons and would love to have something in town for these activities. We don't do a lot of ice skating so I am neutral.
- There are plenty of facilities in area for people to utilize. Why spend tax-payer's dollars on a facility that will be underutilized?
- I like basketball
- I feel as if we need more dance studios, but indoor ice skating would be nice for recreation

- I know I use those facilities in Elmhurst, but they aren't all located in the same place
- N/A
- Because Hockey is life
- I love to swim and practice and it would be nice to do it somewhere other than at the y during short free swim hours
- I feel like many people in Elmhurst would use these and they just sound like a lot of fun since there isn't much else to do in Elmhurst, indoors at least
- I think these things pose as many advantages towards people on sports teams and availability to them and other places
- WE NEED INDOOR TURF we are behind everyone else
- I hate the smell of chlorine and just passing it would make me feel nauseas and I don't play hockey and I would use the gymnasium for basketball and fields for soccer
- I feel we already have two pools that are already. Basketball or football would be fun
- I would love to have a place to go that is nearby that allows me to enjoy myself and exercise
- I play tennis, basketball, and soccer with my friends
- It is not clear to me why there is a need for additional athletics facilities at the public's expense. We have a very nice community center, an enclosed workout facility on West Ave, a YMCA, and numerous private workout facilities and exercise studios, with more planned for private development. A new facility would require staffing and maintenance costs into the future, increasing the burden on taxpayers. There would need to be a VERY compelling reason for additional facilities to garner any support from me.
- I can't feel "positive" without having some idea of where it would be located. Elmhurst is landlocked and putting in in any industrial area would not be useful.
- I really like the idea of an ice rink. There's nothing close by.
- Good for the kids.
- Seems like ice rinks and pools are very targeted versus gyms and fields cover more people
- We are missing an indoor sports facility like Westmont Yard, with fields and multi-use areas. An Ice Skating rink is nice, but is single purpose, and not as necessary with the YMCA ice rink and nearby Addison and Bensenville Ice Arenas. An indoor pool is nice but also single purpose, and unnecessary with York High School pool and Courts Plus Pool in town. An indoor waterpark like Schaumburg Waterworks, Oakbrook Aquatic Center or Glenview Splash Landings would be nice, but probably too expensive, and underused in the summer months. Probably not the best use of capital expenditure.
- I think soccer is one of the most popular sports and York high school doesn't have the availability to offer is space to play in the winter. Gym space would accommodate a variety of sports so makes sense to create this. It's my belief that swim is being accommodated well at the high school. Not sure about hockey and have no interest there. But getting ice time seems to be a challenge across all towns. Again limited kids play the sport.
- It is necessary to have these options as the majority of the year due to weather the kids and people are indoors
- I have given my reasons in other answers
- We have ice in Bensenville not too far, we have turf on outdoor parks so at least that's decent, we have courts at YMCA so kids get accommodated, however we have no public access full time pool year round!!
- We already have indoor pools - need an indoor Ice rink and/or basketball court
- Funny - we have an awesome community, Great schools, very nice neighborhoods but are park are below par compared to other communities. Our amenities compared to other GREAT communities are way below par. We really need to revisit our Park District board and management. Seems like they don't have a clue what the average Elmhurst resident would like nor do they care. I was surprised to receive this survey but I was forwarded it by another resident - wish the park district would reach out to ALL residence not a handful. Keep in mind - Elmhurst is known for being a wealthy community, with nice houses, low crime, awesome schools but NO one ever talks about our parks / recreational facilities or amenities. They are below par and the park district and board should be embarrassed but our residents should be

more for NOT Voting in people who actually care and want to improve our community (need people they don't want to continue as status quo from the 60's.

- I think this would be a huge benefit to Elmhurst residents.
- I don't think any are a necessity, and I'm skeptical this can be done without raising taxes.
- Because I like that there is some of the stuff combined however what about volleyball and basketball? Or track? I don't think I would use this because there isn't anything I would use in here such as volleyball and basketball. And I feel somewhat positive about the other things because kids will enjoy it, but teens won't be able to practice or hang out there. I want volleyball and basketball and I know lots of tens who would too! Also, will there be an exercise room or an area to hang out and eat lunch? I hope you take this into consideration!
- I am concerned about costs. Will it raise taxes?
- Because with the increase of families and a community of our magnitude the City of Elmhurst would be able to support an indoor facility that was describe.
- Not needed.
- Because alternatives in close proximity are limited
- Cause I have to drive to franklin park for hockey, Oakbrook for basketball, dg for ninja class
- Neither Wagner center nor York high school have an updated facility to host this rapidly growing sport. Elmhurst also lacks an indoor turf facility to host said cover/ football games/practice. Every other sport has a facility very near or something in Elmhurst
- We would use facilities like this if they were in Elmhurst
- I have lived in several states and had the opportunity to use several indoor sports facilities. In addition, I have waited online for extended periods of time just to be informed that gymnastics classes through the Elmhurst Park District are full. There is definitely interest in a larger gymnastic facility. Along the same lines, a family-friendly indoor pool would be a great year-round amenity for our area. Numerous residents bring their children to Oak Brook or the British Swim School for swim lessons, although we would prefer to stay local. Elmhurst residents are involved in many sports and a year-round, indoor, multi-sport facility would be a welcome addition to our city!
- The facilities already in Elmhurst are very nice, so I don't think they need replacing. The only thing we don't already have is an indoor ice rink, but I personally wouldn't get much use out of it
- would love an indoor pool for winter use!
- I think there are plenty of gyms in Elmhurst. And regarding Hockey, I am not a fan of the sport. Very much soccer and tennis family. And current swimming pools are not design for indoor classes for children
- I would not utilize them, so neutral.
- I would rather keep the kids in Elmhurst for programs
- I feel it would greatly benefit the community.
- we need an ice rink that accommodates our hockey players, revenue should be going to Elmhurst not Bensenville and Addison
- I think Elmhurst needs a better indoor pool than the YMCA provides and indoor tennis that is affordable
- Swimming and gymnastics are very popular in Elmhurst. Look at the numbers involved in the programs.
- It would be nice to have more opportunities for indoor athletic activities during the winter months.
- I have no gymnasts but do have a hockey player and I think an indoor aquatic center would be great and we wouldn't have to go to Oakbrook. Basketball courts would be great too
- Need pool
- The gymnastics center is far too small. Indoor turf could be used for many different types of sports during the long winter months
- We need gym space for kids, Elmhurst should not have to rely on other suburbs for gyms. Hockey is a big part Elmhurst culture and a rink would help more kids and adults play a great

game at reasonable time, due to other rinks being constantly booked during prime time. Swimming is an activity all ages can partake in.

- Elmhurst is missing the boat by not having a big multifunction indoor facility.
- Elmhurst has no indoor ice rinks.
- I think that gym space and a larger indoor pool would be well used by the community.
- My Grandchildren have to go to other communities for their practice and sports they are involved in.
- I am old and beyond use of most amenities. I want longer track for walking, pool and ice for grandchildren. Our kids swam, hockey, football & baseball. Soccer has probably replaced football as grandkids parents don't promote football. Indoor turf is good idea for soccer.
- I feel these are the areas where they are lacking. We will need to go outside of Elmhurst for these services very soon.
- I think it would be a waste to build something and then limit usage by not including a turf space. The lack of gym space and indoor practice space for spring sports is pronounced.
- Most surrounding communities have had indoor hockey rinks for a long time. It's time to give Elmhurst's hockey community-including the Dukes, Chiefs and their supporters-a high quality and accessible place to play and spectate the game.
- We need a facility that has different activities than the Y or the Courts. The Y has a rink, but it is outdoors and usually only used evenings and weekends during the winter. Does not have the capabilities of hosting tournaments which would draw families from all over that would have to stay in our hotels and hopefully eat at our restaurants and shop in our stores. We currently have NO DRAW to out of town guests to our town. Hockey is so big right now and will be for years. Ice is so limited. You have a High School that has to turn kids away from their hockey program. The YMCA hockey program is unique and in my opinion would not be affected at all by another rink in our town.
- Ice - there already is an outdoor facility and the facility in Bensenville. Pool - single use and not enough land to support this Gym and turf - can get the most usage and number of sports
- We should have an indoor soccer, perhaps pool, basketball, track (a lot longer than the tiny thing at Courts) . . . facility. Winters are so long.
- I think it would be nice for the community to have something to use close to home that would not require additional fees for living outside the city. Our residents are forced to go elsewhere for good ice skating/hockey programs and we have very limited opportunity for swimming in the winter months. Something like this makes our community more desirable.
- Indoor turf fields offer a multitude of sports an opportunity for space and time. Ice arenas and pools are expensive to maintain and offer fewer people at a time access. The more turf fields the better as far as indoor sports And offer a high end fitness center because courts plus are garbage.
- There is a huge need for indoor soccer in this area
- Soccer is tremendously popular in Elmhurst, but for indoor, we have to travel to Villa Park, Hillside, Westmont, or McCook.
- I play both soccer and hockey and anticipate my kids might as well. My kids would enjoy the aquatic and possibly gymnastics facilities.
- We have rec centers that have pools, but we lack gym space (for basketball, etc.), ice space (besides the Y), and turf.
- gym memberships are so expensive; it would be nice to have access to all of this through the park district
- Because there is very little available to Elmhurst. An ice rink would be beneficial to many of the local club teams
- Gymnasium and turf space can be multifunctional for many sports and is badly needed for a number of teams and programs. it would help with practices, games and hosting tournaments.
- We don't need an ice rink. There are lots of local options available. Besides the ice rink will take up too much space. Kids need an indoor option for those cold months for basketball, baseball, soccer, football, swimming, gymnastics, etc.



- We need these facilities
- I like soccer and ice skating
- My answer is the same as my answer to the previous question about what I think of Elmhurst's current indoor facilities: Elmhurst's indoor sports facilities are completely inadequate to the present-day needs of the community. Our indoor facilities (The Courts, Wagner Center, and various public school gymnasiums) cannot satisfy the present (much less the growing) demand among various kids' sports (basketball, volleyball, swimming, soccer, baseball, football, cheer, hockey), or the desire among adults to engage in similar indoor sports. The community's present indoor facilities appear to have been designed decades ago for a community demographic that is different than the one Elmhurst has evolved into over the past 8-10 years. It is past time for Elmhurst to replace or supplement the facilities it presently has.
- They are very successful at other locations.
- My whole family plays soccer and we usually lay outside Elmhurst!
- I have concerns regarding the cost to build and maintain the facilities. I'm not sure they can be self-supportive. If they are, I would be very supportive.
- Our indoor facilities are terrible compared to other nearby towns... especially for the taxes we are paying.
- Would utilize for soccer and little else
- Indoor sports activities are very beneficial for kids, especially in the winter time.
- I am biased because I have 3 kids who play soccer and I grew up on the sport. I believe the town of Elmhurst needs better kept outdoor playing fields but understand that might not be possible. It always seems we are scrambling just to find a space to play and or train. The idea of building an indoor facility that would have combination of turf fields and rubberized floors would be a no brainer. There is a huge demand for space and I think you can draw enough attention from the surrounding areas to be profitable.
- We're tired of driving to other towns for indoor soccer practices, etc.!
- Would open up options for our kids and keep everyone in Elmhurst
- It would benefit the kids, thus benefiting the community.
- If would get more kids out of their houses and into sports.
- We need a large gym for rec play and leagues. Multi use pools for competitive swim programs
- Because Elmhurst doesn't currently have an indoor water park (like Oakbrook or Niles) and we have the population to support it. Ice wouldn't be a bad thing; we go to Bensenville or the Y for that now.
- senior center is poor place to hold class
- My family would use these daily.
- I would be excited for another turf location to play indoor soccer and practice baseball in the winter. I would like more and better gyms for basketball and potentially volleyball. Ice would be great, but expensive. Same with a pool.
- The kids need good faculties
- The kids need good faculties
- My likes and dislikes personally.
- I feel like indoor gym facilities are a good idea but ice skating isn't as necessary since the Y has a rink and so does Bensenville.
- the more places for people to be active and healthy the better
- There is great demand for an indoor sports facility (basketball courts, ice sheets, swimming pool, turf, etc. that is all under the same roof) in Elmhurst. Many other suburbs have one; Elmhurst should as well. I'd rather spend my time and money in Elmhurst.
- Very beneficial for kids to be more activity & part of the community. Also is a way to bond w/ friends
- Because we don't need it. I will never use it and I don't want my taxes raised for building it.
- We have very good facilities currently that provide a wide variety of sports not every last opportunity that is out there but more than we ever needed for our 4 kids 18 and under that have lived in Elmhurst their whole lives. Our property taxes are already too high and park



districts taxes are already a burden on us. I would rather be able to live in Elmhurst with the current facilities then be forced to move out because our taxes keep increasing.

- There are enough facilities already. The town planners have a tendency to allow the same types of businesses to open in close proximity to each other. (Think ice cream stores, and yoga studios in town!) This almost certainly guarantees one or more will fail. We have enough of third type of business and facilities in this town already.
- It seems right based upon the number of people interested in these sports
- I am likely to use those. What I would like most is better park district dance studios.
- Ice rinks are too expensive to maintain.
- we already have facilities like this in Elmhurst.
- I would not use most of those except the pool, possibly.
- Because I am sick of paying other municipalities and facilities outside our town
- turf fields are most important.
- Already explained this in my other answers. I have also spoken to so many youth parents whose kids are involved in various travel sports. Elmhurst is one of the towns that is severely behind other communities in this area. Basketball and probably hockey are two sports that suffer from lack of local indoor facilities.
- Elmhurst needs to compete with the surrounding communities.
- Lots of residents go to other towns for turf field and aquatic space (I.e. McCook and Oakbrook). Would be nice to have these spaces closer to home.
- It's needed. The park district is outdated and so it Courts.
- I have a child and don't much care for courts plus and the Y is too much to money
- They are needed
- I feel like soccer and basketball are some of the biggest sports for children in Elmhurst
- We need it as well rounded as possible to generate as much money as possible for the village and to bring as many people as possible. You should also have had one or two lacrosse fields that is the new and upcoming sport!
- If you continue to create competition for existing facilities, you will destroy those that exist. Why partner only with the park district? Why not also include the YMCA in the discussion so that the facilities serve families, daycare needs, youth fitness, etc. Currently families are really only welcome at the Y and the Y has a great outdoor ice rink. Why not bring all of that together in one facility where everyone is welcome?!
- So the young people today can learn and enjoy sports, sportsmanship, teamwork, etc.
- Grandchildren in Elmhurst and this is a family town and I like that
- My children grew up here in Elmhurst. We often had to run all over trying to get to practice and games/competition. I would have loved having 1 place to go to for my children's many activities
- I, and all the other travel sports parents, have talked about this for years. Finally, someone is listening. Elmhurst parents will pay for this, and travel teams and party groups will pay to rent it out, which will help pay for it. If you decide to do this, poll parents about what type of facility the park district folks should visit for inspiration. Some towns went overboard, like Romeoville, and had to sell it. We need to be smart about it.
- Elmhurst is behind the curve for indoor sports facilities
- Expensive and unnecessary
- I play a lot of sports and I have to go outside of Elmhurst
- We need to make sure that this facility includes places for basketball and volleyball. The amount of tournaments you can host on the national scene would be endless. The tourism and people that can be brought into Elmhurst would be wonderful for an increase of taxable income.
- It's just not needed. We have enough here and in surrounding areas. If this is in demand (such as ice skating facility), let a private co. fund it, not our already too high property taxes
- I believe that the opportunities offered in the winter months are slim and those children who do spring sports are at a disadvantage once the weather improves and activities are moved outside. Many who do ice-related sports would benefit from year-round access to a rink. It

would also increase the "fun" in the community and the "weekend warrior" adults would have an outlet for increased fitness, too.

- My kids would take advantage of all aspects of an indoor sports facility.
- We have pool facilities.
- Baseball, basketball, lacrosse and soccer need facilities in Elmhurst. The demand is too great. There are already plenty of ice skating facilities in the area.
- I think the Wagner center is good for gymnastics. York High School pool is good for the swim team. I think there's a strong need for indoor basketball, volleyball, baseball, and soccer.
- Downtown Elmhurst's business district needs shopping alternatives more than offices, banks and a fitness center.
- What is needed is a Community Center so all of Elmhurst can enjoy various activities
- Great township horrible park district
- all positive improvements keep people moving
- Again have a place for teams to go other than the HS. Kids should look forward to playing in their HS facility when they get to HS. It should be exciting to final play there not I've been coming here for years. No respect for facility or excitement.
- Simply basing it on what my family would use. Not crazy about indoor ice arena due to excessive costs of any sport associated with it. I feel that space could be better used to be accessible to more residents
- It's an unnecessary expense.
- We lack facilities that are present in other communities.
- The sports my kids play utilize a gymnasium and indoor turf which there are none of in Elmhurst. There is a pool at the Courts.
- Still a huge need for lacrosse and soccer facilities
- We would love another place to swim. We would like somewhere to play soccer. We used to play soccer at the sports complex in Darien. If we had somewhere closer to play we would love to join an indoor league. We would also like to ice skate so we could get some good exercise.
- We would use a pool and gym space for volleyball and basketball. We are not skaters so while we may use this is not a priority for us. Open turf places are easier to find than gyms/courts
- I think that spaces that will draw from other areas may bring more business to Elmhurst and fill up some of our empty storefronts.
- I think it enhances the experience of living here because we don't have to travel to go to a place like that
- I think turf fields would get used the most
- My kids are a bit older now and participating in high school sports so we wouldn't use the facility as much anymore. However, I think it would be good for Elmhurst.
- It would be nice to have indoor sports options in Elmhurst.
- It would be great to keep the residents in Elmhurst for activities. We traveled all over the area for indoor soccer for many years.
- There is so much indoor gym space with District 205 and the Park District going unused that building more gym space seems redundant and a suboptimal use of resources and taxpayer dollars.
- this is what I would use
- We are driving to other suburbs, literally, every day of the week. We eat out after games, we are spending money in other towns.
- Bring business
- It is very extravagant when there are numerous facilities already available and taxpayers cannot afford it.
- I would use an indoor pool and walking track that were free to use and not overly costly.
- We have so many young people in Elmhurst and sports are positive way to keep children healthy and on the right track in life. I feel young families would really like a new facility in Elmhurst.

- When parents sign kids up for an activity they always take the facility into consideration. Because of the lack of indoor space, many families choose to go elsewhere. Keep the families in Elmhurst and strengthen our programs.
- They would be a huge boost to the economy and would allow the high schools to keep from over using their spaces which cause extensive wear and tear
- I'm neutral towards an indoor Ice rink because that's an amenity not every town has and we have several very close to us. We also have the outdoor one at The YMCA that could easily be enclosed. We also have indoor and outdoor pool facilities. What we don't have is a first class indoor sports facility. Not to say that if we did that it couldn't include a pool or a rink if it was feasible for them.
- Communities should provide space for the needs of the community. There is a tremendous demand for gym/pool/rink/turf use by the young and adult population of our community.
- Would love to have a place in the neighborhood to use year round. Would actually really like to have an outdoor pool as well.
- Currently, there's the seasonal ice rink at the Y, the pool, gym and the track at the Courts, the district pools, gym at the Y. I do know Elmhurst people who use Bensenville's park district facilities, because it's cheaper, but still timely and nice enough to service their needs.
- I would be more positive if teams using the facilities could host leagues at the facilities. If just for practices, the total costs may be too much.
- I see other facilities in communities pulling many Elmhurst residents out of town for tournaments and practice. I would prefer to see those dollars spent locally and for Elmhurst pull from surrounding communities to help support local businesses.
- I feel like a greater number of kids and adults would use the indoor turf rather than a new pool or ice arena
- There might be a need but York has extensive facilities
- would help the community
- we don't have this offered here
- Have enough pools. Never played hockey and grandkids don't play. Indoor turf?? Why not outdoors for Lacrosse, baseball etc.
- More youth and adult club teams would have additional local space.
- courts plus are satisfactory for everything but aquatics
- It would be a great addition to the town.
- I feel this way because there is already a pool at York High School and there is an ice rink in Bensenville.
- We currently have most of these types of facilities between the Courts, the "Y" and District 205. I question if these are fully utilized or more might be spent on upgrading these facilities rather than build a competing facility.
- All 4 of my children have been in travel sports and indoor practice space is limited. Would also like a place that teenager could hang out and play basketball.
- The availability of more activities for family and or individuals is a great marketing tool for the City.
- I belong to courts plus and I feel having another facility for sports would help relieve some of the pressure on the facilities at courts plus.
- More activities for kids, especially for early spring training for baseball and lacrosse
- There are so many people who are not able to register for the gymnastics classes do to the size of our current facility. Also in order for the gymnasts to improve, they will require a bigger and better working space.
- These are the amenities we use and I welcome the opportunity to use something I our own town and keep our money on Elmhurst. I would just want to ensure fair access for groups to reeve the spaces.
- We need this for our active community, so people may be active year round. Let us have the flagship facilities and draw people in. We absolutely have the children and families to patronize the facility.
- Because recreation is important, and the residents could use it year-round.

- Lavish York facilities unavailable to taxpayers.
- My kids would utilize the courts and possibly the pool. Hockey is not something my kids participate in. I think the facility use should be maximized for usage. A Hockey only or Swimming Facility only captures a small percentage of use. Plus, I think the existing Courts Plus structure could be redone for swimming or another subset of what is needed,
- Compared to other communities, Elmhurst seems behind in having a large multipurpose sports facility for the community.
- I have school aged children and it would certainly be more convenient to stay in town more for practices and games. I think the city also needs more indoor tennis courts. The tennis courts at the Courts are always full. While my kids don't play hockey, I know it is hugely popular and ice time is in great demand. I would think an indoor ice rink could be a revenue generator for the city.
- The most popular and fastest growing sport in the area is hockey with growth of over 37% from 2007 to 2015. Elmhurst does not offer a true hockey rink. The outdoor rink at the YMCA is a great way to introduce kids to the sport and offer skating activities to residents, but these are limited due to the small rink size and limited season for an outdoor rink in Illinois. Ice skaters and hockey players must go to other towns for practices, games, and events where those facilities are very dilapidated, for the exception of the Edge Arena. All Elmhurst youth hockey players play for teams in other cities. Even the York high school team calls Addison ice area their "home" rink. Of any facility to be considered, there is a strong need for an ice rink in Elmhurst to accommodate the growth of hockey. I feel that it is less important for the other sports because Elmhurst already offers those facilities such as fields, gymnasiums, and pools. Ultimately, a multi-sport complex such as the Darien Sportsplex could accommodate almost all of the needs for Elmhurst.
- Great for adults and kids.
- See prior responses.
- I'm worried about taxes going up as they did in Glen Ellyn when they built a similar facility.
- Ice rink won't be used by as many people as indoor turf and pool. Also include indoor running track! Elmhurst is a town of runners. Winter is hard. A track is better than treadmill and takes very little sq. footage as it can go around the upper deck of a pool or around the indoor turf.
- Our grandchildren, who live in Elmhurst, have to travel to other communities such as Villa Park and Bensenville to play basketball. I swim regularly at the pool at the Courts and it is often crowded. There are few opportunities for children to swim at the Courts because of restricted times. Our son has joined a health club in Oakbrook because the running trace at the Courts is inadequate.
- Taxes are already skyrocketing. Soon we will be like Glen Ellyn with taxes so high you needed another job to pay for. Skip it and move on.
- Elmhurst has to put money into its flooding issues not a sports facility. Our real estate taxes are too high already without accountability
- Need more facilities to keep kids and adults active and able to practice in town for turf activities
- My kids and I would love additional facilities
- Lots of options
- Our grandchildren have to go to other communities for these facilities.
- I feel that we already have several opportunities for indoor aquatics with the Courts and YMCA. The Y also has an ice rink.
- I love going to Oak Brook for indoor and outdoor swimming. Elmhurst pools are low class facilities that are not maintained. The pools lost their appeal when they were remodeled years ago. They were redesigned by politically motivated people and not for what the customer base demanded at the time.
- Most other towns have indoor baseball/softball facilities. All Elmhurst residents must go to Villa Park, Lombard, Broadview, etc. We would rather the money come to our town.
- We enjoy being active year around and would like to be able to do this in our community.
- Because it would be used and we don't have it.

- A great ice rink and great indoor turf fields would be used all the time. It's a no brainer
- These opportunities need to be available to all inside of the Elmhurst city limits where they can partake in these activities without having to commute long distances
- There are several pool options to choose from already, but not many indoor gyms/fields.
- Fitness equipment and free weights are most important, an indoor track, like the one at Oak Brook's facility is a good idea, a turf field would be great along with an aquatic facility.
- Would be a great resource for all the kids team sports for kids in Elmhurst. Currently practicing and playing in other towns.
- This would give my children an ability to participate in sports in the winter that they can't now. There are not a lot of facilities for the fall/winter.
- the turf field and ice rink would be a nice addition to the pools and gym resources already available
- My kids would probably only utilize the gym
- I would use these spaces. Elmhurst park should have a gym for basketball league. And, a real dance studio (at least one larger than the ones we have).
- Based on what we would actually use year round. If we had a decent facility in town, we would use it.
- Why use other towns facilities? Having a facility like this close to home would be awesome to have and use
- sports/exercise are an important part of life and development. The option should be available.
- We would utilize all of the proposed activities and not have to travel so far.
- It is needed!!
- I feel for the reputation of Elmhurst and the residents that reside here with the taxes we pay, I am shocked at the poor conditions and limited use of facilities that there is to offer to the community.
- indoor pool space would be awesome for kids in the winter months (and perhaps all year round). Courts plus is dated and not a pool for recreation. York pool isn't open enough to public.
- The more activity space available the better
- You spend too much for very little community benefit. Much like COD
- Less driving
- We need this facility because there is Nothing like it remotely close to us that works with all schedules. Other communities much smaller have similar facilities - Elmhurst needs this!
- If it's done right, I am very in favor of it.
- More options to recreational activities should be provided for year-round access. This is especially important given winter conditions and the fact that some of the grass fields currently owned by Elmhurst Park District may be more limited in wet spring weather if they are used for drainage detention facilities (more likely chance for cancellations).
- The weather is bad half the year, would be nice for the kids to be able to practice in the winter
- These would be a good addition to Elmhurst to bring surrounding communities in and to keep Elmhurst residents from needing to travel elsewhere.
- An indoor ice rink would be a great addition!
- I think gym space for basketball and volleyball courts would be a big benefit since that space dedicated to that only exists at York and the YMCA. Adding more courts would allow for more teams. Indoor turf fields would greatly benefit soccer and could lead to winter flag football, ultimate Frisbee or other leagues that are currently limited by the weather. Ice skating needs can be served by the Edge in Bensenville.
- The demand for ice hockey is huge in Elmhurst. The demand for soccer is not as huge, but an indoor area for soccer could and probably would be utilized greatly. There are enough basketball courts at the schools and outdoors. We don't need another pool, especially with Lifetime Fitness opening.
- Private business could provide any of these. It is not the role of government to compete with private business. Do not spend tax dollars on this. Just take better care of the parks. THAT is why you get the tax dollars you receive.



- We would focus more on skate/swim throughout the year if we had adequate locker room/shower facilities for weekly swimming with a young child and ice skating regularly indoors if available. Visit Braemar in Edina and Southdale YMCA in Edina for ideas or contact them for info.
- Kids do not have activities for those uses
- I think we need more space. I know that at times it gets limited on what can be available for these things.
- Those are the types of activities we would use--I also think we need more indoor volleyball and basketball space in Elmhurst
- I would be VERY positive if these spaces were similar to Courts Plus - self-sustaining.
- We have to travel to other locations outside of Elmhurst. Would be nice to have the gym space right here in our community.
- Turf can be used for a variety of different sports. People from other towns would pay Elmhurst to use this indoor space. It would be in very high demand. Ice rinks are in Bensenville and at the ymca (both close). We do not have any large, indoor turf facility near us.
- It would seem that the city of Elmhurst has so many other high priority issues (like flooding, replacing water mains, updating infrastructures, etc.) that indoor sports facilities rank very low priority for public spending. There is limited open space in Elmhurst for the facilities.
- Because it will provide a year round option to enjoy exercise activities no matter what the season is.
- I want to be able to play basketball first and foremost. A pool for my kids would be an added bonus.
- I think swimming pools are very specialized and limited in overall demand. Gym space is needed and is small in square footage compared to ice & turf. Ice would likely be able to generate enough revenue to support its existence. In my opinion, indoor turf would absolutely be in demand (football, lacrosse, soccer - even baseball) by schools and club teams.
- There are already pools in Elmhurst (like YMCA) and gymnastics too. What we need is a sheet of ice.
- many children play soccer and need great for indoor facility. this greatest need. need for gymnasium space, also. indoor pools currently at York, ymca, and courts plus so not as great a need no indoor ice rink for hockey, etc. but available in Bensenville and Addison
- Gym space and turf has the potential for many uses and would serve the community in many ways. There is no indoor pool that is family friendly so again, residents have to go outside Elmhurst to use these type of facilities. While an ice rink would be nice, I would wonder if it would be a cost effective use of the space given the YMCA and the Edge in Bensenville.
- Only thinking of personal use...any indoor facilities, particularly those that would benefit young people, would be supported.
- Having more opportunities to keep my kids and my money in Elmhurst is important to me. Adding an hour or more to practice times in order to get to and from practices takes away from time they could be doing other things.
- need the larger indoor sports areas Y and courts plus and York HS already provide indoor pools
- Soccer is very popular but there are no indoor locations in our town. An indoor pool would also be great especially in the winter. Indoor baseball training facilities would be nice and are offered in other towns
- A new indoor facility would be great for the city and families of Elmhurst. Would help attract more young families as well as provide an updated, state of the art facility for us to use and create additional classes/services.
- Seems to me we have indoor gymnastic space already. Indoor turf and a pool would be nice but I'd most like to see an ice rink. I think the demand is there and ice time could easily be rented out - especially in the evenings - to mitigate the cost.
- After 20 years of chauffeuring our now college, high school, and middle school children out of town to participate in sports, I believe that Elmhurst would embrace having a comprehensive facility.



- Elmhurst needs courts for volleyball, basketball. The Y has one small court it is not enough. Tired of driving to Oak Brook just for gym space.
- It would be great to have gym and turf space in town. All my boys would use the facilities and I would really enjoy less time in the car.
- More space and is needed as more families move into town and children become involved in activities.
- Our kids need better places to practice. We are forced to drive to other communities because Elmhurst does not have adequate facilities.
- Limited space for indoor activities
- Outside of the YMCA, we don't have any other options like that in Elmhurst. Elmhurst has fantastic outdoor park facilities; but, nothing indoors . . . given the long winters, it would be helpful to have a facility for kids sports.
- We would use these facilities and it would create better activities/facilities for my kids and for family time together.
- Elmhurst does not currently have these facilities - would provide youth with more options for winter time activities.
- My kids and I play basketball and soccer so would get the most use. Youth soccer and basketball seem to be the most popular sports in the area and you could use it for volleyball baseball, lacrosse and other sports. I believe the cost of maintaining an ice rink and pool would be very expensive.
- Kids need variety, so I am happy with all of the options.
- Elmhurst is in need of an indoor sports facility!!!
- Because I would like to see programs like "Lil' kickers" and "British Swim School" both have a facility to run their programs in.
- York has an indoor pool to use. The schools have gymnasium space. Indoor turf field would benefit kids playing outdoor sports year round. Ice rinks are always in need and can be a good revenue boost to the facility.
- It is a shame that Elmhurst does not have an indoor facility already. It is a nice town yet most of the residents bring their "business" to the other towns as there is no availability here.
- I am neutral as my children would not use an ice rink or pool and I am wondering the cost of a pool. As for the indoor courts and turf, my children are in 8th and 11th grades so they may not benefit from this at all but I would have loved to have had an indoor court and turf when they were younger.
- I would like to learn speed skating, and I would be a heavy user of a well-designed natatorium.
- These are spaces that my children would utilize.
- It would be great to have an indoor facility like Oakbrook.
- I think turf and fields are more versatile and less expensive to maintain.
- Because we lack these amenities in Elmhurst while neighboring towns who pay less in taxes offer these facilities
- We have an indoor gymnastics facility and really need to focus on other sports.
- Enough activities and people in Elmhurst to support it
- We would love to have an indoor soccer facility.
- We use the River Forest Country Club pool.
- We would use the pool the most. Families have to travel or use private companies for swim lessons. A park district such as Elmhurst should rise to higher levels as far as aquatics is concerned. Our indoor aquatic options are really pathetic. An indoor turf area would also get a lot of use.
- Because we mostly use baseball fields and the current fields in Elmhurst are very bad. Fields poorly taken care of and cannot handle rain.
- Participants in outdoor sports such as soccer and lacrosse would be able to play in the off-season.
- These selections will benefit a wider population of the Elmhurst community.

- Many people swim at the Y, court plus, Oakbrook or a private gym. A new indoor pool would be a waste in my opinion. We don't currently play hockey or ice skate. We find the Wagner Center gymnastics adequate for our family. We'd like to see a gym space in Elmhurst that had youth 5-12 basketball teams.
- I don't think we need indoor pools and there's lots of ice rinks around. Gyms would be great because then families could stay local for many league sports

Q15: What are your thoughts on these and other potential mechanisms to support the development and ongoing operations of a potential new indoor sports facility? **(OPEN ENDED)**

- Let the people that use the facilities pay for the facilities. Do not increase taxes to cover the cost of these types of facilities.
- I think most Elmhurst residents would be willing to support this.
- User fees and rental fees make the most sense -- people that use them are paying for them.
- Hopefully something like this can be built out of existing capital and maintained with user revenues it generates.
- The only option I am not a big fan of is increasing property taxes
- DO NOT USE TAXES TO FUND THESE FACILITIES THAT NOT ALL RESIDENTS WOULD USE
- I am not open to any new taxes. Mine went up \$1200 this year for a modest 1100 sq. foot ranch which is crazy. I can't afford any more tax increases or we will have to leave Elmhurst where I have lived most of my life
- I don't see why this is even being studied. There are other facilities in our area as well, north and south of us.... Who is looking for this?
- I would support them.
- if it is built it should be paid for by those who actually use it
- There are many ways to fund it
- If you include other park district kids dance, gymnastics, sports classes and courts plus with this facility it would be a home run
- The City of Elmhurst is always striving to offer its residents the best facilities, parks, initiatives (latest 'green' initiative, etc.). I really appreciate that, and would approve of a property tax increase and/or other fees at facilities to suppose ongoing efforts to improve local offerings.
- Would also like additional spaces for birthday party rentals
- Corporate Sponsorship
- I would rather taxes not go up too much, but user fees and rental fees would help
- none
- Corporate sponsorship should also be considered. No one is going to approve a tax increase.
- Indifferent
- It would be hard to pass a property tax increase but user fees would work. I also believe that a lounge that could view all of the fields would be a big money maker
- I believe it would be supported broadly.
- Property taxes have gone up so much in the last couple of years, I don't think there is much appetite to go up even more.
- Great idea
- Our Park district seems to undercharge for its facilities. The pool passes are a great example. We have fabulous pools, and the pass is only \$30. I believe other towns charge significantly more for their residents. Daily Use fees are also low - we pay \$10 - \$12 per visit to Naperville Yard or the Oak Park Gymnastics facility. If they are nice - most people will have no issue paying for it.
- Work with the travel sports groups in the area to identify needs and price points.

- Fundraising efforts are underway to create some sort of cultural arts facility in Elmhurst. This could be combined with a sports facility -- theater, stage, banquet area, dance studio. Lots of competition out there.
- I am highly in favor
- I think it has to be a mix of property taxes (if it increases everyone property values they should pay for it), user fees (you want for everyone to have a little bit of skin in the game and rentals (this should offset some of the costs). If you combine all 3 it would be extremely reasonable.
- I would like to see what my taxes would go up to before committing to that funding option, and if it was funded by taxes, I would absolutely expect to NOT pay a membership fee
- I think that the return to the city would justify these fundraising methods.
- Please don't raise taxes.
- Any and all of them are likely necessary.
- I'm very glad it's happening
- Should be self-funded.
- We would not support a new indoor sport facility. Please get more retail and fix our streets instead. Our street is horrible. My brother came from out of town and almost popped a tire. We have original streets and curbs in our area. Only patching is done. So sad.
- Use and rental fees will help nonresidents and non-property support the facilities not just property owners
- fine.
- fine
- I think the people using the facility should be the ones to pay for it through fees charged by that particular facility.
- Let the facility be self-sustaining via fees, do not touch property taxes.
- I would not support a property tax increase for a facility such as this. The City of Elmhurst needs to focus on fixing the flooding issue and school funding issue combined with aging school facilities before they build something like this.
- N/a
- Really don't want taxes going up
- I think it is totally justifiable to have user fees and tournament rental costs. Private parties could also be a potential source of revenue.
- The tough part will be to make it affordable to all residents...when we first moved here 30 some years ago there was a lot of pride that everything is available to all.... now what I hear from young neighbors is that if you are not in top earning brackets you cannot afford to have your kids involved in everything they might want to be...I find this very sad.... we moved here because it was a great mix of people...income, diversity etc...
- If necessary to bring in more gyms/turfs, I will support.
- Elect a new set of government officials with accountable goals
- I think that reasonable increases are a necessary but essential part of building new facilities. However, I also believe that a lot of the funding can be made up by usage by neighboring community members.
- The people who use them should pay for it.
- I support small property tax increase.
- I think the facility needs to be able to pay for itself, or have a real daily use capacity to large portion of the community to be a worthwhile expenditure. I do not think a disproportionate level of tax dollars should be used to develop or maintain the facility. This type of facility needs to run at a surplus in order to be acceptable use of tax dollars and park space.
- No taxes on us the non-users of this Pink Elephant. Try working with District 205, Elmhurst College, Park District, YMCA, and ALL other Non-profit Organizations to see if they would be willing to use it for any of their current/future needs. Is there any Job Training, Boy/Girl Scouts/4H// organizations that would help support it? Can it be made for multi-purposes: Flood Control and City Services and County Services and State Services and Federal Services and Disaster Planning/Safety Shelters, that would help ALL of the Elmhurst Population, not just the

Athletic Members? Senior Citizens, Preschool, Home Schooled Children, Unemployed/under employed Elmhurst Citizens, etc.....

- Property taxes in Elmhurst are already considerably higher than most surrounding towns so I don't think they should be raised further for this facility. Reasonable user fees, monthly/annual passes that vary for residents versus non-residents and tournament fee revenues seem like viable options.
- I have not made use of any of these types of facilities in other communities, so I do not have any thoughts on the matter.
- Corporate and community contributions
- The older people in town aren't going to raise taxes for an indoor sports facility. If you're going to raise taxes here in Elmhurst the money should go to the school district which is going to lose quite a bit of their budget due to the sad state of Illinois finances. The indoor sports facility should be supported by the people who are going to use it
- Our taxes just went up 30%. We are already at well over 2% of our home value.
- Facility must be self-sustaining.
- My thoughts are that I want my entire family to have the ability to participate and enjoy sports and teams that were not available to me as a child. And since I'm already spending this money (and then some) OUTSIDE our hometown, I'd obviously be willing to spend it right here in my own backyard.
- already pay an excessive amount in taxes and feel this should be funded in other ways, fees or revenue generated from tournaments that can be hosted
- I would be more inclined to use the space if fees are kept lower
- The development would benefit all of Elmhurst, even those residents that won't directly use it. I would support an increase in property taxes for it, but I would also expect those who actually use it to pay too. Fees for participation in tournaments should also be expected.
- I think a public-private partnership is ideal for this idea: leverage limited public dollars with private investment... there is a continued stream of user-fee and concession revenue for the investor. It's a win-win-win for the community as long as you don't price it like the Chicago Parking Meter deal... see the Skyway for a better model of successful PPP.
- It needs to have some public funding because most public sports facilities cannot support themselves.
- Get the leagues like airborne, Knights, baseball etc. to commit.
- No specific thoughts
- Pass
- Don't have an opinion
- Support it.
- Do not give us more taxes. When a new pool was put in at York high school the public was supposed to be able to use it. Did not happen
- I don't believe tax dollars should be used to support this. People will pay anything to get their kids involved in sports with extra coaching and pay what it takes. Without a local facility they will go to neighboring towns that offer the services.
- I'm very concerned about doing anything that increases our property tax bill and increases the congestion we already experience here in Elmhurst. I'm also concerned about preserving our existing outdoor facilities and parks, I highly value outdoor space.
- You need to do something, and quickly.
- Neutral.
- Do not build!
- Use current taxes
- Municipal bonds. Partner with other organizations, i.e. Edwards/Elmhurst Hospital, District 205
- I believe that it will be favorably accepted and well used and therefore will be able to generate the funds needed to maintain and staff such a facility.
- I would like to see a cavity but it likely would not happen fast enough for our kids to get the most use out of it.

- Possible sponsorship or cooperative facilities with Elmhurst Hospital.
- Let's do some fundraisers or use TIF money.
- All options should be looked at.
- It will be difficult to get it up and running, but the outcomes will surpass that.
- Advertising various companies would help as well
- I do not understand the question...
- Our taxes just went up 13% this year. Yes, I know the parks only get a small portion of that but there isn't a need for any of these things to be honest. I'm against anything being built that could potentially raise our taxes again unless it's going to drain people's properties that flood also.
- I think user fees are a good way to pay for the facility
- Ask other towns what they do. There's a reason why they're so successful.
- Taxes are too high already
- Should be funded by users of the space
- No new tax increases for the Elmhurst taxpayer. Investors should be sought out as the Elmhurst Park District has a large budget for the "parks" that are in Elmhurst.
- I think increasing the property makes sense as this will benefit the entire community but also a small user fee for those who actually use the facilities.
- Our taxes are so high already and should not be increased
- Would be in support of it
- I pay enough in real estate taxes so other means should be employed to support these expenditures.
- Elmhurst has been asleep at the wheel and should have been working on this long ago.
- positive
- I like the mixed income approach. A property tax would be necessary to ensure a steady income for the facility and its success. Memberships and league fees reasonably priced should help supplement the income.
- Nothing
- I think this would be a big draw and would be highly used. We could pull in revenue from outside of Elmhurst with user fees.
- There are many kids in town that use outside facilities throughout the year.
- Taxes in all the suburbs are high enough - they need to be put to better use, such as our school districts, not sports centers.
- Would support
- Whatever needs to happen to make this happen is appropriate
- Our property taxes are already very high. I think that the development could be potentially privately funded with a very small increase in property taxes.
- Can't happen without a tax increase
- need to be sure needs outweigh the costs
- If you want to have a world-class community, then you have to have world-class amenities. I think the lack of opportunity for kids and the focus ultra-competitive travel is what leads to the issues we have with substance abuse among our adolescents. It's a shame that every other community has much more open gym time and opportunity for the residents
- I would expect there to be costs and fees associated with it.
- I think people would pay to use a large, one stop shopping, type of place for activities. For example, while Chile one is at hockey practice, child two could be at a swim lesson and child 3 in the child care room freeing me up to exercise at the work out facility.
- Sports are very important for our you. I support this.
- I can't imagine anyone supporting a property tax increase given what we just experienced this last year.
- Clubs will pay. Tournaments will come. Concessions will be sold
- I'd like to see creative ways to pay for facility without impacting residential property tax.
- Long overdue. Let's do it!

- If the facility is open to the public including schools, etc., I think at least some portion should come from property tax. If there will be tournament events and competitions from other surrounding area teams, some portion should come from fees for those tournaments/user fees as non-Elmhurst residents will benefit. I honestly am not sure how other towns structure funding so not sure what norm is.
- I hope that the facility could be subsidized by participation/club fees and user fees, and would hope that a property tax increase would not be a means for funding.
- See above.
- I don't understand
- Our taxes are already quite high so the thought of them increasing is not attractive. I know that the hockey organization that we participate in already pays for ice time outside of Elmhurst. The facility we use also generates revenue through tournaments. Individual participation fees seem to make sense as those that are using the facilities would be helping to pay for them.
- User fees and rental income would be an ideal way to support a facility.
- None
- It is needed.
- Already paying too high of taxes.
- I don't think people would vote or be happy about another tax increase. User fees are acceptable.
- Get it done!
- Find the location and let's make it happen. Let's keep Elmhurst great and on the task like so many other towns
- New indoor sports facilities will only enhance the attractiveness of the city of Elmhurst to families with active kids and adults, along with its high quality schools and convenient location. However, increasing the already exorbitant Elmhurst property tax rates should not be a first consideration. Given that non-residents would also use the facilities a combination of user fees and special sales tax increase (county or district) should be considered first.
- If the city did a better job of making its budget transparent, I might consider tax dollars. But now, spending is opaque but taxes go up, up, up.
- Ice contracts are at a premium. Build it now and you beat out any other village or entity considering building rinks. Ice leases will fund ongoing operations for years to come.
- We would support via property tax increases and user fees to support such a facility.
- Supportive. Should be a blend of all 3, tax, usage, rental
- Find a way to make Elmhurst a complete town, that is on par with Park Ridge, Willamette, Winnetka, Lake Forest.
- I would support if fees to use are much less than other commercial venues for residents and if property tax increase is very small.
- I believe that we can fully support this development through user fees and by hosting tournaments to offset this cost. Virtually every other community in the Chicagoland area has been able to do this.
- I fully support whatever is necessary to bring an indoor facility to Elmhurst
- Elmhurst residents are already paying for facilities in other towns, this would just be keeping our dollars in our own town.
- I think it's a good idea to have this facility here so residents don't need to travel outside of Elmhurst. Other suburbs could also benefit from the use of this facility.
- Neutral
- For the initial development, approach the residents paying 20K or more in property taxes every year with a letter and ask them to donate in 1K 5K 10K increments to get their names on a plaque in the entryway. Ongoing maintenance. Don't know.
- Fully approve of the idea.
- Seek out private investors too. Charge for team/individual usage of the facility
- no ideas at the moment.
- I support any ways to raise the money aside from raising taxes.



- I think it would be great to raise the funding without using property taxes as the way to do it. We already pay 14k per year which is some of the highest in the country
- We need to make this happen
- Generally, there should be enough private revenue to invest in building it and private fees to maintain it as a business. I am against raising taxes for something like this.
- For hockey, I know we rent our ice time, so that would help in cost.
- It will create jobs and revenue, this would be a win for citizens and the city.
- Not sure- need more info.
- The Elmhurst Park District has revenue from other sources throughout the community to use add staff and maintain a new complex. I'm tired of the City of Elmhurst and Park District constantly to increase taxes or usage fees to pay for something. In this day and age, there are many different ways to raise money - fundraising, sponsorships and grants etc. Alternative ways to fund are not attempted to their fullest potential. Instead, the City and Park District fall short with few attempts or none and take the easy way out by looking to residents to fund everything.
- All are applicable and good ways to fund a facility
- This is a great idea. Should have built this 10 years ago.
- I don't mind paying more in taxes, since I know I will use the facility
- Should generate enough revenue on its own to be self-sustaining.
- ok
- Taxes just increased dramatically this year so the community will not respond well to that mechanism. The families and organizations that utilize the facility should be able to support it.
- All funding options have to be reviewed. User fees for teams for ice fees, soccer etc. would have to be competitive, but not as cheap as neighboring facilities based on their run-down/dated conditions. Corporate sponsors and local business sponsors would have to play a part in funding. If this facility could be built with restaurant/bar service with revenue sharing that could also offset the costs. I'm more interesting in an indoor ice rink, and believe that tournaments could be a big boost for our town and local establishments.
- Through fees to the facility, marketed properly, should have it filled, thus paying for itself.
- I think you can get a lot in fees for tournaments of all kinds.
- I think a modest investment by taxpayers would be reasonable to help build the facility, and that user and tournament fees could be used to maintain the facility. I also believe that users outside of the Elmhurst area would be interested in renting ice space, however, priority should be given to Elmhurst clubs and residents first.
- We need it and it would be used. Taxes, fees, % of fees from sports teams, etc.
- I believe an indoor sports facility would bring tax dollars from other towns through rentals and sales and would help to advertise our great city to visitors.
- I see this as an investment by the City of Elmhurst and EPD as a quality of life and ancillary benefits to commerce in Elmhurst vs. being paid for by increased taxes. User and tournament fees would also help subsidize the investment and operations costs.
- I am strongly for it if it has an ice rink because it should offer something for the community we don't already have. I think there should be a combination of revenues to support it. For sure there should be user fees but if they would not fully support the facility then I would be supportive of a tax increase depending on the amount. I support this as I see it will benefit the youth in the community and give them a healthy activity and also depending what is offered at the facility also offer adults some more healthy options.
- It must be totally self-supporting. If the city expects the Elmhurst History Museum and Lizzadro Museum to be self-supporting, then any other recreational facility should be as well.
- I believe you could easily support an indoor ice rink with user fees.
- all are necessary
- Not an increase in property taxes.
- support
- Not tax based
- Hope it can come to fruition without a significant tax increase.

- Ongoing operation can support themselves without additional tax levy
- I am in the real estate industry and have seen many private sport facilities fail. Most don't make it because debt/interest is too much without low interest rate bonds. Typically, it takes 2 or 3 bankruptcies/sales/purchases at pennies on the dollar to make one successful without community involvement. I believe that the facility needs to be a destination for community members with workout space, gym courts, pool, etc. This way a family can go and participate in various activities within the same building. Not each family member needs to be doing the same thing.
- I just don't think it's needed. Improve what you already have.
- Avoid tax increases.
- Courts is ridiculous - bad parking, poor design, band aid jobs inside. Build one great facility and people will pay to use it.
- It would be interesting to know how other cities with these indoor amenities funded the facilities.
- Property taxes are already high enough!
- I think the park district should put it in their long term plan, so they don't have to do a tax increase and charge the sports organizations that utilize the facilities.
- Optimistic
- My taxes just went up 35%, the city and school district are close to driving me out of here. Too many public costs already here, don't add any new ones. Would be nice if the public sector pensions were vaguely in line with the private sector which is paying for them.... just saying!
- Ongoing operations should not burden the taxpayers. Programming costs and rental income should cover that.
- I know from experience; hockey tournaments bring in revenue. We went to a tournament in January at the Dells and the Great Wolf Lodge was practically full with hockey families that holiday weekend.
- I think this is something that should've been done a long time ago. If there is a way to get sponsors or other revenue it should be looked into.
- I trust you to make fair and economical decisions when deciding how to pay for this. Would be nice to have such a thing in Elmhurst.
- Should earn money by itself not by tax increase
- Would be beneficial to the community.
- Nothing more to add
- Park District should use funds and rental from Sports clubs will support this alone.
- I don't want to see another tax increase; Elmhurst is killer already. I'm not sure, it's not my job to understand how to properly fund something but I don't think it should affect taxes.
- Property taxes are already very high -- raising them for this may be a difficult sell. Although I will say I have never regretted any of the major enhancements that have been done here whatever the cost was. We have to continue to make investments in the community if we want a nice place to live and property values to remain high. This include the library, Berens Park, downtown renovations, etc. All good ideas and the sports facility is another good idea.
- Any time of support is adequate to enhance our sports offered for youths.
- Support it any way you want. Just don't increase my TAXES.
- None
- None
- Needs to be located for ease of accessibility by ALL Elmhurst residents.
- I have no thoughts at this time
- If homeowner's get a tax increase they should receive free or greatly reduced rates to use it. Just like Bensenville does with its facilities especially white pines.
- fee charges
- Courts Plus is very expensive as compared to other gyms and doesn't offer as many amenities.
- We need to keep our kids active. More facilities mean more sports.
- Seems like an opportunity to generate funds from specific user groups.

- Build it they will come!
- Demand will cover overhead. No new taxes should be required.
- Currently other town are benefitting from Elmhurst sports teams using their facilities to host games/ tournament/etc.
- Would love to see something that brings more re venue to town,
- I'd be happy to pay more taxes as long as the facility served a broad range and included aquatics. Adults hardly use indoor fields and rarely use courts.
- I think it is important to support this possible indoor facility, however, I believe you would need something for all ages -toddlers through elderly.
- With all of the increase in new construction and increase in the tax base the increase revenue for the city and park district there has to be available funds to give this project a healthy head start.
- Good
- Do not use taxpayer monies to fund this venture. We just had a major tax increase.
- Fine
- Ok
- Not practical
- Travel teams are not cheap due to the fees they have to pay for practice facilities. Currently all those fees are going outside of Elmhurst. Organizations will rent these spaces for events.
- It's fine. Elmhurst has enough middle class and upper class to support the increases.
- You just raised property significantly.
- Not sure about costs or increases. Facility needs to have plan, price tag and outlined impact to community. Has to be affordable for all to use.
- With all of the increase in new construction and increase in the tax base the increase revenue for the city and park district there has to be available funds to give this project a healthy head start.
- The people who will be using the new facility should be paying the majority
- Facility should be self-sustaining.
- I have no idea. But other communities seem to figure it out.
- Do not raise property taxes for park. Need new school buildings first!!
- Supportive ...
- While I'm not opposed to a tax increase, I'd expect a huge push back by residents.
- Would create more jobs.
- This is a great idea and I know there are lots of families that go outside of Elmhurst and will be definitely open to using one inside Elmhurst
- Make it a corporate and private hybrid.
- Increase train station and nearby lots parking fees
- I have a feeling this facility would pay for itself. All of the private youth leagues would finally have a place to host tournaments and have practices. These leagues can bring in a lot of money and they are looking for facilities to rent space.
- Ok
- We should have this facility
- Anything created needs to be self-sustaining. Any forecasts provided should be conservative to realistic. We already have a 3% occupancy parking garage sitting vacant and tons of empty space with more coming. A facility like this will not pay for itself.
- None
- Why do we really need this?
- Work closely with surrounding communities to see how they are able to have facilities that are economical for residents. Partner with the EPD and YMCA to build something great.
- None
- It should be funded by the people using it.
- "We provide experiences for the lifetime enjoyment of people who live and play in Elmhurst." This is your mission. EPD needs to step up to facilitate enjoyment of the pre-teen and teen crowds. "We aspire to be a customer centered organization through innovation and

sustainability," is EPD's vision yet you send your customers outside of Elmhurst more than you keep them here.

- Taxes are too high
- It's not my #1 priority for the park district and Elmhurst community.
- Additional tax seems out of the question for a facility the city doesn't really need
- Who pays for this? Not needed.
- I think Elmhurst is one of the few towns of our caliber without an indoor facility and we need this for families and kids
- I do not want my taxes to go up or those of others that may have no use for it! Those that use it should pay for it, not the people that can't or don't use it!!!
- Not sure
- Centers like this in their towns often have fitness centers in them. It would be great to drop off kids at dance or basketball and then be able to work out in the same place,
- Positive
- Park District should address flood issues first.
- Arts! Let's have some balance!
- NO new taxes for the residents of Elmhurst. This should be fully funded by revenue....
- The community benefits from them and from having people come in to use them and stay in town, so businesses benefit as well. Like a great library or schools, people of the community pay a premium to live in a premium suburb.
- Property taxes in Elmhurst are very high already and would not likely be a good way to raise money for such a facility.
- Elmhurst could generate more revenue for downtown if it could draw in out of town hockey with tournaments and league play
- I think the financial source for such a facility should not be from property taxes, but from those who use the facility.
- Elmhurst, as a whole, has particularly high property taxes. I would definitely not be in favor of using those monies to support a new facility.
- Need to be self-sufficient for future sustainability. This should be revenue generating for the park district.
- Given the influx of 55 million dollar homes in my ward, something should be done with that additional revenue. Also, ice and natatorium should be sustainable with tournament fees, rentals and memberships.
- they're good
- Residents of Elmhurst should not be assessed an increase in their property taxes to fund another indoor sports facility. Those who use such a facility should fund it through their own user fees.
- Naming rights, fund raisers,
- User fees should be reasonable, in contrast to the very high fees charged by Courts Plus.
- None
- against the facilities
- I believe we have a lot of green space at Berens that is not utilized. Also, an indoor walking track would be very beneficial
- No thoughts
- Our taxes are high... Absolutely opposed to an incremental tax increase to fund this project. It should be funded by fees and clubs.
- We are supportive.
- As long as the tax increase was not excessive I would support it. I also believe that user fees for non-residents should be implemented. I have used the Elk Grove Village complex and I have paid to use their equipment.
- I think it would be awesome
- Positive
- Sponsorships

- I think the facility would pay for itself in years to come through the use of rental fees and tournament fees. Trying to increase the taxes here will not be met favorably considering the school will probably be seeking a referendum soon.
- I do not mind paying higher taxes to be able to use such a facility
- I think it would be awesome
- The facility must be properly managed so that it is operationally self-sufficient.
- I do not want any money from property taxes to support the operations. I am sure you will get a lot of thoughts on that.
- Should not be across the board funding. Should be paid for by those who use
- Eventually the facility should be able to at least break even, if not provide a profit for the community, but I am open to all the possibilities and proposals for funding.
- It would be great if it can be cost neutral to the taxpayers
- A mix of usage fees and property taxes would be a good idea so that the cost is spread out but there is also a modest user fee.
- Please don't increase property taxes, they're high enough already.
- I think people would be willing to pay for a quality facility.
- Incorporate rental spaces for ancillary services that can pay rent to offset the costs to carry the facilities. Things such as sports equipment stores, food service, ice cream services, party rooms, etc.
- Again, having gone through the travel soccer and basketball, one and two day tournaments are big money generators especially if you offer food and beverage. Team entry fees, spectator admission fees as well as food and beverage generate decent revenue.
- We need to pay for it if we want it. Would love to think about some creative funding streams such as renting to churches.
- I support a fee & also renting out for birthday parties/activities
- demand would definitely be there from just basketball and soccer alone. turf could also be used for football, baseball, lacrosse etc.
- Is this really needed or financially feasible? Where would it be located and how much traffic and congestion will it create?
- I believe the park district should cooperate with existing services and amenities offer by other organization and businesses in the community to offer what it thinks is missing... instead of duplicating these.
- none at this time
- Shouldn't be responsibility of people who don't use it
- It would be perfect in the north York Road corridor.
- Don't want if it raises our taxes.
- Do not use tax money
- None
- Drives, City fairs, support from local organizations, tax money, usage fees - get community enthusiasm by offering activities at a good rate and you will have plenty of participation. Request volunteers for some of the jobs.
- I think it would be a good thing for Elmhurst youth. I personally don't want to pay for it but it may make my home more valuable when I HAVE to move.
- If I had to prioritize building projects, a new indoor sports facility would be relatively low on the list, so I'd be reluctant to vote for a property tax to fund it, preferring that any tax increase support other public projects or District 205.
- I think all options have to be evaluated. I would not mind paying a small amount for that type of facility in Elmhurst.
- If we want it, we have to pay for it somehow.
- The only viable mechanisms for developing and maintaining an indoor facility on Park District Land are either a 501C3 Foundation or a for profit business entity taking responsibility for raising the necessary capital for such an undertaking.
- Well travel hockey pays for itself, I can't imagine property tax increases to support this, when it's run almost like private business. That's the NIHL way....

- I don't think property taxes should increase since not all residence will use the facility however there should be a user fee in order to use the facilities.
- We have participated in sports competitions in other indoor sports facilities locally and in other states (WI, IN, OH). It has been my experience that families will travel with their children to these completions, and the rental of a new indoor gymnasium facilities could bring additional income to the district and community (Shopping/Hotels/Restaurants).
- Idk
- see previous comment
- N/A
- Do not know what that interest may be. Taxation is an avenue but one that may be unpopular.
- rentals for special use
- No tax increase - taxes are forcing seniors and other residents to leave Elmhurst.
- It will be an uphill climb with some people in the community. I feel it's well worth it and would be an economic stimulus to the city.
- I am not open to a property tax increase.
- I believe that the operation expense could be covered by charging rental fees for use of the space - the fee structure could be established like the fee structure used by Elmhurst School District (with additional priority provided).
- I would need to know more
- Why not just let private enterprise do what they do? It always ends up raising our taxes.
- We pay huge taxes already, and do not want to pay even more.
- I would support using some city money to get a facility built.
- I'd recommend really looking at long-term sustainability.
- I think it will pay dividends as mentioned in previous comment. Schools, city services, parks and local commerce should benefit.
- It enhances the community
- My property taxes are very high right now. I cannot imagine writing a check for more taxes. I propose usage fee. You use it, you pay. And I am OK with hosting tournaments for revenue. It also might help the local economy with hotel revenue.
- Elmhurst has a ton of workout facilities. None that I know of have the things you ask about. We need something like the Naperville Yard. There would be a ton of use for indoor facilities off season - we have this for lacrosse, soccer, volleyball, etc. We have to drive quite a distance to get to the places we can rent out to use. Courts Plus is subpar - probably why we have a ridiculous number of workout facility options. I don't know how it can be paid for. Our taxes are going up enough.
- open to ideas
- I think tax payers should shoulder the burden to the least extent possible as ultimately not all will use the facility, but there are a lot of youth sports clubs in and around Elmhurst (and families than sink a lot of \$\$ into them) to support indoor facilities. Using Ackerman as a model I think it's also smart to use varying fee structures for lease of space by clubs/teams, rental of space for parties, annual membership options for individuals, and day-use fees for drop-in users.
- Can't raise taxes for this, they are already sky high.
- There needs to be a user fee to keep the facility updated for maintenance.
- The fees should apply to the teams or organization that want to use them. But can host birthday parties group summer and school outings
- We need a full basketball/volleyball court sized multi-use gymnasium and much larger dance studios.
- A project of this magnitude needs to be funded somehow. All the options presented make sense, though the real-estate taxes in Elmhurst are stressful in that they continue to rise. I'm not sure what the "other" option would be. Grant monies? - in Illinois, not likely. Whatever creative ideas the Park Board has, I know community members are happy to listen to them.
- Fine. We need a facility in this town. Courts plus is also a disaster.



- Advertisers from community businesses.
- Great ideas
- It will help the community's needs
- They won't be enough to support the operations and taxes will still continue to rise
- It has to be paid somehow, but I would rather see every option used before you went to the tax payers
- No more taxes!
- I don't think an indoor sports facility is appropriate for Elmhurst. I don't want to lose any of our outdoor space or fields. An indoor sports facility would bring even more congestion to our already too cramped community. Plus, I would strongly oppose a property tax increase or new/increased fees on residents to pay for this.
- All seem appropriate, food and beverage revenue, special events, club sport team fees could also help.
- All seem appropriate, food and beverage revenue, special events, club sport team fees could also help.
- Those who use the facilities must pay for them.
- It all depends on how much it would cost...
- Elmhurst is a relatively affluent community and most residents have children who would utilize
- Fine with it
- positive
- It should not be funded with property taxes
- I am in favor of it.
- I would definitely not use property tax. We pay enough in property taxes already and the project would not get approved. I would love to have an indoor facility but would not approve it if it means that property taxes will increase. The facility should be self-supportive with its own fees.
- Like I said earlier it needs to be run by a very competent person to maximize usage and the profit loss needs to be monitored closely
- Necessary - would keep revenue in Elmhurst
- No opinion
- If marketed correctly (and find a "home team" or teams for the facility) - would rent and tournament fees be enough?? Increased taxes or a referendum will be a hard sale.
- the city must do what needs to be done to make this happen.
- Stop excessive pensions for city workers. Get the old folks off the park board and give some younger people the opportunity to build Elmhurst's future.
- I would love to see this happen.
- The facility is NOT needed!
- should do it
- no opinion
- I think that an indoor sports facility would be very helpful in our town
- The more activities to do, the better!
- Don't care all too much as long as there is a hockey arena
- we should do it. it's a great idea
- we should do it because it would be beneficial and useful
- I think there are many good ways to fund the place and most of them should be cost friendly
- we need to get a sports court it will greatly help our community
- No comment
- I feel it shouldn't make an over whelming difference
- I don't think everyone's taxes should increase when not everyone will be using the facility, thus membership fees are a good idea
- Fundraisers
- There should not be any burden on taxpayers.

- The EPD doesn't offer much "for taxpayers" unless they are seniors, or children - or without user fees.
- Rent it to private companies to increase revenue.
- x
- Not willing to fund via higher property taxes.
- Probably needs to be some combination of user fees and taxes with users paying the bulk of the operating costs and property taxes paying for construction
- Given that property taxes for all houses under 20 years old in Elmhurst just increased 5%-30%, I would hope that provided extra funds to build a new facility without raising taxes again
- No way do I support another tax increase. First, it's unfair to those who don't have children or whose children have aged out. Also, our taxes increase constantly, as someone who already pays over 20k, there has to be a better solution.
- Taxes are already too high; we need to be able to find mechanisms to pay for this
- I support all of these mechanisms and am willing to listen to other mechanisms that residents come up with.
- I think we should see what other suburbs are doing and pick the best laid out plan. Why keep reinventing the wheel!
- Think it would be another great asset to Elmhurst
- I love it - should have been done in the 90's but at least someone at the park district has realized we are not in the 60's but now the 21st century. We need a major sports complex, re-do the Baseball, Football and soccer fields build a concession / announcers stand in-between the football fields at Berens Park. Let Elmhurst be known for its great neighborhoods and homes, downtown area, awesome schools and hopefully soon our awesome and state of the art Park District facilities and amenities. People will desire this area even more so then now and we can also make money off of the awesome park district amenities. Be like Chicago - build great destination locations and have people send money in our community!
- People will complain about property taxes but I feel they are worthwhile. The rest you'd have no issues with. Also the Park District has a large reserve to spend, let's spend it!
- I would be supportive if it can be guaranteed local taxes are not raised. They are already high and many new buyers are being priced out of buying in Elmhurst.
- Well this is great for the community but do we need it? How much is it going to cost? Do we have the space or the money?
- I do not think such a facility is needed.
- I think the community will support this idea.
- There is no green space feasible for this facility. As a taxpayer, I do not wish my taxes to go toward a facility of this kind. All park facilities are embarrassing. Berets is a joke. Total waste of space and poor planning. Soccer fields a disaster. Baseball fields unusable and embarrassing. Spend money to improve and upkeep of these facilities.
- Funds should come from usage based fees.
- Plus, workout area so can utilize when kids are playing
- They are needed
- Put courts plus and this facility together. Use fitness revenues to help fund a true sports center.
- I am very much in favor of a new indoor sports facility and I believe that it should be supported through multiple sources
- If you have to buy a membership, I doubt my family or I would ever use it
- I'm happy to pay a modest usage fee; but it would need to be less than area gyms in order to be competitive
- Elmhurst is in the middle of the Chicago Metropolitan area - this creates an opportunity to sell this facility for Chicago area tournaments. As more people come in, they would then generate more purchases and therefore more taxes for the city. Families could also take the metro and make their way to Elmhurst. Buses could then take these families to the indoor facility for a fee.

- Expecting tax payers to foot the bill for a facility that not all would use is unfair. Best to leave funding to those that use the facility.
- Not sure
- I do not want taxes increased. All available programs should be able to support the complex.
- those who use it should pay for it
- Elmhurst property taxes are already to high so it must be paid for by other means
- I would support it.
- If there won't be enough user fee generated support to build and sustain it, don't build it.
- Fundraisers too
- There needs to be balance. Cannot pay it all with taxes.
- I'd challenge the Park Board to take a long look at how the Wagner center is currently used.... many classrooms spaces are highly underutilized by keeping ALL those pre-school aged classrooms only. Also challenge how the City currently uses ALL taxpayer funds.... we are paying too much for the Library that should go towards making this part of our community more appealing.
- Business advertising, charitable events.
- It would pay for itself.
- Pay as you go or sport team fees should cover these costs.
- I think an indoor facility could generate a lot of foot traffic in our restaurants as well as provide services for a lot of families in town that drive their kids elsewhere for activities.
- Why don't you try balancing your budget and stop raising property taxes?
- Not sure
- Not in favor of a lot of usage by outside city people. Going to end up back where were. Have to keep Elmhurst residence fees low
- I feel it would be worth the cost.
- It is my understanding that TIF funds will be a major portion of the startup funding.
- I am willing to invest tax revenue in a facility which provides Elmhurst athletes with improved opportunities and enhances Elmhurst as a community.
- The great potential to bring revenue to our failing businesses in town! Also the prospect of the amount of jobs this facility would create. We need a draw to our town. Right now we have nothing other than the York Theater. You need to reach out to some of the Hockey, Soccer and lacrosse teams and their parent's.
- support
- Should make it happen, also with some cost cutting elsewhere. Reduce the number of indoor facilities to save some costs, but replace with a large indoor facility.
- Property taxes are already high so increase would need to be very minimal but could be used particularly to develop the facility. Maintenance/operations of facility should remain at a very low cost for tax payers after development, but outside users should pay a greater fee and rentals of facility should be made accessible to help cover the cost of operations.
- Membership fees. Tournament fees. Bringing in professional camps. The opportunity for revenue is endless with turf space.
- N/a
- Hopefully, the facility could be operated mainly on the basis of user fees, but I'd support a modest property tax increase if needed.
- Please no property tax increase. tournament fees and user fees are a very capable source.
- Perhaps we can also do some community fund raising events relating to fitness, such as a 5K and a festival afterwards with an auction.
- stick to the basics and make it affordable
- I support these mechanisms. It's so important for the kids of Elmhurst to have a facility to go to.
- Vendors, restaurants, sports shops
- If the facility is nice, big and widely-available, then make it "great." No ice rink, though.
- None
- good

- It's difficult to say without knowing more about what the potential facility would look like - if it provides space for the community's anticipated needs for the next 20 or so years, I would say a property tax increase and use of bond financing are roughly equal as far as financing the development and construction of a facility. For operations, being able to cover expenses from tournament fees alone would be ideal but probably unrealistic. As for user fees, I would be in favor of charging local organized kids' sports clubs a nominal fee for use of the facilities and charging organized adults sports groups more. Except for personal fitness training, for the facility to ensure broad-based community use and support, I believe it would have to provide plenty of open use opportunities at no charge. Assuming tournament and user-based fees will not cover operational expenses, I would support a property tax increase to help fund those operations. My feeling is the addition of such a facility will make Elmhurst an even more desirable community and lead to an increase in property values.
- House leagues
- Great!
- Property taxes are already pretty high, so I would not be supportive of increasing property taxes. If the facilities can support themselves, that would be ideal.
- I don't really want our taxes going up since they are already ridiculously high already.
- Could work
- no comment
- I don't think it would warrant a tax increase. Would people be willing to donate? Is there any interest from private investors or would this facility be owned by the city?
- Do not want property taxes to be impacted - they're high enough!!
- The community would benefit for indoor facilities for soccer and softball.
- Usage fees either by membership or daily use would be a way to go. Sponsorships by local businesses or companies in the sports industry may also be a possibility.
- It needs to be financially viable
- I think a membership fee is appropriate. This way folks that want to participate, can. I don't want to force something on everybody if there isn't an interest in that particular sport. I've personally spoke with dozens of parents in the area about this and everyone has shown great interest. I also had a meeting with Christine Ibriaco about this as well. The berens are is gentrifying at a faster pace than the rest of Elmhurst, many families are knocking down older, smaller homes and building. There must be 12 new homes on Walnut alone. These families almost all have small children and they will need something in the area.
- no thoughts
- I fully support all of these.
- I'm very interested in an indoor facility. I would be willing to pay slightly higher taxes to support it.
- Fine
- Fine
- Taxes are already sky high; I wouldn't pay more to support.
- Not sure park district fees?
- I can barely afford my property taxes now so if any increase I would hope it would be a small one. I think people should have to pay a fee and for sure teams should have to pay a fee.
- I am in favor of these mechanisms.
- Fundraising, pay for usage etc.
- None
- User fees need to fund 100% of any new development and operations of a new sports facility. Large homes give the impression that everyone in Elmhurst is rich and can afford endless new developments and operations like a new indoor sports facility when in reality many of us are just part of the struggling disappearing middle class. The leadership in our town needs to focus on what the people that currently can afford not create a town that is so expensive that we are forced to move out.
- I do not support this proposition at all. Where will the users park? How much will taxes be raised to fund this project? The town is already overcrowded. I suppose it will be six stories!

- They should be paid for by those that use them
- You should attach the facility to courts plus, or expand the Wagner Center.
- Should not raise taxes.
- don't even think about raising taxes or using existing taxes
- Users should pay to use facilities.
- I think that the use of these facilities would pay for themselves given the fees neon g charged at other facilities that are old, outdated and dumpy--parents and coaches in travel baseball, travel soccer, travel swim/polo and travel volleyball are looking for better located, convenient, clean as well run facilities--I know there has been a lot of discussion in this area--huge need
- it would be an asset to the community.
- When the York pool referendum was passed 20+ years ago, I was a student at York. At the time, Elmhurst residents fought this. They didn't see the value. 20+ years later my kids have used the York pool extensively as both are swimmers and have swum for both EST and York HS. Yes, this will cost money. But I think the facility will easily make that up via rental income over the next 10 years. Oak Brook Park District is pretty much booked on court rentals during the winter - I can't get court time over there at all during winter.
- Don't raise taxes for this, make it user supported. Raises taxes for things like police and fire to keep our residents safe.
- No property tax increases!!! Taxes are high enough!
- I have no thoughts, that was my opinion.
- II wouldn't raise the property tax
- Fundraisers
- I think a new facility is a great idea - but I would not support raising property taxes
- I think it's a great idea!!! Much needed and over do!
- We cannot afford more property taxes in Elmhurst and the city is adding vast amounts of housing without the benefit of residency and property taxes paid by hundreds of residents who will tax city assists like schools, roads, parking, etc. User fees must be comparable to current fees paid at the Courts and the Y, and hours must accommodate people who work and commute. The Y opens currently at 4:45 am
- It would create jobs in Elmhurst and bring others to town for complex events. They may stay and eat or shop here. #1 is it would be great to have the Elmhurst youth be able to have a complex here and not travel to other towns.
- None
- None
- Don't reinvent the wheel. Find a town that built one successfully and see how they did it. Not sure our city folks make the best decisions with all the empty store fronts and we're building even more, so we need to do this right. We have smart folks in Elmhurst. The school district is utilizing them via focus groups, and that would work here too. The only obstacle is that parents of teens won't be passionate about this because it won't come in time to help our kids and parents of kids under 10 don't know how badly we need it cause their kids are just getting involved in serious sports.
- Explore grants to get started
- Expensive and unnecessary
- should be out of existing park district operating revenues
- I would be a major advocate for having a facility and would love to do whatever to support a place being built.
- Let those who demand it pay for it. It cannot be supported by further tax levies for all when only a squeaky wheel segment of parents is demanding it. The money put into parks and recreation is astonishing here. Not every family in Elmhurst has 4-6 kids and many have zero. My two neighbors have no children. Put more \$ into making this appealing to single and childless folks. Create adult classes/facilities. The choices for adults in the EPD summer publication were lame.
- Any way funds can be secured outside of property tax increases should be explored first. Once built, if under the governance of the park district, it would likely become a property tax

function. The park district has always managed its resources well so I would hope it would do the same for the new facility.

- Not sure
- Will not support tax raise
- Every angle should be explored. If done correctly, I think there is a lot of corporate money that could be leveraged for this. The Elmhurst Park District has missed the boat for years. They could have sold sponsorships annually to help offset the costs of additional investments and upkeep of their parks. Unfortunately, they haven't and the parks deteriorate every year, while parks in Lombard are significantly better for every single sport.
- Those that use it should pay for it.
- Keep it a private venture without city funding to see if the business model can survive or needs to fail.
- This proposal is a waste of space
- All good
- Committee
- If it's a nice facility people will have no problem paying a rental fee or dues. Tournaments should charge a tournament fee for teams to play. Have to cover expenses.
- If any cost is backed by property taxes, I would like to see lower rates for Elmhurst residents.
- I do not think property taxes should be increased to support an indoor sports facility. Our property taxes are already embarrassingly high. If the facility can function on the revenues it can generate, then that makes sense.
- Positive
- I think Elmhurst taxes are already too high. This should not be funded by taxes.
- Simple pay to play. Leagues, camps and weekly training opportunities. Especially with the Odium being in such poor shape.
- I would love to not have to pay more money but to be realistic I know that wouldn't happen. I believe those that use the facility should have to pay not so much the city.
- We do not have enough facilities in our area. I think user fees and tournament revenue could go a long way in supporting the facility.
- I guess I'd prefer it be developed by a non-governmental business, rather than by, say, the park district. But I would need to know more about the options.
- Our taxes just went up A LOT this year (28%) so I don't really want to take another tax increase, the facility isn't that important to me if it means my taxes get jacked up again.
- Money would be generated from tournaments and birthday parties
- I believe we already pay enough in property taxes.
- Prefer no tax increase, but if it was minimal, I wouldn't be opposed.
- I think the need is there and it will be used. We are paying fees to all of these outside places right now so let's bring it back into Elmhurst.
- Before building, I would need to see the current usage rates of the existing facilities and long term demand for new types of facilities. I was helping coach basketball in another district at a grade school and do not see existing gym usage rates near 100% in Elmhurst
- Properly managed it would be a city asset.
- I believe our taxes are high enough already. Especially this year after going up 30% for us. I'm sure they could find a little money in the taxes we already pay to help support an indoor facility!?!
- No tax increase
- It is an extreme extravagance to even consider this proposal when people struggle to pay ever increasing property taxes.
- Sell corporate sponsored anything to keep costs to residents at free or nominal prices.
- If people are charged to use a new facility they will respect it and keep it nice. I would hope taxes would not be raised for this and Town Officials will find another way to fund to build this facility.
- We currently pay a rental fee and would continue to do so. People are very busy and the added travel time is difficult.



- They would be good
- I'm all for it and have pondered the idea w/investors years ago. It is an amenity a town like Elmhurst needs deserves and has been without for much too long. From the many conversations I've personally had over the last 20 years with folks here in town, most people would support a facility such as this even it was put to referendum!
- These are reasonable ways to fund expensive facilities. The entire community benefits, so the entire community should be stakeholders. No one group should be responsible for funding and maintaining.
- I think we could pay for it with membership type fees, as we have with the other pool memberships. Local sports teams could also pay to use it for games and/or training.
- I think the park district should work with the City and possibly the library combining their abilities for learning and resources to create a whole citizen's center. It would service and be a resource for all ages from newborns and families to the seniors. All citizens.
- It needs to be a self-funded venue. Allow space for physical therapy. Outsource private lessons and training space to for profit companies...follow the Glen Ellyn community center model (Ackerman facility).
- Pro new indoor sports facility
- I feel like it would bring in a lot of revenue to the park district. Most indoor facilities are booked solid
- Users should cover costs
- fine with it
- none
- Naming rights.
- I think it would add value to Elmhurst as a great community to live.
- don't have any
- All positive. In favor!
- No comment. I'm not old enough to care.
- I think they would pull users away from the Courts, the "Y" and the possible use of District 205 facilities.
- could make a lot of money by hosting tournaments
- Should be a priority for the community. The more recreational opportunities available the more vibrant the community.
- I think they should generally be self-funding. I believe courts plus is.
- Charge rental fees
- I think it's a fantastic idea to move out and expand not only for a gymnastics gym, but also for all the other sports mentioned and included in the survey.
- User fee and tournament revenue
- They seem reasonable and fair.
- It needs to be promoted so the community is educated about it.
- The City has used balances to make bond payments to avoid using property taxes but property taxes should be used in conjunction with user fees. Public facilities make property more valuable.
- We need to check with towns like Downers Grove and Glen Ellyn to see what support they have done for the on-going operations. Right now, the management of the Courts Plus and the Wagner Center is less than ideal. People utilize other private gyms because of the management is so poor. We'll increase membership and usage with quality fitness programs and management of youth sports. Right now the park district does a poor job of getting quality instructors.
- There seems to be some facilities that could be closed to help fund operations and revenue could be generated for ongoing operation through membership and other revenue.
- I didn't see a bond issue listed but that, I would think, would be considered. A property tax increase is not going to be popular.
- Increase in property tax: OK, but no more than 3% User Fees: Yes, this should cover the Operating Expenses and maintenance Tournaments: Yes, hockey tournaments (unlike other

sports) draw participants from across the country and international. For example, see Bauer Invite: annually held in Chicago area. This of course brings revenue to hotels, restaurants, and entertainment. Other: explained on previous page.

- I thought an indoor facility would have been great where the old hospital was instead of larger houses on top of one another and issues with congestion and schooling.
- I don't understand this question.
- I am in favor of a new facility if it doesn't lead to tax increases
- We need it.
- Having space available for tournaments would bring in visitors from other places who would contribute to the local economy by going to restaurants, staying in hotels, and shopping in stores.
- Skip it and move on. Let's fix them. Rumbling infrastructure of our aging schools and finally solve the flooding problems. This all sounds great to people and the next thing you know is we are paying \$20k in property taxes. N.O.
- Don't want any tax dollars used to fund this type of project
- Bring in a professional operator to minimize losses from operations
- No opinion
- Good
- I believe that the Court is very successful financially with memberships. This could be extended to a new facility. Also fees for leagues and tournaments could be assessed. Some form of bonds could be used to construct the facility with them being retired using memberships and fees.
- None
- Redesign what we already have in this town. How dare you even propose a tax increase. The mere question relating to increasing resident taxes already shows that the motivation behind a new facility is greed, power and politics to make some Aldermann popular in this town. His children would benefit also. In order for a facility to be built some other organization is going to suffer.
- An indoor facility would make money for our town. Our park district would benefit and all the residents and even outside residents would benefit.
- Enough money should already be collected on taxes to fund it.
- Just as long as it's not in property taxes mine just went up 30%
- I would be happy to pay for it every time I use it.
- One group you are omitting in town are the active seniors 55 and older These seniors also need a central location in which to participate in activities in one central location. Senior centers are flourishing across the country. Elmhurst is behind. And don't even think of the Abbey as being a senior center
- I don't know.
- The Courts Plus is very pricey, especially for what is offered, small and unorganized weight room and a tiny track. The tennis facility is all that is appealing there. The price should be a lot lower for Elmhurst tax paying residents. Do other municipalities charge around the same or less for use of their park district facilities for their residents? Please do a survey of that and let us know.
- Not sure. But should be affordable and accessible to all residents of Elmhurst.
- I am support of it. I don't agree with property tax revenue because that is already a heavy burden and this should be more voluntary.
- If it can be done without a tax increase, otherwise I am not sure I could support such a project
- Should not involve a tax increase- we pay for the York facilities already and cannot use
- A 30% tax increase on my home hasn't given me any new services or facilities so, I guess you could use all the extra money you're getting now. Certainly, the city and park district don't have 30% higher expenses this year.
- Taxes are already high. Those using the facility should incur the fees.
- Hockey team. The Chiefs hockey club that currently skates out of the edge is an Elmhurst club. Why not have them play in Elmhurst? Big revenue in hockey. Like hosting the Bauer

tournament, NCAA, hockey leagues of all ages. Public skating. Basketball league for all ages. Indoor Soccer, lacrosse.

- Do not like the idea of raising taxes.
- It would depend on the cost for fees or tax increases.
- Good but don't raise taxes
- Worth the money put into it. We have too many kids in our community not to offer this and we must keep up with the growth of our city.
- I believe that taxes are extremely high as of now and we don't have these facilities for community usage. To keep residents happy and build in these facilities in our own Town, we won't have to look to outside towns for facilities to use.
- None
- Stop
- A nice new facility could easily bring in other activities and sports programs from neighboring communities if it offered a place for indoor winter baseball practice, soccer, basketball, etc. Obviously Elmhurst users would have first priority on scheduling, and outside communities would need to pay more, but this could be a revenue generator.
- It would be a good thing for the city. Just want it to be done smart.
- Agreed that fees are necessary to support the facilities operations and maintenance.
- Make every effort possible but no tax increases
- I would not want to see property taxes increased but would be willing to pay more per program/rental offered at the facility.
- With the current money that is allocated to the Park District, it might be a tough sell to propose a tax increase to fund new construction.
- If it means an increase in property taxes, my level of support would decrease.
- The fees for all memberships, teams and events should be set high enough to pay for operations. It would not be fair to the elderly and those without children to raise property taxes to fund this facility. Issue bonds if funds are needed, but in looking at the financial statements of Elmhurst, it might make sense to use funds on hand which are probably earning little interest.
- It's worth it if it enriches the lives of the people in the community
- Negative. I do not want to see more precious open green space built upon. Any indoor space is serving the few at the cost to the many.
- Willing to pay a small amount through property taxes but like EPD classes, should be paid for by user fees.
- Do not increase property tax
- If you want stuff you have to pay. Even if you don't necessary use it, like some people not having school children, it is a cost of a nice city.
- Wonderful!
- The Courts are thriving with these mechanisms. This despite the increase of workout facilities that have recently opened in Elmhurst and surrounding environs.
- Would need to look at the options.
- Teams would travel to use these facilities. They would pay a significant amount of money (we do that in other towns now).
- I do not want any of my tax dollars going for any indoor sports facility! Not one dime. Let the people who use it pay for it. Elmhurst has lots of parks and recreation facilities already. I do not want any public lands used for such a facility.
- There should be no issue if the two political parties have the same agenda interests. PD & town political committee.
- Don't have tournament rental fees-one of my biggest complaints about the Oak Brook park district courts is that although they have three full sized courts, they routinely rent them all out thus significantly limiting being able to play basketball unless you join a league. I'd be fine with tax increase or a user fee because I feel that if you are joining to use the courts then you should pay, too.

- I know that Max McCook started as a private enterprise and could not achieve profitability as a stand-alone entity. The facility would need to be supported by the community in some financial way (taxes) - in addition to fee based usage.
- Property taxes are already way too high in Elmhurst. Just last night I was told a street of 6 (six) families all are up for sale because they cannot take it anymore. We do not want to see good families with long ties to Elmhurst leave our city to be replaced by rich Hinsdale like folks. That's why god created Hinsdale let the very rich live there but keep some balance here in Elmhurst. I find myself wondering why Elmhurst taxes are so high when I drive on St. Charles street and the Sandburg middle school has falling off letters for over 1 1/2 years. What is happening to all this tax increase?
- property taxes very high so I do not support increase. courts plus supported by user fees and that works well.
- Elmhurst residents should be able to use this facility without charge. Teams that are for profit should pay for the use of the facilities in rates that must be competitive market rates. It may require a referendum to get this done.
- Would only support a real estate tax increase if Elmhurst residents had free access to the facilities. Or a minor charge. I am dismayed by the cost to residents for all areas of Courts Plus...not just the classes. The difference in cost for almost all Park District facilities. Like the swimming pools. For residents and non-residents is quite small. Our taxes are very high, and as residents we are still charged high fees for things like trash pick-up, and yard waste. While are many parks and outdoor playgrounds are free, I would like to see some free indoor spaces to take our children in the winter months.
- I think anything that provides our community with opportunities for fitness, team sports, and personal advancement is positive. It also will make us more competitive with other communities in terms of people moving into our community. We also have many kids who play sports outside of Elmhurst because of lack of useable practice space in Elmhurst.
- taxes should be last resort - user fees should be primary source of funding
- Taxes are high enough. Make it self-sustaining
- If the money is put to good use, such as updated facilities (including schools), I am in favor or contributing.
- Courts Plus seems to be self-supporting. With hockey rentals, I think an indoor sports facility with ice could do the same. Other towns in the area do it.
- Private funding and donations.
- fine
- I will support whatever is needed, but I think property taxes are already quite high.
- Need to keep up with what other suburbs offer to the community.
- I would support them.
- Willing to support a local venue to avoid travel
- Utilize a combination of municipal bond offering & private fund raising for the construction. I doubt most residents would favor a tax increase; therefore, the facility should be able to pay for ongoing operations thru team usage fees, tournament revenue, advertising fees (for signage/logos), as well as, city sales tax revenue from food, beverage (alcohol), store for clothing/sporting equipment & sale of merchandise during tournaments. I believe there are significant opportunities to host multiple tournaments (especially hockey). Lastly, seasonal usages fees from "house" teams, ongoing purchase of ice (practice & game usage) and personal usage (2 tiered systems which non-residents pay a bit more to utilize on a personal basis).
- Understand the need to fund this facility. Higher fees for use would be optimal rather than increasing property tax.
- A balanced approach should be used to fund the development - property taxes & user fees. Ongoing costs should be fully offset by user fees.
- I very much think it is a good idea for Elmhurst and could easily be supported if it was good quality. Team Elmhurst and Elmhurst FC two local soccer clubs, and the local basketball teams

would go a long way in supporting a facility. IF you got the commitment from these teams and others that would be helpful.

- Means tested user fees. I am very happy to pay user fees. In many cases, I feel that EPD fees are low relative to the value of the offering. Yet, we want to keep all activities accessible to everyone in the community. So there should be an income scale.
- There are enough teams to support the facility.
- Balanced approach
- I would avoid the tax route as much as possible. With teams in the area, the facility should be able to support itself with fees. Anything outside that should come from private donations.
- It is a good idea and probably most residents would like to see an indoor sports facility in Elmhurst. The question is location and cost
- I think the cost should go back to the users and donations. Property Taxes are very high in Elmhurst and many people will not use the facilities. Many seniors are leaving the town they raised their children in due to the increased costs.
- If well designed, rentals can generate reasonable revenue and secondary (sales) tax revenue, without putting a tax burden on people who don't use the facilities.
- Not sure
- I don't think taxes should be raised to support this type of facility. It's not fair to the people that won't use it. Pay as you go would be a good solution.
- I think that the overhead on a building with turf and fields could certainly be covered by the users - tournaments, events, birthday parties, fees, concessions.
- In favor
- I feel we are already paying a lot of taxes to the park district for not very much, where does the money go? Tournaments offset the fees of the league and not the facility. Fees to use the facility should be higher for non-Elmhurst teams and discounted for our Elmhurst teams. But there needs to be free open gym times available to all.
- Support
- people would be willing to pay a fee for an indoor soccer facility. right now we are forced to go to hillside, Melrose park, Westmont, Glendale heights, etc.
- Good
- Those that use it should pay for it including getting local sponsors
- Property taxes should NOT be increased for this purpose.
- Would be very interested and seek out information when proposals are presented by the park district.
- Since Elmhurst has great park districts programs and facilities, I'd prefer the costs to be paid for by users of the specific facilities.
- The adults in my family aren't going to vote for any property tax increase that doesn't benefit schools
- Corporate sponsorships, facility rentals, taxes, etc....
- I think that Elmhurst residents would be willing to spend money to belong to an indoor facility that is a one stop shop for working out, sports, etc. Tournament fees are also expected by the families that participate in travel sports.
- I am not a fan of property tax increases. Would be a proponent of users and businesses supporting the development and operations of new facility.
- I'm in favor of greater indoor sporting options
- I believe space and location is the biggest barrier to a new indoor sports facility.
- I don't support the tournament fees since relying on tournaments to fund the facility only limits the access for members. Oak Brook has a huge problem with this in that their Basketball court are commonly rented out to groups so there is usually only 1 available. User fees for members should support the facility. The new facility should be an update to Courts Plus and you will already have a large base of users.
- Should be self-supporting with user fees and/or tax breaks to the operator.
- User fees only.
- It is a great idea.



- None at this time.
- I think a lot of the costs could be paid by user fees, party rental fees, etc.
- I don't think a new facility would be worth a tax increase with current options nearby.
- we have 44,000 residents in Elmhurst and tons of sports, including many travel leagues. We should have an indoor facility - so many other neighboring towns do, including Bensenville, Oakbrook, Glen Ellyn, etc. How do they pay for their indoor facilities?
- Get it done Elmhurst! Lose some of the baseball/soccer fields!
- I believe that whatever mechanisms are needed to have the sports facility should be used. Obviously within reason, but I think a facility like this will be a great asset to the growth of the city of Elmhurst.
- I am against this project, because we have facilities in Elmhurst which should be utilized to their fullest capability. Focus should be on keeping a little green space in Elmhurst, allowing for greater ease of traffic flow through our community
- I fully support a new indoor sports facility, especially one with an indoor track larger than the one at Courts plus and a full-size gymnasium. I feel that the cost of such a facility should be privately raised by the Park District and not put upon the taxpayers.
- I'll support anything except INCREASED TAXES
- fees and tournament revenue if managed correctly should be all we need
- There are sufficient revenue streams available to support the facility through user fees and costs
- A facility with two sheets of ice would attract hockey tournaments where players come from all over the country. These tournaments range from 3-5 days usually over weekends-All year round. The revenue from hotels and restaurant use would be enormous. The shops in town would benefit as well. These revenues should be a large factor when deciding what type of facility to build. The economic benefit to Elmhurst as a whole would be significant from these hockey tournaments. Thank you.
- marketing to adult leagues in and outside of Elmhurst will help support the facility. In addition, private organizations such as catholic schools could use the facility for their organized sporting events. Of course birthday and other private parties could contribute.
- I think it would be good
- I think it's great
- A positive attribute for our town and the development of our kids. Plus, this type of facility could be a great place for middle school/high school students to hang out at, since we are lacking in that area!
- Stop trying to dream up ways to spend money!
- None.
- I think renting unused space is good. Many of our outdoor sports are delayed due to weather conditions so the space could be used for softball/baseball practice (catching and fielding) DuPage training academy has a nice indoor space you could take a look at that for ideas.
- User fee and self-sufficient only. If there is such a need, then why hasn't a private entity decided to build and fund?
- The new indoor sports facility should be financed by those who frequent the venue as well as through rental and tournament revenues. Property taxes should absolutely not be considered as a potential revenue source for a new indoor sports facility.
- I support them
- People who don't use it, they should not pay for it.
- Suggest that an indoor pool - waterpark type facility be considered with slides/splash area etc.
- none
- Rentals to outside organizations! Teams that will utilize and play in leagues. Hold major competitions to bring in revenue.
- I hesitant to say yes to property tax just because the state is such a mess and wondering what will happen with school funding and we will be asked to increase property taxes to make up our potential loss of state income for the schools. If you use it, you should pay.
- not needed



- NA
- fine
- Those that use the facilities should be the ones paying for the facilities.
- It would not be fair to raise property taxes to everyone given that not everyone would plan to use this. You should be able to offer the space to both basketball, baseball, and soccer teams (including travel) to help pay for this.
- they should not raise taxes to pay for it. it should be paid for by the users
- Not for it
- great- anyway to bring in supporting revenue without increases taxes is a great idea.
- With the current climate in the state of Illinois, I do not think Elmhurst taxpayers will be favorable to a property tax increase to support a new indoor sports facility.
- N/a
- I think a combination of all three should be considered.
- Users should pay the fees to use the facility. It should be self-sustaining from these fees, and the inclusion of various components should be based on that consideration.
- I think that a new facility would improve the entire community so raising taxes slightly would be acceptable. Additionally, charging a nominal user fee such as an annual membership makes complete sense, similar to the pool pass for the summer.
- Please do not raise my taxes to do this.
- None
- Fine
- Elmhurst in general has money and families. Team sports that kids and adults would play could help support funding.
- Do not raise our taxes. I'm fine using other communities' centers.
- no property tax increase
- It would depend on the amounts.
- Most surrounding suburbs have facilities
- Indoor facilities should accommodate many different types of activities.
- Everything that's constructed needs to be a multi-purpose (track, soccer, rugby, football, lacrosse etc.), playground, kid's/family birthday party rental, a 24/7 teen center with constructive alternatives (movies, food/snacks, games, internet, etc.). But to truly be a community spot it needs to have flexible hours, host events (5k/10 runs, tournaments, karate dojo, 24/7 gym), even better if community volunteer events (i.e. spring clean-up, teen center events, etc.).
- I do not support this in any way. What we have is fine. We do not need to spend any money on this.
- Should be self-supporting - no tax dollars
- I would think it would mainly be financed by user fees but I would not exclude advertising and naming rights as sources of revenue similar to professional sports facilities
- Please present options for financing to the community, open forums would be useful.
- Property taxes should be utilized minimally as there will be a pushback from the part of the community which would not use this type of facility and is against the growth that is being seen. Dependence on this kind of funding will only stall its development. Private funding or ownership might be the best method to go with. Tax breaks and resident discounts/use preference would be this would be a huge benefit to the community.
- Users should pay for the facility and it should be folded into cost of programs. The entire community shouldn't be expected to foot the bill if they will never use them. And a higher fee should apply to out of Elmhurst users because they are outside of the community and these are community based facilities.
- Every other community has it. Glenn Ellyn, Westmont, La Grange, Bensenville. We need indoor space to stay viable and promote our own leagues and clubs.
- Having indoor sports facilities draws people to Elmhurst, and they will likely spend additional money while here.
- Where is the location of the new facility? Will it be centrally located for all of Elmhurst?

- none
- Taxes are already high - supporting Courts Plus along with their membership fees. New facility should be self-sustaining with user fees
- Donations
- You need to break even. Period. If you can generate even slight revenue profit, it's a bonus. The goal is generating value to residents and keep tax dollars in town. You cannot increase property taxes again after the increase in 2016.
- None
- I think user fees would make the most sense as forcing people to pay higher taxes for facilities they may not use or want does not seem fair
- Don't do it. Libertyville built a facility and it was a disaster. The time has passed when public entities should be expanding like this. Our elected officials should be paying close attention to trends.
- Shouldn't be basically self-funded with minor help from property taxes
- Don't have much thought on that part of it.
- Charge more to people coming from other areas
- I think it would be amazing for the community because there will be people who want to exercise or train or basically get better at any sport they are doing, and especially for kids or teens that want to practice their sports like me no matter what condition the weather would be outside.
- Taxes cannot go any higher. Space needs to be affordable or don't build. Team sports cost so much as it is that if the prices are higher many kids will not be able to play.
- I am not in favor of a new indoor sports facility. Instead, performing arts venue can be sustained by user fees, plus the added admission prices paid by spectators coming to quality performances. I would be in favor of increase taxes to sustain a performing arts venue because it would add a new dimension and value to our city.
- Tournaments. Adult retreats
- It must not be an ongoing tax burden for the residents. A sound plans for funding initially as well as ongoing as it needs to become self-sustaining without a large increase in taxes.
- I understand that good facilities cost money, and that Elmhurst residents will need to pay for them one way or another. I would appreciate if the Park District can offer the residents an alternatives analysis on how to pay for the capital and operational expenditures. If funded completely by a raise in property taxes, can you tell us how much that will be? If funded completely by user fees, can you tell us how much admission and league fees will be? If funded by both, can you tell us what that will be?
- a fund from these collections should be established from the beginning to support up keep and maintenance so that it does not become out dated and run down too quickly
- With how high our property taxes are already in Elmhurst, to raise them further would be ludicrous and we would absolutely be against it if that was the way this was to be funded. If you can charge people to use the Courts, they can charge people to use this new facility but then allow full access to everything. People expect to pay fees for their kids sports.
- Park District funds- they have the opportunity to use our tax money in a more equitable way. They have the financial means.
- Again, the high school is over used with outside rentals and are charged minimally for the space. School events should take priority without the concern of working around many rentals. The attitude in the community seems that the high school owes them something because they pay taxes.
- My property taxes went up 60% this year with no increase in services so I can't support a tax increase to pay for this or I will not be able to afford living in Elmhurst any more. I would pay to use the facilities as needed though.
- My property taxes just went up 40% so I cannot afford another increase. Fees from usage.
- Fees should be commensurate with the level/type of facilities provided, their upkeep and should largely (if not entirely) paid for by users of the facilities (both residents and non-residents)

Q16: What other thoughts or suggestions do you have regarding potential new indoor sports facilities in Elmhurst? (**OPEN ENDED**)

- Make it available to as many people as possible. Do not let one group (for example - team Elmhurst) monopolize the field times.
- Elmhurst is growing with so many young families. Let's keep them happy, active and spending time/money in our town!
- Please make it big enough to accommodate demand. If it's cramped, people won't go.
- Don't build them
- We are overdue for this.
- I would like to see the facility also contain a restaurant/bar as many facilities in our area have these amenities and they are popular for parties, family gatherings and social activities.
- other matters should be of greater priority
- Just get it done
- Make this a one stop for a majority of park district kids classes and courts plus would be perfect.
- It would significantly expand what is available to Elmhurst for indoor athletics and other physical activity.
- It should be built in the industrial park. Elmhurst has many sporting programs that could benefit from such a facility. I am a high school basketball and lacrosse referee, so I do the interest in these sports
- The page asking for # of household by age is missing the 35-44 age range. I listed the 2 adults in our household as 25-34, since there was no place for me to indicate that we are 35-40.
- It would be great if the indoor facility offered a play space for younger children - similar to Forest the Fox's Playhouse in Westchester and Jumps and Jiggles at the Elk Grove Park District. Since the punch card open play option was taken away at the Wagner Center, this would be a great way for children to burn off some energy during the long winter/cold months. Parents of younger children are asking for something like this in Elmhurst, so I feel like it would be widely accepted!
- None
- Allowing club teams to use this facility for practice and games
- The sooner the better. There is space in this town for a facility like this.
- If you are going to move on this, do it before someone else enters the marketplace and does it themselves.
- Indoor swimming pool for swim lessons.
- Do it soon and do it correctly
- I think an indoor pool would be huge as well as exercise and sports equipment. If there was some sort of supervised kid's area it would be even more valuable as parents can get a workout as kids also have fun. Love the idea!
- If the facility has an indoor ice rink, I would like to see two ice surfaces, with one being an NHL rink and the other being either a second NHL rink or a "studio" rink. They can be resurfaced on an alternating schedule so there isn't any down-time inherent in the setup, and it would help service a wider range of users.
- Love the idea! Want to see it happen. If/when it happens let's build this thing right with all the necessary amenities.
- Don't forget the north side is part of Elmhurst.
- Bigger walking / running track than the Courts has
- Elmhurst is lacking greatly in this area! Definitely needed!
- senior classes
- There's likely a better use of space.
- Rental to Lil Kickers, similar to McCook Sports Center
- None

- None
- We need indoor volleyball space to compete with clubs in the far west and southern suburbs. There is not much option here.
- Support
- Another option would be to encourage participation from external companies to come into the Elmhurst area by offering incentives or perks such as reduced rent etc. That would alleviate some of the cost on the city, while still offering the facilities to Elmhurst and its residents.
- Small Indoor track is needed.
- Thank you for exploring this.
- Don't build another Odeum, or Edge, or even Courts. They exist already and I don't believe a city government is prepared or designed to compete with other cities (or themselves) for revenues from a facility like this. The city needs a plan that will be unique enough to draw an adequate customer base, and sustain itself financially, and have daily use qualities for the residents, and not screw up a neighborhood (i.e.: traffic, parking, noise, waste, etc.). It would be a mistake to move forward on a plan of this magnitude without meeting all of those criteria.
- Use Flood areas to build over or Commercial Areas that have gone deserted. Do not use prime Commercial Sales Income areas or Family residential areas. Make this thing pay for itself in ten years or make the planners of this thing pay for it themselves. If our leaders do not have the guts to pledge that they will cover losses themselves, then no deal. Check with Oakbrook, Bensenville, Naperville and find out their experiences good / bad. Tell us the Truth about these Cities and their experiences doing this type of project. And if we do it, get a builder that puts sprinkling Systems in the Plans/ budget!
- Could offer sports leagues at the facility.
- Build once! Large enough building so additions are not needed!
- None at this time
- Please do not forget your seniors. We don't offer much in comparison to other communities
- Please do it. These kids need something to do besides hang out in front of a fountain
- We need an indoor ice rink more than anything else
- Really interested in a big indoor track to use for running/walking in the winter. Suspended track to more efficiently utilize space would be good.
- Elmhurst has a terrific park district that offers so much! It's one of the reasons we choose to live here. But an in-town sportsplex facility sounds amazing. Our family would be all for it!!
- I think it's a great idea and a much needed thing, if we have the space we should have it. It would be positive for the community by elevating us and making us equal to surrounding suburbs that have facilities like this. It will bring others to the area through events and tournaments which will generate revenue and most of all benefit to the athletes in the community who most certainly would use it.
- Need to rally support from local travel sports leagues - TESC (Team Elmhurst), Airborne, etc., would support this and they have huge representation amongst the families of Elmhurst.
- Let's do it soon before my kids are too old to use it.
- Our city is such a great place to live with so much to offer. The indoor sports facilities should reflect that. The way they currently are they represent a town that does not care about its community and keeping it current and 'higher end' so to speak, which I feel is not accurate for the reality of Elmhurst.
- Make sure it's in the right location and the key is to hire someone who has vast experience in managing it and developing/marketing the programs. It will more than pay for itself along with profit if it is managed and maintained correctly.
- Get a Westmont Yard, Naperville Yard type of place.
- We don't need it.
- Do it right. Don't skimp. Make something big and beautiful for our community.
- Consider indoor space for non-sports activities. Indoor parks, general play areas for younger families during the winter. Children's museums, kid's cafes in Chicago, jump zones, trampoline parks etc. are all packed in the winter, but nothing like that exists for Elmhurst residents with small children. A pay to play kids general play space where parents could sit/watch would be

heavily used by younger families. Young children under 6 benefit more from general play than from specific sports.

- We need more space that is up to date
- Finding a suitable location is first; incorporating portions of the facility for seniors;
- Would love to see this especially on the south end of Elmhurst. It seems that whenever we do participate in sports in Elmhurst we are driving to the north end of town for everything! A building like this would be a great addition to Eldridge park.
- I don't want to see a tax increase for something like this.
- We need to stop driving to other towns to use their facilities and paying out of district fees to other towns. I would rather spend my money in Elmhurst. Let's get this plan moving so others come to our town and pay fees to use our facilities. Let me know how I can help.
- A survey should be passed out to the kids and parents of local schools to raise awareness of this idea.
- Please bring a nice indoor sports facility to Elmhurst!!
- In my opinion, if you're not building an ice rink, don't build anything at all. If you do build an ice rink, build the nicest one in a 10-mile radius so you pull the overpopulated hockey communities in for a nice rink and locker rooms. Addison Ice Rink has a bar/restaurant and they make a ton of money while parents sit at ice rinks for several hours a week they can grab a bite to eat and a beer with other parents.
- Ample parking
- They'd bring people to our town and spend money on shopping, food, and hotels.
- No need for an indoor sports complex. Please be clear in future communications as to what the Elmhurst Park District is hoping to build, an indoor sports facility or indoor sports complex (Courts Plus has insufficient parking at the facility especially when the nearby baseball field is in use and their member rates need to be competitive with the other nearby exercise facilities). The Elmhurst Parks Department hopefully can better define what they hope to build after the "sports research company" conducts their study. If Elmhurst hopes to compete with the Rosemont facility...we should STOP now.
- Find great warehouse space in north Elmhurst
- Any consideration to a private/public ownership?
- Let's do it!!
- it is needed
- Other income could be derived from leasing the space to other organizations such as the bulbs Sox academy etc.
- Need one
- Many of these other facilities also have a restaurant/bar area - this will pull in the adult sports crowd and generate additional revenue.
- The city needs more indoor athletic space. Sharing space from local schools is not an easy option for many groups.
- Could help defray some cost with integral business income. Training area, restaurant/ bar, etc. get creative.
- I think that it would be a huge benefit for Elmhurst. it would drive additional revenue into the community and would allow residents a convenient place that would keep the revenue local. We pay a lot of money to use the other facilities- I would rather pay for a place here in Elmhurst.
- It should be potential. Let's quit focusing on golf and tennis and start focusing on creating opportunities for the 50,000 residents and their children to be able to participate in athletics during The fall winter and spring
- I cannot think of any down side.
- If you include an ice arena in it, please include at least 2 sheets of ice as 1 sheet will not draw tournament use. Tournaments would be a way to make money.
- Get it done. It will be a net positive for the community in the long run just like the new library
- I think new facility would be great as getting ice time in area is tough. I think there should be a great concession stand as well which can support itself with sales. That is always a huge

positive in other towns' facilities. Indoor turf would be awesome for baseball and soccer events through the park district as well. Lastly, I'm not sure if a park district facility could sell alcohol, but many of the good ice rinks have upstairs restaurants with viewing of ice and facilities (Seven Bridges) which is great.

- Ice time needs to be a priority given the popularity of youth hockey. Additionally, an indoor facility would give our children an opportunity to exercise throughout the long winters. The health of us should be taken into consideration.
- ice rinks
- Facility should have locker rooms and a restaurant.
- We need one (especially with a few ice skating rinks). Elmhurst is a hockey town.
- Look at how Canlan runs their rinks & tournaments. They are printing money every weekend. We need the facility & it could be very profitable for Elmhurst if it is done right
- Consider having a private developer and giving tax incentives and offer expedited process to support development. I've talked with local developers who all complain about how much red tape there is to do development in Elmhurst.
- Na
- This is a hockey crazed town - period. Ask around about how to fund the rink portion on an annual basis . . . including the summer months. Plenty of good ideas floating around. Please Build the rinks!
- Thank you for asking and we would recommend moving ahead with urgency, as our children are growing fast! Good luck!
- Given growth of hockey in the area we should support this. Economic activity is going to benefit other cities where we could benefit. As opposed to other models (inside turf, gymnastics, pool) an indoor ice rink could be completely or largely self-supporting
- Double Surface Ice rink.
- I think it would be a great addition to the Elmhurst Park District to keep it a regional leader.
- I would hope that this process isn't going to drag on and on and on. If this study shows that this facility is a necessity and there would be enough operating income to support it then please move quickly to make it happen.
- Don't do anything halfway just to try to get something done. To be truly successful, the facilities need to be of high quality and with desirable amenities - snack bar, fun water features, etc.
- No other thoughts
- Put it at berens
- Look at these facilities. Oak Park ice hockey, Dyer IN Ice hockey gymnastics, Addison ice arena, Westmont Yards.
- please do this ;)
- Build a facility that has at least one soccer field, ice rink, basketball court and turf field for other sports (i.e. lacrosse, football).
- no ideas at the moment
- I hope it gets built soon!!
- Let's do it!
- I would be supportive of an indoor ice rink with other facilities.
- Make sure it has a great restaurant and bar. Adults will spend money there if it's set up properly. Keeping a strong entertainment element there will bring families in sooner and make them want to stay later. If not allow restaurants on the same grounds to allow for them at revenue. So many people want to go out to eat and celebrate after games and practices. Make it welcoming and keep the money spent there.
- This survey will hopefully be a good source of information, but the real research would be to speak with the facilities within a 30-mile radius. The Wight Company just built a new facility in Naperville. This is a reputable builder that has assisted with the expansion of Elmhurst Schools. The businesses of Elmhurst would benefit from residents staying in town when making purchases and receive more business from people outside of Elmhurst traveling to the



Elmhurst sports complex. Edwards Hospital is a newer partner of the Romeoville Sports Complex. Why not in Elmhurst too?

- Thank you for doing this research! I am really looking forward to a new facility!
- Make sure you incorporate programming ideas for all ages, not just school age kids. For example - pickle ball courts would be very attractive for the 50+ crowd.
- This would be a great addition to our community
- I would suggest that there be an area included in the design for parents coming straight from work to finish their work day in a quiet area (i.e. a small business center.) Also, it should include something for the siblings of the athletes taking advantage of this facility. I know this is counter to youth sports, but having a bar in a facility like this would bring in revenue. There should be food (not just hot dogs/nachos) that would keep people in the facility and spending their money there, rather than leaving and going outside. Members/users should not feel that they're settling for less if they have to eat while youth activities are in progress. Fees should be cheap enough to encourage membership/usage, but not so cheap as diminish the value that a new facility like this deserves.
- More than likely, the largest single sport, financially, is hockey clubs. Elmhurst has the Blues and the Chiefs both based out of Elmhurst, without a rink. Poll them to see how much they spend annually. We have lots of revenue leaving town, daily.
- Sooner the better
- As stated earlier, I strongly support the idea of building an indoor sports facility that includes ice rinks. I feel that Elmhurst lacks such a venue, and this leaves many of our athletes without local facilities to pursue their sport. To be honest, however, if a facility were to be considered that did NOT include indoor ice rinks, I would not be as supportive of the project as I feel that Elmhurst has two good facilities now for aquatics, basketball, indoor racquet sports and overall fitness programs.
- Gyms for basketball, etc.; indoor turf for soccer; indoor pool for swimming; indoor arena for hockey, skating.
- Indoor tennis courts are another possible use for an indoor sports facility
- Because of our central location to the Chicagoland area, I imagine we would have a lot of other communities that would want to utilize this facility and would participate in various tournaments and events.
- As I have implied in most of my previous answers, I would love an ice rink in Elmhurst.
- We don't need it right now. There are far too many city resources being tied up in projects right now. Get the storm water problem fixed first. I am tired of dealing with a flooded basement every time there is a storm.
- I think it would be a great thing for the Elmhurst community.
- Elmhurst NEEDS an indoor sports facility!
- Would love indoor water park facility similar to Oak Brook Park District, Schaumburg, etc. We have utilized Oak Brook for indoor swim lessons as well.
- In a dream land, the pool would be 50m x 25m wide with stadium seating and a separate diving well and warm up pool.
- An indoor facility would be great for Elmhurst. An indoor "play yard" like Vestment Yards, an indoor/outdoor pool like Oakbrook that could be rented for parties.
- Additional revenue can be had by either hosting basketball/volleyball/indoor soccer tournaments. Concessions would be a money generator in addition to team fees/admissions. In the event the staff is not available to run these there are organizations that rent facilities and then host the tournaments (One Day Shootouts/Hoop Mountain).
- It I sorely needed. Collaborate as needed with external business as well as school district.
- Pool please
- Do it!!!!
- The sooner the better!
- Include facilities such as a playground or other structure that might encourage folks to rent out the facility for birthday parties or school events.
- None

- none
- Most of our indoor park facilities are older. I think a new sports facility would be a big draw -- a gymnastics facility, an ice rink, an indoor aquatic center, even an indoor playground would be a big draw. And if you staff it with professional instructors (which you can attract with a state-of-the-art facility), you will get everyone, from serious young athletes looking for training to kids wanting fun birthday parties. You can attract area sports teams and families.
- Just a coffee or snack shop for on the go parents. I've thought Elmhurst should've had one since my son turned 2, he's 7 now.
- Replace Wagner community center with a larger modern community center that includes a gym, dance studios, an Indoor pool, and an ice rink. Share parking with Berens park.
- The sooner the better!!!! We have 3 indoor pools already, not sure another is needed. TURF fields and gymnasium space is NEEDED in this town!!!!
- Let's get it done!
- I just hope that the park district has seen and taken a look at the complexes in other towns and realize Elmhurst is way behind. Ackerman Center in Glen Ellyn, Schaumburg, Carol Stream, The Max.
- I would love to pay for services in my own city before I pay for services outside of Elmhurst
- Build it on the North side.
- I think a new ice rink would be very positive the current and future hockey teams
- Do it, you will not regret it! Look at Naperville!
- I'm most strongly in favor of a pool as no facility will allow use by so many age levels, a led and disabled and both sexes.
- Have programs for all ages - infants through elderly. Offer indoor play area for young children.
- This would be a great addition to our town. It will provide jobs for residents/youth. It will bring business into town. I currently spend a lot of money in other towns shopping/eating between games. It would be a huge benefit to our community.
- It will be a great benefit to the community.
- Epd is great. I need more info
- Location should be 1) easily accessible (to minimize impact of increased traffic) and 2) in close proximity to complementary Elmhurst businesses (primarily restaurants, retail, and possibly hotels).
- I definitely think it would be a benefit to our community to have a facility for indoors sports.
- Water park and ice rinks would be nice for now
- It will take vision to make this happen but it should be a park district priority. We need some new vision and long range goals
- Would be excited if they could get it on this ASAP :-)
- Indoor turf like Westmont yard with open play time and indoor play equipment would be great
- Let's get this done.
- Make sure it incorporates rain gardens, green roof, and pervious parking surfaces if you do it. This should reduce the impact on the Elmhurst sewer systems.
- I am opposed to such a waste of our resources
- A pool would be nice.
- Lots of revenue being lost to other communities because of our lack of a decent indoor facility. Every single time I take my kids to the above mentioned facilities we meet multiple Elmhurst families there!
- I would love to see it. Courts plus is too high
- Make sure kids in middle school and younger can take advantage of it too. Not only something that he kids or adults would take over
- Our facilities are so dumpy compared to others nearby. With the recent increases in property tax assessments, we should get dance studios and gyms for our money.
- Good idea.
- Flood issues before indoor sports place.
- No! Balance! Do something for the arts! Yikes! This idea really scares me.

- Use seniors don't want to pay more \$\$\$ to the city, park district for something we probably will never use.
- A new facility would be a great asset to Elmhurst.
- Two sheets of ice and plenty of parking.
- I was a member of the Citizens Advisory Board to the Courts back when it first started. There was talk of adding more tennis courts to the six already in place. It was decided not to proceed with that idea, which proved to be the best move. The Park District needs to be sure there is a TRUE need for an additional indoor facility.
- Indoor tennis that has USTA leagues in the evenings or weekends. All based towards day time attendees.
- hope we start building soon so my kids can get some use from them!
- Join with the ymca and add on to their property also. Join with district 205 and enhance schools that will also support epd.
- We need it.
- do not do it Elmhurst has other needs flooding and the park district cannot do what it should now and they are not a cooperative group to deal with
- An indoor walking track
- During basketball season it is impossible to get a full court for kids to practice. Often we have to travel outside of Elmhurst for games because there are no courts available. Also Wagner no longer has many hours for open gym because they are full for classes. We need a gym on the south side of town.
- Would be wonderful.
- I have been in support of this for many years and it would be incredible to have one in Elmhurst!!! All for it.
- I know so many people, myself included, who travel to surrounding towns to use their facilities, I think a facility in Elmhurst would be very popular and heavily used.
- Make it affordable for the community that can hopefully be self-sustaining once it's up and running.
- Make sure there is a food and beverage component (restaurant) to it. It gets people to stay in the facility instead of going out to eat.
- I would also include a climbing wall!
- this project should start immediately to get Elmhurst on par with surrounding communities. don't take 5 years to make a decision on this!
- I hope this is thoroughly studied. Seems like it is not needed given all the other athletic facilities and businesses in Elmhurst and surrounding areas.
- make sure there are a variety of opportunities for all ages and genders and not one particular group "holds" control so to speak
- Put it where the moving company is on York Rd. The city should buy that property.
- We have too many other issues, like flooding, to even consider this.
- I think an indoor sports facility could be a good addition for Elmhurst if a private enterprise undertakes it or a 501C3 Foundation does. However, I do not believe that all of the tax payers in Elmhurst should fund such an endeavor, when only a small percentage of the population will utilize the facilities. I realize all tax payers fund schools and parks which are not used by everyone. However, I believe we all recognize that both are vital, while I don't believe the same can be said for an indoor sports facility.
- Know that energy costs are extremely high with ice facilities. Summer is a killer, unless you have a viable team in house. The same applies to go a good figure skating club. With the European Nations, they practice here as it's cheaper.
- It is unlikely that the District would make any decision timely enough for our families use of this proposed new facility, but the current gymnastics program and its future participants it it's recreational and team programs would benefit greatly. Possible future programs (hockey, figure skating, aquatics, water polo, diving, figure skating, Cheer, Co-Ed Cheer) could be an exciting addition to the park district and the community.
- I think it would be highly utilized

- already given
- Facility needs to support greatest majority of the ambitions and desires of stakeholders and/or potential users.
- project would be desirable to meet Elmhurst resident's needs
- Give Elmhurst residence and groups first choice of use/rental over outside groups that are not associated with the town.
- Bring all of the current sports organizations in Elmhurst together for further discussion and ideas (Elmhurst Chiefs, Elmhurst Sports, AYSO, Elmhurst Airborne, Access Sports, Elmhurst Baseball Leagues, Elmhurst Youth Baseball, Elmhurst Lax, etc.
- You need the support of people who reside in the community.
- Not a big fan of the ideas.
- I'm glad this is being considered.
- I would want the facility to be located as close to the center of Elmhurst as possible. This would limit users from going to the facility for tournaments, practices, etc., and then taking their dollars to shop and eat in neighboring communities. This happens at the McCook facility specifically. Users take their dollars to nearby La Grange to shop/eat.
- Look at the neighboring competition on the national and regional associations of those sports, and see if there is a void.
- I want to ad over for the Elmhurst YMCA and make sure they have a seat at the decision table! Youth sports history there especially for ice hockey which impacts all levels including the NHL and has been the start for NHL Hall of Fame players. They should be stakeholders/partners in the process please!
- I think it will be great, and long overdue
- An indoor velodrome would draw cyclists from all over the Midwest. I know it sounds like a niche feature, but if you are building a whole new facility, put an indoor track around it. It will get rented frequently
- There are tons of sports in this community. Additional practice facilities, as well as a "home" for the gymnastics team (where meets could be held) and other teams, would be a valued asset
- Our family strongly supports this initiative!
- Would be a great investment for Elmhurst and will bring a lot more people to town of sporting events.
- There is so many kids and organizations that can use it as well as getting people out of renting York high school their facilities and equipment take such a beating from other teams and organizations renting it.
- Make it happen! :-)
- Weightlifting, strength training, volleyball, yoga
- Pool is great
- It's a must.
- If you find there is demand for an indoor facility, please preserve our existing outdoor parks and fields. Locate the facility away from residential areas, put it in an industrial area instead. And, no new taxes!
- This is not necessary and will only raise taxes in the community.
- It should have been built 20 years ago.
- Build it and they will come. Elmhurst has close access to highways, the airport and the Loop via Metra. There must be aggressive salesmanship involved in the project.
- Ensure wherever it is built does not make flooding worse.
- Indoor roller rink
- I think it would be a great addition to the community if done right
- go team! let's bring business to Elmhurst!
- Build it and they will come... But you have to offer more than a workout facility. How many of those do we already have in town
- Something for the whole family, kid's workout areas included in membership, lots of basketball courts, indoor leagues for adults, outdoor pool for summer use.

- Not needed!
- Definitely dance studios that dancers can rent out for an hour or two to practice!
- Where would it be?
- I think they really are a great idea and many people would use them
- For the turf fields, they should be compatible for sports like baseball, soccer, and definitely lacrosse
- don't cheap out
- Great idea. However, if you could out it closer to Bryan Middle school. That would be great
- Tennis and basketball courts
- Any new facility should be thoughtfully sited. Considerations should include how it could drive businesses to occupy existing vacant commercial space, be walkable for a large number of potential facility users, and limit the impact on traffic to the area.
- Give more detail on possible locations for honest answers.
- If you proceed this route, please make sure you have plenty of parking!
- Will be interesting to know what locations are available for a facility such as this within Elmhurst. Location and costs may really matter as to how much use it gets, particularly during weekdays.
- I'm a definite proponent and feel the need has been there for years. I'm actually surprised our town doesn't already have one. I would like to think Elmhurst is more progressive and in tune with the community's needs.
- Necessary
- I like the suggestions that were brought up in this survey.
- Indoor pool, better tennis courts are a must!
- Hope to bring it close to downtown area - not too far North
- It's an awesome idea that should also include a state of restaurant / coffee / smoothie stations. Rock climbing area, pool, slides, bounce area - racket ball courts, basketball courts, football fields. Make it the envy of the surrounding communities and a money generating destination for the park district and the shops and resultants within Elmhurst. If you build a desirable destination - people will come and send money. Would love to see the park district actual be run like the employees own it and need to be relevant with services and amenities to stay in business - not like status quo (who cares - taxes dollars keep coming in). Maybe we could lower taxes because we build an awesome Infrastructure that others outside our community flock to these amenities and their \$\$ support our community.
- Make it nice and something we can use for decades to come.
- I think we already have a decent amount of athletic facilities. I think the best thing for Elmhurst would be to create something in a category we don't already have: a performing arts center.
- Please read this, and if I need more info, I'll tell you
- What about joining forces with neighboring suburbs?
- day care center, possible weight training facility, or even outside vendors supplying services.....chiropractors, trainers, health foods being connected to the facility. This facility should be built on the North side of town Berens park area, on Grand Ave in one of the old car dealers, or even next to Elmhurst Hospital.
- It is not needed. Epd cannot keep up with facilities already in place.
- They are greatly needed
- We want dance studios. Our daughters deserve a larger studio.
- Tennis please!
- We need this to be competitive with other towns
- Please pursue this. Many people are looking for this and it will make our town more appealing!
- Explore a partnership with Elmhurst College of they would benefit from the same facilities.
- We have a large community yet we have no sports facilities. Smaller communities have great facilities that Elmhurst residents use. We need to flip that it would be good for Elmhurst and its economic success.
- I really hope that I would be able to spend my money in Elmhurst versus surrounding areas.

- If there is evidence that it would be used and is needed we would support it, even if that means tax increases and so on. I just don't want to see a vacant building taking up park or other land as a money pit unused.
- forget it. Move to Texas.
- Letting current Elmhurst resident be involved in decision.
- Elmhurst is lagging behind other suburbs. It would be exciting to get a new sports center in town.
- Discuss interest in the facility with the York Dukes and Elmhurst Chiefs hockey clubs. You will find strong support for any project including ice along with an interest in making the facility both player and fan friendly.
- As I said before.... We need a draw to this town. Hockey, soccer and lacrosse are big indoor sports. You will not lose if you build this facility and it is done right.
- need indoor soccer.
- I want to be able to take my kids somewhere for little to no money because my tax dollars are supporting it. I don't want to pay higher taxes and then have to spend a fortune using the facility. The point is for the community to have somewhere to go and play that is just a part of the community and a benefit to living in this town. Team sports and organizations can rent space and help cover costs.
- Adding a fitness center. Offering sport specific training.
- Let's do it.
- We need one, and I am grateful to see this being discussed.
- Tear down the Wagner center, purchase the two properties to the north of it (Old Gerber collision building and vacant building to the west of Gerber) and rebuild with a state-of-the-art sports facility and parking garage with access from Lake street and West Avenue.
- No ice rink. There are plenty of ice rink options in the area. It's not needed. Thanks!
- Build indoor soccer/turf first
- This is a lurking issue among residents whose children play organized sports, and even among the parents and other adults I know who play sports. The annual battles between local clubs of different sports fighting for access to public indoor facilities are acute and usually leaves bruised feelings among residents. That is not good for the community and those residents, I believe, look at the EPD and wonder why the issue hasn't been (or isn't presently being addressed). From what I can tell, the issue has been considered and tabled in the EPD for the past decade and it is past time to address it.
- Let's make one state of the art--brings in all family consumers and good for local economy.
- indoor batting cages, indoor soccer fields, rock climbing walls.
- Need one
- If there is enough interest, I think it would be a great asset for our town.
- NA
- One of the most challenging parts of this idea may be finding a good location as most of the city is pretty much built up. That is, unless you are planning on putting it on land at one of the current parks such as Berens Park. One other location that might work well is Butterfield Park at the south end of town.
- the proposal is new to me
- Similar membership as Oakbrook Park District like resident vs non resident
- Have places for families and little kids to go while sports are happening (playground, reading room, etc.). Have a good concession area.
- I don't know enough about them or how to fund them to comment intelligently, but I would hope this would all be researched well.
- There is great demand for an indoor sports facility (basketball courts, ice sheets, swimming pool, turf, etc. that is all under the same roof) in Elmhurst. Many other suburbs have one; Elmhurst should as well. I'd rather spend my time and money in Elmhurst.
- something similar to Oakbrook park district
- Hey if Elmhurst or someone else pays for it fine I don't want to pay for it.



- Please don't do it! We have a great town with many facilities that are available to citizens to use. High taxes are one of the top concerns year after year in the citizen survey please listen and address that concern and please do not make Elmhurst a town that only the wealthiest can afford to live in.
- I would suggest that existing park district land be used for the facility, perhaps a large expansion of Courts Plus.
- Give us a true community center, fitness, dance and sports.
- we don't need it. park district should be trying to reduce costs not increase them.
- Our park district does such a great job at some things--but--since you have asked about sports--we are hugely lacking in the care of fields, grass, options (greatest fields are built to accommodate both soft ball, little league baseball and high school ball with movable bases and large dirt base paths--we do not have any multiple use fields--no turf for baseball but two huge turf soccer/football fields) and there has been a monopoly on the use of the fields by a few key people/organizations. Clean up the fields, maintain them and charge equally--we go to other municipal fields and they are beautifully maintained and marked--and clean--it is embarrassing to have people here with the poor care of our fields. And if there is not the knowledge on how to take care of them--consider asking the 5+ leagues in town or outsourcing the education of the care
- It should have been done years ago!!! Talk to Harbor Contractors they build these facilities all the time for towns and make them a lot of revenue!!! They are building a warehouse for us now, could not be nicer people!!
- Do not take any existing green space to build a new facility. If we are concerned about flooding, then we should stop building on open lands. The old hospital development is a perfect example. The huge parking deck on Addison (which is generally half empty) and the 255 monster Hahn development don't bode well for flood control. Do not take Berens space or any open land for this thing.
- I wonder where you are planning to build the facility?
- I believe an indoor facility would be a wonderful addition to our City.
- It could help revitalize the north side, which is the only place for it. Don't take away green space for it when we have the industrial area.
- Expensive and unnecessary
- Let's get this done. It is needed. It is wanted.
- Just that it's long overdue. With the ages of our children in my household, our use wouldn't be that frequent but I still think it would be an asset to the town and wish that they had pursued this direction when they converted the community college to Wagner years ago. Good luck!
- I am not against facility. when my kids were young, we had to travel out of Elmhurst. Though idea good, I am wary of more space being built, when there is so many empty retail and other buildings around.
- This should have happened 15 years ago during the real estate boom.
- I think it's important to have a good concession and/or restaurant attached to the facility and enough parking.
- If it is built, then build it outside the downtown business district.
- Don't build it.
- Just do it right
- There are several teams in town. Again having a place for them would be better than the HS as the HS should be properly maintained as a school not a rental facility.
- Be sure to incorporate convenient open gym times so kids (mostly teens) have a place available to use.
- I think the need is for an updated fitness facility. Courts has outgrown their space and was not well planned. You can build a fitness facility that also would have a larger pool and basketball/volleyball courts.
- Tethered to existing facilities. East End Park has pool, York has much of what is needed, as does Wagner

- Talk to existing youth sports organizations to see what their needs are and what their needs are, and what they are paying outside communities for indoor space. Travel baseball, lacrosse, travel basketball, travel soccer....
- Let's do it. It's long overdue. It's a community building facility. We are in dire need of something like this.
- Just that we seem to have lots of options for individuals to "work out", take yoga, etc., but we have fewer options for team sports, especially during the winter.
- Volleyball league, dodgeball league, golf simulators
- Enough parking is important if there are multiple events occurring. A safe drive/area to drop off/pick up people who are going to use the facility
- I have outlined my thoughts in precious questions.
- People would spend more money in our town. If we could host hockey tournaments, swim meets, etc. I'd much rather be able to do things right here!
- None
- Whoever proposed this extravagant expenditure should be removed from their position.
- I never thought about a new sports facility till this survey, haven't heard anything, but, I think it just might be what Elmhurst needs. Don't raise taxes for it though, please.
- If it does ever happen, it needs to be built large enough to accommodate the users comfortably or have the potential for expansion down the road and plenty of parking space. Thinking about the other indoor facilities I listed earlier in the survey, those are areas that seem to be an issue.
- Outdoor pool.
- Seniors enjoy the pool, gym, tennis courts and gathering to enjoy each other and work constructively to better lives of others. They are not just sitting around and playing bingo or watching presentations of "What'cha gonna do for the rest of your life". They are still a vital part of the community who exercise, learn, and give back immensely. Please if you do nothing else, work together with the Elmhurst Entities to make this a great partnership endeavor.
- We would use it to the extent that district 205, ymca, travel basketball and travel baseball use the facilities. We would also use it if Bulls Sox Academy had staff there floor private lessons. We will maintain our gym memberships at Fit RX, La Fitness, and Y even if this facility opens within 2 years. We might drop the Y membership after that once our kid is out of summer camp.
- I am confident this can work and would support efforts to see this come to fruition
- Sounds fine if there's enough need but NO tax money or incentives should fund it
- Nothing more to say. Basketball is my bias.
- none
- None
- I suggest that there is a concession stand or a restaurant that is decent.
- I think moneys would be better spent enhancing what we already have or extending the hours rather than creating a new facility.
- None
- N/A.
- Needs to be easily accessible by car so that groups from outside Elmhurst may use it to bring money into our community.
- Happy that this is coming to the table.
- If they had an indoor playground and party rooms, that could bring in more revenue and be a place for large groups to gather and enjoy it. I've gone to other suburbs to rent facilities like this, so my large extended family can have parties.
- Why have you waited so long?
- The placement of the facility is important. It needs to have adequate parking. We need to maximize the dollars spent. I think areas on the North have ample space for a larger facility.
- Desired and needed.
- 'd like to see more indoor tennis courts as the courts at the outs are always full. My biggest concerns re: an indoor sports facility would be 1.) location 2.) parking 3.) impact on traffic.

With the enormous new apartment buildings being constructed in town and the Berteau development, I think the city is in for some major headaches and disgruntled residents due to the parking and traffic implications. I think the site for the sports facility will have to be far away from these areas.

- While there is no hockey rink in Elmhurst, the national retail chain TOTAL HOCKEY has a retail location in Elmhurst because of the huge supply of local hockey players. I think that speaks loud to the demand for a facility for Elmhurst youth and residents to call Elmhurst their home rink. I also think it would be important to make any new building a multi-sport facility to develop well-rounded athletes and offer multiple sports/programs for youth. I do think hockey should be the focused sport of the new facility as it is the largest unmet need of Elmhurst youth. Thanks!
- A multi-purpose facility with ice, indoor turf and a pool is a great idea.
- No more basketball courts. But indoor for soccer leagues arena football etc.
- I believe it is important to provide space for sports activities that can be enjoyed by people of all ages. The use of school facilities does not offer enough space and times for use are limited.
- Move on.
- Get it going asap
- Do it
- It is needed. Hopefully it could be built adjacent to the Courts facility so common areas could be shared.
- Do we need another one? What would this one offer that The Courts doesn't from the Park District... or the Y from a community perspective?
- STOP TRYING TO STEAL LAND IN THIS TOWN BY CITY OF ELMHURST OFFICIALS. IT IS MAKING US KNOWN AS CORRUPT ELMHURST. THIS SURVEY SHOULD TELL THE PARTICIPANTS WHERE THE CITY IS ALREADY PLANNING ON BUILDING IT. THIS SURVEY IS NOT A REAL SURVEY. THIS FACILITY IS GOING TO BE BUILT AND THE EXPENSES TO PAY FOR IT ALREADY POLITICALLY CALCULATED INTO THE CORRUPT BUSINESS PRACTICES OF THE CITY OF ELMHURST OFFICIALS.
- Great idea!!
- Stop delaying, let's get to work.
- I see other towns with great facilities and then I see Elmhurst is far behind in this. We should build a state of the art facility that would be beneficial to all the age groups that make up Elmhurst.
- Make sure wherever it's located that the area can handle the increase in traffic and traffic patterns. Traffic congestion in Elmhurst has become a nightmare, especially all along York between North Ave. all the way down to Butterfield
- Prioritize resident use, make it affordable and available for extended hours and to college age kids
- Please give us dance studios- Wagner has great programs. Support them with gyms and dance studios and classrooms.
- It is long past due. Thanks!
- in conversations with other Elmhurst and non-Elmhurst residents we think this would be an awesome addition to Elmhurst and yes it would be used a lot.
- Many would love an outdoor community pool at Berens.
- Give the residents incentive to use the facilities. Also, have it available at all hours, not just for stay at home mom/dads during the daytime.
- None
- Please
- This would be great for the current kids in this community, but also future generations for the ever growing sports and teams in Elmhurst. Adult leagues could also take place here with indoor soccer, basketball, etc. Let's do this!
- You only get one chance to do it. Good smart planning is most important.

- Open space that has a flexible configuration to the extent possible. for example: Westmont Yard. Open fields concept that could be used for soccer, football, T-ball or gymnastics floor space.
- Would love for it to incorporate a teen community center.
- The Park District really needs to find a way to make this happen as Elmhurst is way behind other community's facilities and it is really beginning to show. Wagner Center could really use a complete overhaul.
- Do it...there is demand. People with kids are moving to Elmhurst in droves. The surrounding suburbs would use the facility as well. The Edge has heavy usage year round.
- Would be ideal to incorporate a locally owned cafe/dining, coffee shop so that it could be destination for stay at home mom and dads too equipped with free Wi-Fi.
- Revisit your mission. It is NOT to provide this. You are the park district, not the indoor sports facility district. Take care of the parks!
- It needs to be a large, multiuse facility to accommodate may different sports and host tournaments. It needs high ceilings to accommodate baseball as well.
- We are opposed to such a development. There is no real need for it. If anyone wants such a private facility, let them use private lands to build it on and private funds to pay for it.
- Indoor pool for all to enjoy year round.
- I have talked with dozens of other guys who share my sentiments about not being able to play indoor basketball and being forced to drive out to surrounding towns to play. We'd all love it if we could play here!
- Overdue.
- A good sheet of ice for figure, public and ice hockey will establish Elmhurst as the hub for all travel teams to have tournaments since Elmhurst is liked by so many other towns. We have the restaurants, movies, banks, shops to support all these figure skating and ice hockey team visitors. But, please do not raise property taxes for this or anything else. Our property taxes are just too high and it is sad to see good long families have to pack up and leave.
- many children play soccer and it is important to have good schools, library, and sports facilities.
- It is a black eye to Elmhurst that we not only don't have an indoor facility but that we have third rate outdoor facilities. Compared to other communities, Elmhurst is below par in every way when it comes facilities.
- I really feel as a community we should find a way to make this happen.
- get a new indoor ice rink going NOW!
- My only concern would be using current park land. I'd love to see the facility near the center of town but think a commercial/industrial space makes more sense. Just be sure there's enough parking!
- If Elmhurst is going to move forward, the facility needs to be done on a grand scale, like Oak Brook, and not cut corners like was done with the drainage on the turf fields at Berens. Make plans to do it right so the facilities are recognized as leading edge and high quality.
- So surprised this hasn't already been done given the huge popularity of club sports and demand for court space. Glad it's on the agenda!
- Allow for open gym times.
- None.
- It should have a restaurant and possibly a pro shop so customers can keep their dollars in Elmhurst.
- It would be fantastic; but, I am assuming there will be limited space, so make sure that research is competed to determine which kinds of sports will have the largest tournament draws so that the facility will be able to maximize income potential. As an example, I believe ice rinks will generate more revenue from tournaments and general usage than an indoor pool; as I believe a lot of high schools have aquatic facilities and already meet those needs. In fact, I believe a pool is a waste of space as there seems to be plenty of options already in Elmhurst.
- Would also help in having more places for kid's birthday parties. Need more facilities for use outside of just sports.

- Great idea. I think this should be taken to the next phase of discussion and planning. I have heard of many people discuss this in the community as something they want.
- Please consider adding an indoor playground with slides and climbing structures.
- It would be a great addition to Elmhurst!
- Do it!
- N/a
- Why are we talking just indoor?? A great facility would be well placed to take advantage of outdoor facilities for biking, running, etc. so we are multi-season as well as multi-sport (look at RecPlex in Racine).
- Ample parking is a big necessity. There is no need for a complicated set-up. A simple, organized building with a concession area, versatile space that can be used for small ages and other fields/courts that can be used for old kids and adults would be fantastic.
- Utilize space on north side to keep building cost down
- We desperately need one and it cannot be set up like Courts where a resident has to pay to be a member. Why do we pay taxes for a poorly thought out facility and then have to pay to use it? We need 6 basketball courts at least, multiple indoor turf fields to accommodate softball & baseball as well as soccer, football & lacrosse.
- Size appropriate to demand. It's hard to support a tax increase and still have to drive to other communities. If taxes are involved, preference should go to Elmhurst residents.
- I'm strongly against increasing property taxes to fund this or any other project.
- The location of this/these facility/facilities. Ensuring that any new building(s) would not contribute to current flooding issues in town.
- Must be geographically desirable, available space on north end of town not ideal. Must be centrally located for all Elmhurst citizens. Also should have substantial fees for non-residents. Outdoor facilities currently being overrun by non-residents and doesn't want to see that happen here.
- Location is huge if you want the whole community to support...something centrally located and easy to get in and out of.
- Just do it as an addition to courts plus. Add 3 Basketball courts and I will sign up.
- Seems sad that we will be 'studying' this topic for years while other nearby communities pass Elmhurst by ...
- Doesn't Elmhurst already have 15+ gyms in the grade, middle and high schools. Figure out how to use them more.
- I think it is a great idea, funding might be a challenge, but if everyone is willing to help it can be successful.
- The sooner the better
- If there is an aquatic center, please consider the size of the pool. Deep water is a necessity, either a 7' deep pool minimally (like Oakbrook), AND/OR a diving well. Elmhurst tends to cater to its younger families which drives older adults away. Older adults benefit from water exercise/swimming because of arthritis, etc. Don't forget the older generation that has lived here most of their lives.
- I think that indoor sports facility would be put to such great use in Elmhurst and it would draw such a crowd to create more revenue for the city. Elmhurst already has so many great attractions that adding this would just be icing on the cake for the city.
- I would like to know the demographics of the people behind this project? Similar to the demographics that put in the artificial turf at the York H.S.? Who will be running the operation? Elmhurst Park District or an independent investment company?
- I'd like to see a facility like the one up in Pleasant Prairie
- If the park district cannot manage the facility, we should look into privatizing
- In my opinion, the majority of users will be in south Elmhurst. Location should be considered. One idea is to locate along rat 83 in that industrial area. This area could be connected by the Salt Creek trail and prairie path to be conducive for youth biking or walking to the location.
- It is LONG overdue!
- Do not build one, we do not need any more facilities.



- I think it would be great.
- Indoor batting cages-good way to bring in revenue before baseball and softball season begins.
- No need, No money. No land. Make better use of existing facilities and share. Can work with YMCA about expanding their rink.
- Elmhurst should explore a potential private venture to build and operate a new indoor sports facility. A public/private partnership would worth exploring in order to understand the possibilities. The policy for reserving time for the gym, turf fields, ice rink, etc. should be shared publicly as part of the development discussion. Which organizations will have priority in reserving time and how will this limit public usage during the peak winter months when multiple organizations are vying for limited indoor practice and game space?
- We need to do something.
- close other facilities or sell land to pay for it (in addition to user fees, etc.)
- do it right and you will make money. Stay away from the Darien, and Romeoville developers.
- Long overdue to have a top level facility in this town!
- We have plenty of places already within our community for most of these sports.
- The sooner the better. Make sure to have room for spectators, unlike Wagner gymnastics.
- I feel indoor sports facilities would broaden the appeal of Elmhurst to incoming residents and strengthen the sense of community among those who live here already. The current facilities for volleyball, basketball, indoor soccer, etc. are currently non-existent or of poor quality.
- I think it's a great idea.
- Please do not raise my taxes to do this.
- can you incorporate the Elmhurst College in this at all? Such as student/work-study programs, complimentary programs for recreation? Could this center coordinate training for future outdoor sporting events such as mountaineering training, a rock wall for indoor training then culminate with an outdoor excursion (within a 4-6-hour travel radius); coordinate hiking excursions; nature awareness/survival classes (i.e. advanced Boy Scout training).
- I would think that we would need something unique to differentiate it - lacrosse, boxing, golf, etc.
- Let's move forward with an indoor facility!
- A section for children's parties (tumbling/play set area) and party room (dining table/chairs refrigerators) would be great! A walking track above the courts would be wonderful for parents that usually sit on the bleachers while their kids play and elderly/less active. An activity-based business/facility which is appropriate for all ages should be a goal for a healthy, active, thriving community.
- Where is this going to be located? I would suggest not a north end facility (north of 290) because most of the community is south of there so something more centrally located for all of Elmhurst should be considered seriously. Also, don't repeat what we already have.... Elmhurst is the community of too many dentists, lawyers, pizza places, etc. Edit what facilities should be offered because most of this town isn't and the space should offer what we don't have or really need, not just another soccer field or another indoor pool. We already have enough of those.
- It would be nice to have
- If you aren't going to build 2-3 ice rinks, don't build a facility at all. We don't need more swimming or more basketball courts there isn't enough demand. You should also look into forming your own company to operate tournaments to generate revenue and make it a destination. You need honest hockey people to help with this. Look at a company called 200x85, they do a fine job of operating tournaments and they generate hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- I would rather not increase property taxes as they are already high and may have to increase to cover any loss from the state for education.
- more tennis courts
- Please do a true cost benefit analysis including salaries, pensions, health care, and the potential loss of property taxes (if the property is not already owned by the EPD).
- where would it go



- Every weekend we leave Elmhurst for a sports tournament. By having local residents leave the city it is a loss of tax revenue. Attract tournaments and increase tax revenue
- An ice rink could support several Ice Hockey teams in the area. If we could get AHAI to move to the facility, they would bring the state tournament to the rink that runs an entire month. (Blackhawk Cup)
- Please make the turf fields cool inside.
- Doesn't need to be fancy just affordable and available to everyone.
- I am not against all indoor sports facilities; I would just prefer that the next large project be devoted to fine arts to create more balance in the community. I know some kids that live and breathe sports, but there are kids on the flip side, who adore dance, performance, acting, poetry slams, comedy, improve, writing, directing, filmmaking, etc. There should be a place for those kids, too. School sometimes focuses so much on academics that kids may be looking for a way to plug in their creativity to a place that provides positive community and teamwork. Their talent and passion creates something our whole community could feel proud of.
- Bar and healthy food snack bar for healthy hang out all ages
- I think the idea of indoor facilities like a waterpark, rock climbing, soccer fields, etc. is a great idea. This is the number one item my family would like to see the Park District focus on. If any of the deals that the Park District can cut with the City regarding storm water management can result in the Park District building great indoor facilities, I would support it.
- We would support any initiative that includes ice rinks
- I think if you are going to do this, you should make it both indoor and outdoor. The public pools in Elmhurst suck. They are geared to little kids only. The slides are pathetic. And they aren't big enough. You should build a facility that meets a multitude of wants/needs and everyone would go there!
- Elmhurst has given up valuable land for houses and another LA Fitness that should have been used for this purpose.
- The facility would also bring revenue to area restaurants or sporting goods retail stores.
- Healthy food options, WIFI, indoor playground for younger siblings. Homework stations for older kids and parents to get work done while they wait.
- Great idea!