



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

May 27, 2026

Grove City City Council
4035 Broadway
Grove City, OH 43123

Dear Grove City Council Members,

For more than 20 years, the Grove City YMCA has served as a trusted, multigenerational community center for Grove City. The Y entered the community in 1998 at the request of the Grove City government to help meet residents' needs and has operated at no cost to the city or taxpayers since opening its doors. The Grove City YMCA represents more than a recreation center; it is a vital community asset that has contributed well over \$10 million in value to Grove City over the past 23 years, when factoring in philanthropic support, capital investment, local employment and other community reinvestment.

The YMCA remains deeply committed to serving Grove City, and we are grateful for the steps you have taken to explore the benefits of a collaborative approach with the YMCA. We look forward to the June 15 presentation comparing two potential paths forward:

1. A city-owned and city-operated recreation center, not including the YMCA.
2. A city-owned community recreation center operated in collaborative partnership with the YMCA.

The side-by-side comparison is expected to show the significant financial value of a partnership with the YMCA, including saving up to \$50 million in taxpayer dollars for operating costs over the first 20 years. This amount is based on the City's projected subsidy needed for the proposed city-operated community center, as shared during the April 20, 2026, City Council Special Meeting. An additional estimated \$16.6 million in capital costs would also be saved by expanding and renovating the already established Grove City YMCA located at Fryer Park, as compared to an independent facility of the same size and scope.

As the council considers the path forward, we respectfully encourage the City to explore a partnership with the YMCA to expand the Grove City YMCA at Fryer Park for a state-of-the-art, multigenerational recreation center that reflects the vision residents have for the future of Grove City. By building on an existing community asset, this collaborative approach would avoid duplicating resources and expand access to wellness, recreation, and community amenities to residents while thoughtfully using resources. In turn, this will reduce long-term costs for taxpayers and strengthen this community alongside a trusted nonprofit partner that has served Grove City families for generations.

A YMCA collaboration would also give the city greater flexibility to invest in other important community priorities, including public safety, Town Center and Broadway Live capital projects, traffic solutions and infrastructure needs. By building on an existing, trusted community asset, the city can avoid creating two systems that compete for the same members, staff, funding and resources. Collaboration through partnership allows public dollars to go further while strengthening access to YMCA programs and amenities residents already rely on, including more than \$4.2 million reinvested through financial assistance for Grove City residents and surrounding neighbors for membership, swim lessons, child care and more.



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Across Central Ohio, the YMCA successfully partners with communities including Delaware, Liberty Township/City of Powell, Reynoldsburg and Whitehall, to operate multigenerational community centers that serve residents while reducing municipal operating burden. With more than 170 years of experience, the YMCA brings the expertise, infrastructure, and mission-driven commitment to help Grove City achieve its vision in a sustainable, fiscally responsible way.

We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of this important conversation and remain ready to work with city leadership to create a solution that serves Grove City residents today and for generations to come. We welcome continued conversations as we advance a shared goal of strengthening Grove City.

Respectfully,

Chad Frush

Grove City YMCA Advisory Board Chair
& Grove City Resident

Dolly Crespo

Executive Director,
Grove City YMCA

Tony Collins

President & CEO
YMCA of Central Ohio