



RALLY FOR THE REC

A COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

Community Meeting

January 15th, 2025

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Meeting Objectives
- *Rally for the Rec* Informational Presentation
- Break-out group discussions
- Share group feedback
- Next Steps and Exit Survey



Introductions

- *Rally for the Rec* committee members
- Lopez Rec key supporters and stakeholders



Meeting Objectives

- Introduce the *Rally for the Rec* Campaign
- Gather feedback and hear from the community





What is a Parks & Recreation District?

- A junior taxing district established by the will of the voters
- Governed by 5 elected commissioners
- Funded through a property tax levy
- Intended to support quality of life through access to recreational opportunities that reflect the interests of its community



Why Does Lopez Need a Parks & Rec District?

- Lopez Island School District budget crisis & school athletics
- Afterschool programming and summer workshops for children and youth
- Long-term sustainability of recreational programming can and should benefit Lopezians of all ages



Current challenges facing the Lopez School

- State funding for schools does not provide for athletics
- The Lopez School has been under-funded by the state by over \$4M over the last five years
- The state levy lid
- Districts in our region cut transportation budgets so fewer home games
- Student-athlete demand for sports is high
- Lopez coaches are paid less than on other islands

Lopez Rec: The Future of School Sports





How can Lopez Rec benefit the Lopez School?

- Like Island Rec on SJI:
 - Provide sustainable funding to maintain and expand varsity sports
 - Uniforms, referees, tournament fees, etc
 - Support middle school sports as a pipeline to varsity
 - Cover transportation costs for away games and postseason
 - Provide an equitable wage to coaches
 - Provide funding for field and court maintenance

How can Lopez Rec help sustain LIFRC youth programs- and keep them affordable?





Lopez Rec Will Sustain LIFRC Youth Programs

- Many youth programs funded by grants - not all are renewable
- A 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant (21st CCLC) funds the After-School Program and Summer Camps with \$333,000/yr
- Grant expires mid-2027
- Parks and Rec: A path towards sustaining these programs written into the original 21st CCLC grant proposal

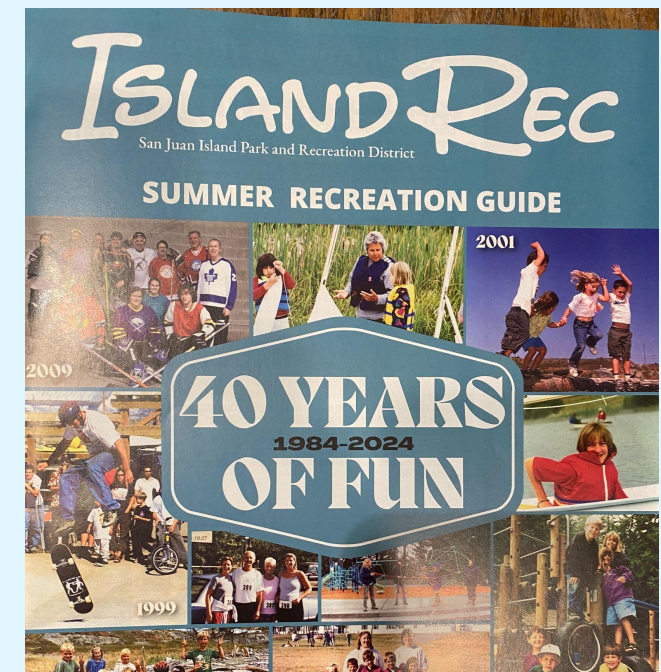


Lopez Rec Ensures Youth Program Affordability

- Without the grant, we risk losing *year-round* youth engagement for K-8th grade.
- Lopez Rec partners with LIFRC, funds staffing and supplies for these programs, and keeps them affordable for families.
- SJI offers many of the camps that LIFRC offers through a Parks and Rec. E.g. Summer Day Camp for elementary age youth at an affordable cost.

Island Rec as Inspiration

- Most communities have a Parks & Rec District
- Examples from Island Rec



Programs						
Category: Community Events						
100 Mile "Get Ready for Summer" May Challenge						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
5/1/2025	Thu	-	-	n/a	n/a	
75 Mile Challenge						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
3/1/2025	Sat	-	-	n/a	n/a	
Puzzle Hustle						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
1/25/2025	Sat	-	-	12	11	
Riders of the Nite						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
1/15/2025 - 3/19/2025	Wed	-	-	n/a	n/a	
Category: Dances						
Father Daughter Dance "Under the Sea"						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
2/1/2025	Sat	-	-	300	295	
Category: Running						
Shamrock Fun Run						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	

AT-A-GLANCE SUMMER CAMP CALENDAR						
June 24-28	July 1-5	July 8-12	July 15-19	July 22-26	Jul 29- Aug 2	Aug 5-9
Camp Eagle Rock Ages 6-11	Camp Eagle Rock Ages 6-11	Camp Eagle Rock Ages 6-11	Camp Eagle Rock Ages 6-11	Camp Eagle Rock Ages 6-11	Camp Eagle Rock Ages 6-11	Camp Eagle Rock Ages 6-11
Sailing Intro Ages 8-10	Sailing Basic Adult & Teen, Ages 13+	Sailing Intro Ages 8-10	Sailing Basic Ages 9+	Sailing Basic Ages 9+	Sailing Basic Ages 9+	Sailing Basic Ages 9+
Sailing Basic Ages 9+	Skateboard Camp Ages 7-13	Sailing Basic Ages 9+	Sailing Intermediate Ages 10+	Soccer Camps Ages 6-16	Double Handed Sailing Ages 11+	Sailing Intermediate Ages 10+
Tennis Camp Ages 8-11	Basketball Camps Ages 6-14	Tennis Camp Ages 12-14	Art Camp Ages 8-12	Teen Adventure Camp Ages 11-16	Circus Camps Ages 8-14	Skateboard Camp Ages 7-13
Karate Camp Self Defense Ages 10+	Music Camp Ages 13-16	Teen Adventure Camp Ages 11-16	Teen Adventure Camp Ages 11-16	Teen Adventure Camp Ages 11-16	Teen Adventure Camp Ages 11-16	Teen Adventure Camp Ages 11-16

After-School Paint Club- Llama						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
5/14/2025	Wed	-	2 - 8	10	8	
After-School Paint Club- Mushroom Meadow						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
4/9/2025	Wed	-	2 - 8	10	8	
Babysitting Class						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
3/24/2025 - 3/31/2025	Mon	11y - 19y	-	12	11	
Camp Orkila Day Trip						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
4/8/2025	Tue	11y - 15y	-	12	11	
Circus Workshop with Cirque Cadia- Ages 7+						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
2/21/2025	Fri	7y	-	30	28	
DIY Skincare for Teens						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
2/28/2025	Fri	-	6 - 12	n/a	n/a	
Future Hoopsters Basketball Grades 2-3						
Date(s)	Day(s)	Age(s)	Grade(s)	Openings	Remaining	Register Now
3/4/2025 - 3/25/2025	Tue	-	2 - 3	20	17	

How Can Lopez Rec Benefit Existing Organizations?

- Sustainability
- Insurance
- Outreach
- Registration Hub





Efforts and Learning to Date

- Initial meeting - November 2023 (over a year ago!)
- Outreach to *Island Rec* on San Juan and *Orcas Island Parks and Rec District*
- Research into PRDs in WA State in jurisdictions similar to San Juan County
- Work with local government to understand and meet legal requirements
- Engage in outreach with Lopez organizations
- It's clear - no one wants *Lopez Rec* to fund the pool
- Establish *Rally for the Rec*; create website and informational materials
- Ongoing research to establish levy rate and budget

Preliminary Budget

Program	Budgeted Expenditure	Levy Rate	Tax Assessed to Property Valued at \$750k
LISD Athletics	\$180,000	0.08	\$60.05
Recreational Programming: Afterschool, Summer Workshops, Seniors, Teens, Arts, Sailing, Kayaking, Pickleball, Etc.	\$250,000	0.11	\$83.40
Capital Investment	\$75,000	0.03	\$25.02
Staffing: Director & Part-time Assistant (Includes benefits)	\$170,000	0.08	\$56.71
Operations: Insurance, Accounting, Legal, Software, Transportation; Professional Development, Etc.	\$167,000	0.07	\$55.71
	Subtotal		
	\$842,000	0.37	\$280.88

Essential Steps to Form Lopez Rec

- Engage in outreach with existing organizations and our community
- Raise funds to cover campaign costs and ballot fees
- Bring Resolution to Form Lopez Rec to County Council on January 21st
- On the April '25 ballot, vote to:
 - Create the Lopez Rec district
 - Elect 5 governing board members
 - Establish a funding levy





Break-out Group Session

***A Lopez Rec* Reflection**

- What are you excited about?
- What do you want to know more about?
- Choose a group presenter to share your top 5 takeaways or questions during the share out session.

Next Steps

- Exit survey
- Sign Petition of Support
- Show Support to Council
- Raise funds for ballot costs
- Attend March Town Hall



Rally for the Rec Contact Information

- Website: www.rallyfortherec.org
- Email: info@rallyfortherec.org



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