TOWN of CARY

Aquatic Programs

Aquatic Programming in Cary

A set of 5 questions examined the need for aquatic programming in Cary. The first questions asked the respondents the importance of citizens having access to aquatic programs in Cary (Table 80). The results indicate that respondents feel these programs are important. The mean was 6.46 with 65.1% responding above the midpoint of 5, including 34.2% answering "very important." Note that only 17.9% answered below the midpoint of 5. Overall, there is a relatively good level of support for citizens of Cary having access to aquatic programs.

The respondents were then asked who is best suited to build, operate, and pay for aquatic programming in Cary (Table 81). A majority of the respondents (63.2%) felt it should be a shared responsibility of both the Town Government and private business. Several of the respondents (20.1%) indicated that aquatic programming should be the sole responsibility of the Town Government and 16.7% indicated it should fall exclusively to private business.

The next question asked if the respondent would support adding 1 cent to the current 42 cents property tax in order to pay for building, operating, and providing aquatic programming in Cary (Table 82). The results to this question were not as clear cut. The mean was 4.67 with only 39.0% responding above the midpoint of 5, while 40.3% responding below 5 to this question. In addition, a very large percentage (33.1%) responded "not supportive at all" to the property tax increase. Overall, the results were mixed with a somewhat negative slant that did not support the 1 cent increase.

Table 80. Importance That Citizens Have Access to Aquatic Programs in Cary.

Year	Mean	***Not Important At All* 1**	2	3	4	Neutral 5	6	7	8	*Very Important* 9	% Above 5
06	6.46	10.8	1.8	3.0	2.3	17.1	6.3	13.8	10.8	34.2	65.1

Table 81. Who is Best Suited to Build, Operate, and Pay for Aquatic Programming in Cary.

Year	% Town Government	% Private Business	% Shared Responsibility
06	20.1	16.7	63.2

Table 82. Support for Adding 1 Cent to the Current Property Tax of 42 Cents to Pay for Building, Operating, and Providing Aquatic Programming in Cary.

Year	Mean	***Not Supportive At All* 1**	2	3	4	Neutral 5	6	7	8	*Very Supportive* 9	% Above 5
06	4.67	33.1	2.3	1.8	3.1	20.9	6.4	8.4	6.6	17.6	39.0

The final section in this set of questions examined how important it would be to offer various activities that would take place at an aquatic facility. A nine-point scale was used from "not important at all" to "very important." The aquatic activities examined included family fun, fitness lap swimming, health programs, training for swim teams, competitive swimming events, athletic activities, safety instruction, and kayaking/canoe or similar instruction. The activities are shown in Tables 83-90 in order of importance. The respondents felt the most important activity to offer at an aquatic facility in Cary would be safety instruction such as life guarding and swimming lessons. The mean was 6.68 with 67.0% responding above the midpoint of 5. Note the high percentage (49.1%) who answered "very important." Health programs such as water aerobics ranked second with a mean of 6.10 with 60.6% responding above 5. These were the only two activities with means above 6.00. The most important activities after safety instruction and health programs were fitness lap swimming (5.88), training for swim teams (5.64), competitive swimming events (5.53), family fun such as slides and lazy rivers (5.43), athletic activities such as water polo (5.28), and kayaking/canoeing or similar instruction (5.23).

Table 83. Importance for Cary Aquatic Facility to Offer Safety Instruction Such as Life Guarding and Swimming Lessons.

Year	Mean	***Not Important At All*** **1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	Neutral **5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	*Very Important* **9**	**% Above 5**
06	6.68	17.7	0.3	0.3	0.0	14.7	2.0	5.8	10.1	49.1	67.0

Table 84. Importance for Cary Aquatic Facility to Offer Health Programs Such as Water Aerobics.

Year	Mean	***Not Important At All*** **1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	Neutral **5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	*Very Important* **9**	**% Above 5**
06	6.10	19.4	0.8	1.0	0.3	17.9	6.6	9.3	12.1	32.6	60.6

Table 85. Importance for Cary Aquatic Facility to Offer Fitness Lap Swimming.

Year	Mean	***Not Important At All*** **1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	Neutral **5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	*Very Important* **9**	**% Above 5**
06	5.88	21.2	0.0	1.3	0.3	20.7	6.3	10.1	11.1	29.0	56.5

Table 86. Importance for Cary Aquatic Facility to Offer Training for Swim Teams.

Year	Mean	***Not Important At All*** **1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	Neutral **5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	*Very Important* **9**	**% Above 5**
06	5.64	22.8	1.8	1.5	1.0	21.8	4.3	8.9	9.1	28.9	51.2

Table 87. Importance for Cary Aquatic Facility to Offer Competitive Swimming Events.

Year	Mean	***Not Important***	**2**	**3**	**4**	Neutral **5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	*Very Important* **9**	**% Above 5**

		At All **1**									
06	5.53	23.9	1.3	2.0	1.3	22.3	4.1	9.6	8.4	27.2	49.3

Table 88. Importance for Cary Aquatic Facility to Offer Family Fun Such as Slides and Lazy Rivers.

Year	Mean	***Not Important At All*** **1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	Neutral **5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	*Very Important* **9**	**% Above 5**
06	5.43	24.7	1.5	2.3	2.0	21.0	5.1	10.4	5.3	27.8	48.6

Table 89. Importance for Cary Aquatic Facility to Offer Athletic Activities Such as Water Polo.

Year	Mean	***Not Important At All*** **1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	Neutral **5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	*Very Important* **9**	**% Above 5**
06	5.28	24.8	1.0	3.0	3.8	21.3	6.3	9.6	5.6	24.6	46.1

Table 90. Importance for Cary Aquatic Facility to Offer Kayaking, Canoeing, or Similar Instruction.

Year	Mean	***Not Important At All*** **1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	Neutral **5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	*Very Important* **9**	**% Above 5**
06	5.23	25.2	1.8	3.8	2.5	20.9	7.6	7.1	7.1	23.9	45.7

The respondents were then asked about their potential participation in the same set of aquatic activities. The response categories for the question were “daily”, “several times a week”, “several times a month”, “several times a year”, or “never”. The results are shown in Tables 91-98 ranked in order by level of participation. The ranking reflects the percentages who would participate at least weekly (daily + several times a week percentages) in that activity.

Using this ranking, the activity with the most participation would be fitness lap swimming with 18.4% indicating they would participate at least weekly. This was followed by health programs such as water aerobics with 16.1% who would participate at least weekly. These two were so close, if the percentages of monthly participation were included in the calculations, then health programs would end up on top. The ranking of participation in other activities after fitness lap swimming and health programs would be training for swim teams (10.3%), safety instruction such as life guarding or swimming lessons (10.0%), family fun such as slides or lazy rivers (9.5%), competitive swimming events (9.0%), kayaking/canoeing or similar instruction (5.4%), and athletic activities like water polo (5.4%).

Table 91. How Often Respondent or Someone in Household Would Participate in Fitness Lap Swimming if Available in Cary.

Year	**Daily %**	**Several Times a Week %**	**Several Times a Month %**	Several Times a Year **%**	Never **%**	**Daily or Several Times a Week %**

06	2.0	16.4	12.8	12.8	56.0	18.4

Table 92. How Often Respondent or Someone in Household Would Participate in Health Programs Such as Water Aerobics if Available in Cary.

Year	Daily %	Several Times a Week %	Several Times a Month %	Several Times a Year %	Never %	Daily or Several Times a Week %
06	1.0	15.1	15.9	17.4	50.6	16.1

Table 93. How Often Respondent or Someone in Household Would Participate in Training for Swim Teams if Available in Cary.

Year	Daily %	Several Times a Week %	Several Times a Month %	Several Times a Year %	Never %	Daily or Several Times a Week %
06	2.3	8.0	4.9	5.7	79.2	10.3

Table 94. How Often Respondent or Someone in Household Would Participate in Safety Instruction Such as Life Guarding or Swimming Lessons if Available in Cary.

Year	Daily %	Several Times a Week %	Several Times a Month %	Several Times a Year %	Never %	Daily or Several Times a Week %
06	0.5	9.5	12.3	24.9	52.8	10.0

Table 95. How Often Respondent or Someone in Household Would Participate in Family Fun Such as Slides or Lazy Rivers if Available in Cary.

Year	Daily %	Several Times a Week %	Several Times a Month %	Several Times a Year %	Never %	Daily or Several Times a Week %
06	0.5	9.0	15.3	19.2	56.0	9.5

Table 96. How Often Respondent or Someone in Household Would Participate in Competitive Swimming Events if Available in Cary.

Year	Daily %	Several Times a Week %	Several Times a Month %	Several Times a Year %	Never %	Daily or Several Times a Week %
06	1.8	7.2	6.4	7.2	77.3	9.0

Table 97. How Often Respondent or Someone in Household Would Participate in Kayaking, Canoeing, or Similar Instruction if Available in Cary.

Year	Daily %	Several Times a Week %	Several Times a Month %	Several Times a Year %	Never %	Daily or Several Times a Week

						%
06	0.5	4.9	7.7	23.5	63.4	5.4

Table 98. How Often Respondent or Someone in Household Would Participate in Athletic Activities Like Water Polo if Available in Cary.

Year	Daily %	Several Times a Week %	Several Times a Month %	Several Times a Year %	Never %	Daily or Several Times a Week %
06	0.3	5.1	8.2	14.1	72.2	5.4

Aquatic Programming Crosstabulations

The aquatic programming crosstabulations were conducted on age, children in household under 18, housing type, income, race, and zip code. The crosstabulations for importance of access to aquatic programming in Cary are shown in Tables B460-B465. The means are relatively consistent among the groups. The groups indicating the highest levels (highest means) of importance for access to aquatic programming in Cary were from the 0-$20,000 (7.81), other races (7.73), 18-25 age group (7.24), African-Americans (7.13), $30,001-$50,000 incomes (6.80), and households with children (6.77). The groups that indicated the lowest levels of importance were from the over 65 age group (5.92), $70,001-$100,000 income level (6.14), and households with no children (6.18).

The crosstabulations for who should have the responsibility to build, operate, and pay for aquatic programming in Cary are shown in Table B466-B471. All the groupings indicated aquatic programming should be a shared responsibility. The only groups that indicated a higher percentage for Town responsibility was from the 0-$20,000 (25.0%) and over $100,000 income level (24.6%).

The crosstabulations for support for adding 1 cent to the current 42 cents property tax to pay for building, operating, and providing aquatic programming in Cary are shown in Tables B472-B477. The higher levels of support for adding to the current tax came from households with children (5.11) and 27513 zip code (5.07). The least support came from the over 65 age group (3.64), 27519 zip code (3.89), African-Americans (4.27), and households without children (4.34).

Importance of Aquatic Activities Crosstabulations

The crosstabulations for the importance of the various aquatic activities are broken down by age, children in household under 18, housing type, income, race, and zip code. The breakdowns for importance for safety instruction such as life guarding and swimming lessons are shown in Tables B478-B483. The higher levels of assessed importance (in order) for this activity were from the $20,001-$30,000 incomes (7.94), 18-25 year olds (7.76), $30,001-$50,000 incomes (7.67), other races (7.60), and 0-$20,000 incomes (7.44). In addition, there were higher means from apartment dwellers (7.36), households with children (7.30), and African-Americans (7.20).

The crosstabulations for the importance of health programs such as water aerobics are shown in Tables B484-B489. The higher means for importance (in order) of these programs came from $20,001-$30,000 incomes (7.33), other races (7.30), 0-$20,000 incomes (7.25), $30,001-$50,000 incomes (6.83), and 18-25 year olds (6.81).

The fitness lap swimming crosstabulations for the importance of offering this activity are shown in Tables B490-B495. The higher means for importance (in order) were from $20,001-$30,000 incomes (7.17), other races (7.10), 0-$20,000 incomes (6.94), $30,001-$50,000 incomes (6.85), 18-25 age group (6.52), apartment dwellers (6.40), and households with children (6.36).

The crosstabulations for training for swim teams are shown in Tables B496-B501. The groups indicating the most importance (in order) for this training were from $20,001-$30,000 incomes (7.22), 18-25 age group (6.76), 0-$20,000 incomes (6.63), other races (6.30), $30,001-$50,000 incomes (6.11), and households with children (6.05), and apartment dwellers (6.00).

The competitive swimming events breakdowns are shown in Tables B502-B507. The highest means for importance (in order) were from $20,001-$30,000 incomes (6.94), 0-$20,000 incomes (6.75), 18-25 age group (6.71), other races (6.30), and $30,001-$50,000 incomes (6.11).

The family fun activities such as slides and lazy rivers crosstabulations are shown in Tables B508-B513. The highest means for importance (in order) were from 0-$20,000 income level (6.88), 18-25 age group (6.43), and households with children (5.99).

The crosstabulations for athletic activities like water polo are shown in Tables B514-B519. The highest levels of importance (in order) were expressed by the $20,001-$30,000 incomes (6.78), 0-$20,000 incomes (6.75), 18-25 age group (6.62), $50,001-$70,000 incomes (5.94), and apartment dwellers (5.91).

Finally, the crosstabulations for kayaking, canoeing, or similar instruction are shown in Tables B520-B525. The highest means for importance (in order) were from 0-$20,000 incomes (6.50), $20,001-$30,000 incomes (6.22), and 18-25 age group (6.05).

Overall, there was a pattern evident in the crosstabulations. The highest levels of importance for most all of these aquatic activities were given by 18-25 year olds, households with children, apartment dwellers (to some degree), African-Americans, other races, and lower income levels (0-$20,000, $20,001-$30,000, $30,001-$50,000).

Participation in Aquatic Activities Crosstabulations

The participation in the same set of aquatic programming activities was also broken out in a series of crosstabulations. Breakdowns were conducted on age, children in household under 18, housing type, income, race, and zip code. The first set of crosstabulations examined the participation in fitness lap swimming (B526-B531). The highest levels of participation (in order) would come from $20,001-$30,000 incomes (36.8%), 18-25 age group (28.6%), African Americans (26.7%), $30,001-$50,000 incomes (26.6%), $50,001-$70,000 incomes (24.3%), 27513 zip code (23.0%), and apartment dwellers (22.2%).

The crosstabulations for health programs like water aerobics are presented in Tables B532-B537. The highest levels of participation (in order) would come from African Americans (40.0%), $50,001-$70,000 incomes (27.0%), $30,001-$50,000 incomes (26.6%), and $20,001-$30,000 incomes (26.3%).

The crosstabulations for participation in training for swim teams are shown in Tables B538-B543. The highest levels of involvement (in order) would be from households with children (18.2%), over $100,000 incomes (16.2%), 27513 zip code (14.4%), $50,001-$70,000 incomes (13.5%), African-Americans (13.4%), and 26-55 age group (13.3%).

The crosstabulations for safety instruction such as life guarding or swimming lesson are shown in Tables B544-B549. The highest levels of participation (in order) would be from African-Americans (26.7%), $50,001-$70,000 incomes (21.6%), other races (18.2%), households with children (17.6%), $20,001-$30,000 incomes (15.8%), and 18-25 age groups (14.3%).

The crosstabulations for family fun like slides or lazy river activities are shown in Tables B550-B555. The highest levels of participation (in order) would be from African-Americans (20.0%), households with children (16.9%), $20,001-$30,000 incomes (15.8%), $30,001-$50,000 incomes (15.5%), 27513 zip code (14.8%), and $50,001-$70,000 incomes (13.5%).

The crosstabulations for competitive swimming events are shown in Tables B556-B561. The highest levels of involvement (in order) would be from households with children (16.6%), over $100,000 income levels (12.7%), and 27513 zip code (12.6%).

The crosstabulations for kayaking, canoeing, or similar instruction are shown in Tables B562-B567. The highest levels of participation (in order) would be from Asians (10.0%), 18-25 year olds (9.5%), other races (9.1%), over $100,000 incomes (9.0%), $50,001-$70,000 incomes (8.4%), and households with children (7.6%).

Finally, the crosstabulations for athletic activities like water polo are shown in Tables B568-B573. The highest levels of participation would be from African-Americans (13.3%), $50,001-$70,000 income level (10.8%), over $100,000 income levels (8.1%), and households with children (7.6%).