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FORMAL LISTENING SUMMARY



► 135 & Beyond | Spring to Summer 2025

The YMCA of Northern Rock County is planning for facility updates, program innovation, and partnerships at the Downtown Janesville YMCA and Parker YMCA (Milton) as part of 135 & Beyond, the organization's 135th anniversary initiative in 2026. Community and staff input, by 284 people, was gathered through targeted, in-person Reshaping Sessions in May and June, followed by a public online survey available to all in the community, including non-members, in Summer 2025.

- **In-person sessions (53.5% of respondents):**
13 one-hour open sessions, a total of 152 participants, May 20 to June 26.
- **Online survey (46.5% of respondents):**
132 responses, collected July 28 to Sept. 12, 2025.
The survey asked participants to view a short context video before responding.
- **Membership vs. non-membership:**
Current members accounted for 82% of respondents, while 18% identified as non-members/other roles.



Who We Heard From

Responses were primarily from current members and staff across both branches, with most respondents living nearby and visiting frequently.

What We Heard | Key Themes

- **Downtown Janesville**

1. Aquatics modernization and capacity
2. Accessibility, ADA, and wayfinding
3. Family and youth spaces with aligned childcare

- **Parker (Milton)**

1. Aquatics addition
2. Additional flexible multi-use program space
3. Facility modernization and indoor/outdoor social hub spaces

What We Heard | Other Priorities

Facility and Space Upgrades

- Aquatic improvements and additions at Downtown Janesville and Parker, including lap and teaching space, deep-water and zero-depth entry, and family-friendly features.
- Accessibility and ADA improvements, including elevators, ramps, parking, and clearer wayfinding at Downtown Janesville.
- Larger and more flexible youth spaces, including gymnastics and ninja areas, and teen and after-school programming in both locations.
- Core building modernization at Downtown Janesville.
- Practical usability outdoors and space to grow/facility expansion at Parker.

Programs and Services

- Childcare and family scheduling, including reliable child watch and aligned schedules that reduce barriers at both locations.
- Inclusive services, including support for autism and neurodiversity at Downtown Janesville.
- Community food access and nutrition programming at Downtown Janesville.
- Renewed programming for all ages and welcoming social hubs (indoors and outdoors) at both locations.

Consistency Across Listening Activities

Across formats, the community prioritized aquatic upgrades, accessibility and ADA compliance, childcare support, larger spaces, inclusive programming, community food and wellness initiatives, and stronger, usable spaces both indoors and outdoors.

What Happens Next

1. Synthesize in-person and online input with feasibility and operational assessments.
2. Continued questions and leadership considerations
 - a. How does this feedback fit our strategy and mission?
 - b. How are community alignment and access addressed?
 - c. What programs and outcomes will this feedback drive?
 - d. What are the facility scope and options as they relate to feedback?
 - e. What are the feasibility, cost, and operating impacts of achieving top themes?
 - f. What funding and partnerships will support the initiative?
 - g. What are the risk, compliance, and safety considerations for reshaping efforts at both locations?
 - h. How will we measure results and ensure accountability?
 - i. What is the plan for communications and community trust?
3. Prioritize projects with the strongest community signal and impact.
4. Activate the 135 Community Team to refine concepts and support outreach.
5. Share recommendations with the Board, then outline next steps for 2026 and beyond.

You Are Invited to Stay Involved

Follow updates and join the interest list at ymcanrc.org/135years. The listening process is ongoing, and additional input will be reviewed during Phase 3 planning. Interested? Contact Johanna Adams at jadams@ymcanrc.org or 608-754-9622 ext. 1107.