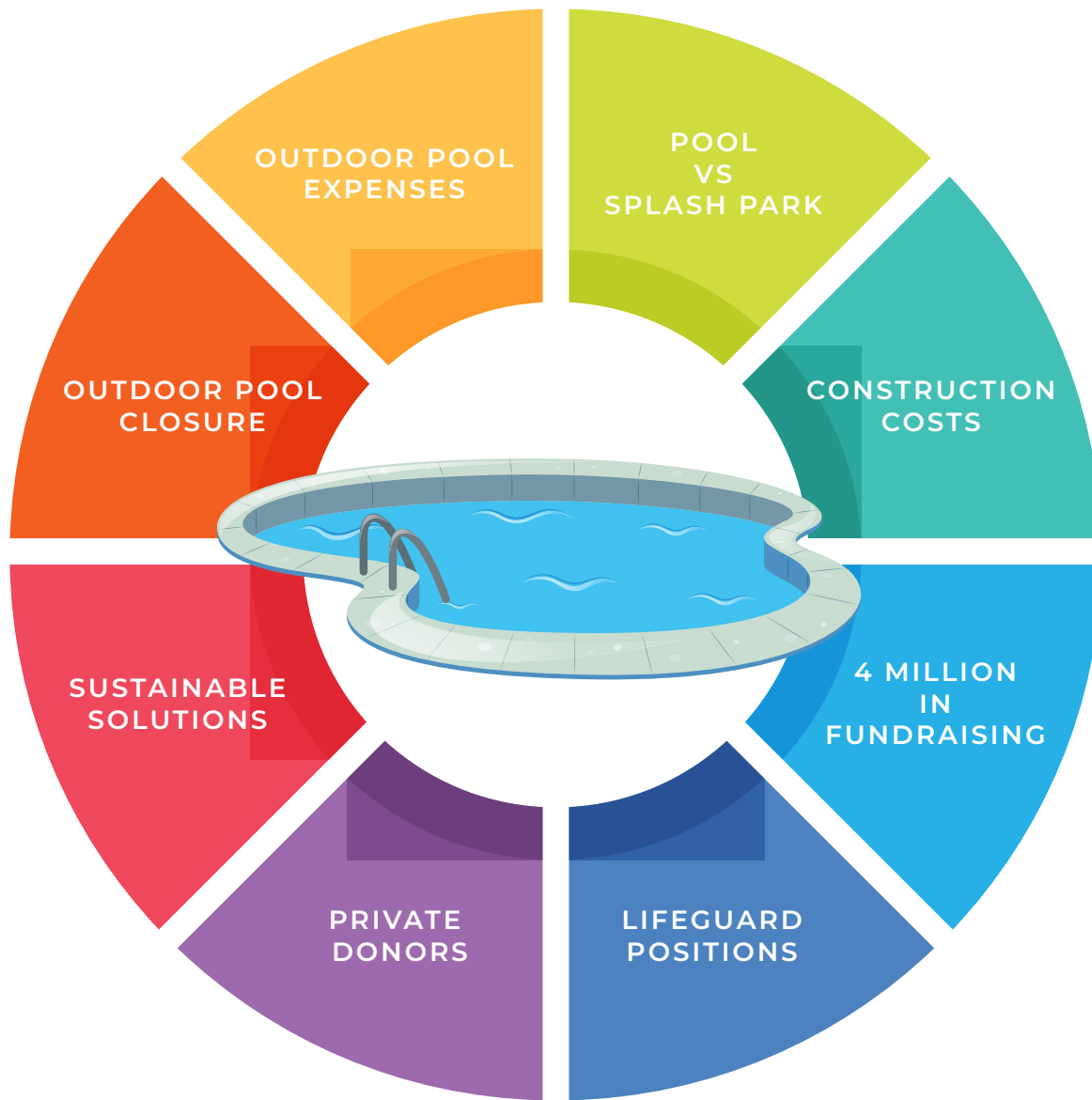


# JPRD OUTDOOR POOL INFORMATION



## OUTDOOR POOL CLOSURE

The outdoor pool managed by JPRD was closed after the 2017 summer season due to high costs and low visitation. Average yearly attendance from 2013-2015 was 4207 visitors.

## OUTDOOR POOL EXPENSES

The equipment in the outdoor pool was outdated and operational costs were too high to maintain. For the last 5 years of operation the pool was losing over \$120,000 per year.

## POOL VS SPLASH PARK

When the outdoor water structure plans were taking shape, research was done to compare an outdoor pool vs a splash park. At that time, 2019, the estimated cost to put in an outdoor pool was 4 million dollars and it would cost an estimated \$122K per year to operate. It was decided a splash park would be more economical to build and maintain. The Meidinger Splash Park was fully constructed on private donations. The maintenance and operational costs of roughly \$30,000 are supported by JPRD. In the first summer of operation, it had over 4000 visitors.

## CONSTRUCTION COSTS

In 2019, the estimated cost to put in an outdoor pool was 4 million dollars. The construction cost consisted of a basic rectangular pool with a zero entry area. It did not include any lap lanes, it was a recreational pool with a small slide and a possible diving bay.

## 4 MILLION IN FUNDRAISING

There is space in the plan for an outdoor pool to the west of the bath house. The first challenge we have with an outdoor pool is construction cost. JPRD doesn't have a budget to fully fund an outdoor pool. JPRD has a plan for renovations/facility needs which include new bathrooms for the parks in town – something we heard loud and clear from the survey results. We would need to fundraise a minimum of 4 million dollars to build an outdoor pool. Like many businesses in town, we are struggling with staffing as well and do not have a fundraiser position so we would have to rely on our current staff to not only do their usual job duties but fundraise 4 million dollars as well.

## LIFEGUARD POSITIONS

Another challenge we have is finding lifeguards to guard an outdoor pool. We offer limited hours in our indoor pool due to staff unavailability. We worry about finding staff for an outdoor pool as well. We have discussed closing the indoor pool during the summer months to just offer an outdoor pool option but we would still have limited hours due to needing 4 – 6 lifeguards per shift to cover each area of an outdoor pool.

## PRIVATE DONORS

We have heard a lot of people asking why we can't have a pool like Valley City or Edgeley. We have talked to those that run those pools and they have stated they operate at a loss every year. They have private donors that cover the loss every year or a separate city sales tax that covers the loss. Our Parks and Rec Dept can't sustain those additional operational losses every year.

## SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

We are open to any and all ideas the community has to make an outdoor pool feasible. We have looked at different options throughout the years but have yet to find anything we can sustain. If you would like to help us find a solution please contact Amy Walters, Executive Director at [office@jamestownparksandrec.com](mailto:office@jamestownparksandrec.com)

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