



**NEWS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Lacey Launches Community Survey to Explore Expanded Recreation with YMCA Partnership**

*Residents, Stakeholders Invited to Share Feedback to Shape Township's Future of Health, Well-Being & Connection*

**LACEY TOWNSHIP, NJ (Sept. 15, 2025)** - Lacey Township has launched a community needs assessment to gather public input on ways to expand recreational opportunities for its nearly 30,000 residents, including a potential partnership with the YMCA of the Jersey Shore.

A public survey is now available online through Oct. 7, giving township residents, employees and other stakeholders a chance to voice their perspectives on the community's health and wellness needs, noted Mayor Peter A. Curatolo.

"This is our opportunity to come together to guide the next phase of Lacey life," Curatolo said. "We want to better understand how a potential community recreation center can support healthy lifestyles for residents of all ages, from infants to seniors."

Curatolo said the township is pleased to be exploring this opportunity with the Y, a nonprofit with a strong reputation for delivering high quality health and wellness programs and managing facility operations in communities across Monmouth, Ocean, and Middlesex counties.

Laurie Goganzer, president and CEO of YMCA of the Jersey Shore, said the mission-focused nonprofit would welcome the opportunity to help strengthen the health and well-being of township residents. "The Y's focus areas are to encourage healthy living for all, nurture the potential of youth, and build lasting social connections."

In addition to the public survey, the needs assessment will include one-on-one interviews this fall with local leaders across sectors, including education, civic, business,

nonprofit, and healthcare. A community leaders forum is planned for early 2026, where a select group of stakeholders will review preliminary findings.

The community needs assessment is being conducted by a national firm, DBD Group. Residents can access the survey by clicking [here](#). The survey is confidential, and individual responses are not tracked. Participants are invited to enter a drawing for a \$100 ShopRite gift card.

Curatolo emphasized that anyone who needs assistance with the survey or who has questions, may contact the Recreation Department at [lacey.recreation@laceytownship.org](mailto:lacey.recreation@laceytownship.org).



**Photo Credit:** Lacey Township

**Photo Caption:** Lacey Mayor Peter A. Curatolo encourages residents to take part in a township-wide survey to help guide future recreation planning.

### **About Lacey Township**

Lacey Township, set along Barnegat Bay in Ocean County, NJ, is home to nearly 30,000 residents and recognized for its community spirit, natural beauty, and family-friendly amenities. The township features parks, athletic fields, and recreation areas such as Gille Park, Lake Barnegat, and the Barnegat Branch Trail. A diverse local economy of small businesses, retail, and service industries adds to its vitality. Committed to quality of life, Lacey provides programs, services, and facilities that foster health, well-being, and connection, while honoring its history as a welcoming place to live, work, and play.

Visit [laceytownship.org](http://laceytownship.org) to learn more.

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