

P.C. 08/24/2023
Item 4
2 Pages.

Permit for Pickleball at Cameron Park Lake

H. LeVasseur <helenmaryle64@gmail.com>

Tue 8/22/2023 8:53 AM

To: Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>; brandon.reinhard@edcgov.us <brandon.reinhard@edcgov.us>; Kris X. Payne <KPayne@edcgov.us>; Lexi Boeger <Lexi.Boeger@edcgov.us>; Andy Nevis <Andy.Nevis@edcgov.us>; Daniel Harkin <Daniel.Harkin@edcgov.us>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from helenmaryle64@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am writing to address a matter of great importance to our community—the future of pickleball and the ongoing delay in resolving the permit issue. As active members of the pickleball community, we believe it is crucial to highlight the value of pickleball to us personally and as a community, as well as the efforts we have made to address concerns and promote harmony within our neighborhood.

Pickleball has become much more than just a sport to us; it has become an integral part of our lives. It provides a unique avenue for physical activity, social engagement, and overall well-being. Many of us have found immense joy and a sense of community through this inclusive and accessible sport. The camaraderie, support, and friendships we have developed on the courts have had a positive impact on our mental and physical health.

Furthermore, pickleball has brought significant benefits to our wider community. It brings business into the area. People stop and eat at the nearby restaurants, shop for groceries and fill up their cars with gas. Our attendance at the lake and gym have provided a steady stream of revenue via parking and use fees.

The activity has served as a catalyst for increased social interaction among residents of all ages and backgrounds. The sport has been embraced by people from various walks of life, creating a sense of unity and promoting an active lifestyle. By bringing people together, pickleball fosters a stronger and more tightly knit community, enhancing the overall quality of life for its residents.

In response to concerns about noise levels during pickleball play at Cameron Park Lake, our community has demonstrated a genuine commitment to addressing these issues. Many of us have written letters & attended meetings held by the CSD in order to clarify and ultimately determine mitigation strategies since April 2022. An ad hoc committee has devoted themselves to assist in determining "best" options for noise mitigation. As a result

of these efforts, we have proactively taken steps to reduce noise by implementing generous concessions, such as using noise-dampening paddles, implementing quieter ball options, and even adjusting playing hours to minimize disturbance. We recognize the importance of being good neighbors and have made every effort to be considerate of the concerns raised.

Despite our best efforts, we find it unacceptable that the permit issue regarding pickleball has remained unresolved for more than 4 months. The ongoing delay has caused significant frustration within our community, leading to divisions among players who are left without a suitable public space to enjoy their beloved sport. Currently, the dedicated courts at Heritage Park, which are shared with tennis players, are the only option available in El Dorado County. This limited availability hampers access and prevents many residents from enjoying the benefits of pickleball.

We respectfully urge the responsible authorities to prioritize a timely resolution to the pickleball permit issue. A prompt decision is crucial for restoring unity and allowing our community to thrive. We hope that you understand the genuine concerns and the immense value pickleball holds for us personally and as a community. By granting the necessary permits, you will not only provide a recreational outlet but also support the overall well-being and cohesiveness of our neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We trust in your commitment to fairness, open dialogue, and the well-being of our community.

Sincerely,

Helen LeVasseur (El Dorado County resident-40 years)

4700 Old Frenchtown Rd. Sp 100

Shingle Springs, CA 95682


P.C. 08/24/2023
Item 4
44 Pages

ADM23-0014 Appeal

Lowell Shields <lesmechengr@gmail.com>

Tue 8/22/2023 9:13 AM

To: Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>; Brandon Reinhardt <Brandon.Reinhardt@edcgov.us>; Kris X. Payne <KPayne@edcgov.us>; Lexi Boeger <Lexi.Boeger@edcgov.us>; Daniel Harkin <Daniel.Harkin@edcgov.us>; Karen Garner <Karen.Garner@edcgov.us>

 2 attachments (8 MB)

Honorable members of the El Dorado County Planning Commission-talking points.pdf; CP Appeal.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lesmechengr@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please find attached a brief letter and back-up documentation in support of the use of the Cameron Park Lake multi-sport courts for continued use by the community.

Than you in advance for reading,
Lowell Shields

Honorable members of the El Dorado County Planning Commission (Brandon Rienhardt; Kris Payne; Lexi Boeger; Andrew Nevis; Daniel Harkin); El Dorado County Planning Director (Karen Garner) and Planning Commission Staff

Re. ADM23-0014 Cameron Park CSD application to permit the use of 4 permanent pickleball (multi-sport) courts and 4 dual use tennis/pickleball (multi-sport) courts at Cameron Park Lake and associated appeal filed by Dave and Liz Gates. Although predominantly tennis and pickleball are played here, the courts should really be looked at as “multi-sport” courts, as Paddle Tennis and ‘soft’ tennis, SPEC tennis and Pitton, use courts of similar or exact dimensions.

My name is Lowell Shields, and I have been a resident of El Dorado County, for the past 30+ years and was a regular user of the Cameron Park Lake Park and pickleball courts until they were closed pending the outcome of the referenced permit. The appeal to the permit provides some background on the issue at hand that can be a bit misleading without some clarification and context, as I have some personal knowledge related to that and thus the reason for this letter. I was a member of the Pickleball Noise Mitigation Task Force convened by the CSD following concerns raised by the appellant and have been involved extensively since its inception.

1. The task force met multiple times along with CSD Director Andre Pichly and Parks Superintendent Mike Grassle, and from the beginning, everyone generally focused on potential sound control measures including sound blanketing and barriers with the goal to meet the appellant’s expectations, which unfortunately tended to evolve a bit over time.
2. My impression as a task force member, was that the appellant initially was a willing and engaged participant in the task force and the associated exploration of sound control measures and I felt led the entire group to believe that if there may be a solution here. It is my recollection that if County Noise ordinance could be met, it would be acceptable to her, and that led to the hiring of a sound consultant to assist with the development of potential mitigation options for further development and consideration by the CSD.
3. I was largely responsible for getting the sound study commissioned in the first place, so I have a pretty good idea about why it was done, what it says and what it doesn’t. Cherry-picking excerpts out of the report to make points is never a good idea, as the report is highly technical and best interpreted by those trained in the science behind it. It also needs to be taken in the context and intent for which it was produced, which was to identify what measures may be needed to reduce the sound entering the Gate’s property to a prescribed standard. I believe that was generally proven by the study, regardless of the points made by the appellant. The statement in the appeal that one of the proposed measures would NOT meet the referenced county noise goal is misleading. It technically did meet the standard (w/o safety factor) and was only an example that was developed to identify *potential* measures, for size/scale/construction.

4. As it turned out, in my opinion, she was convinced that none of the measures would work to her satisfaction and found fault with pretty much any and all of the measures suggested and ultimately was unwilling to compromise in any way. It became clear that she wanted to eliminate Pickleball play at the Park courts completely, period!
5. The statement made in the appeal that "little was done by the CSD to address the issue" and "..., the CSD made no efforts to mitigate or relocate the courts...." is also misleading from what I recall, at least from the date of my involvement. In addition to the report, the task force and the CSD investigated alternative measures for play other than at the park, including opening discussions with the Buckeye school district for a potential shared use of the Camerado Middle School courts, adjacent to the CSD.
6. Lastly, in addition to the report and other measures, the task force investigated options for further reduction in hours, quieter pickleballs and paddles (yes, they do exist) and other parks within the CSD that could potentially be converted to pickleball use. I believe the pickleball users at the park were accepting of the exploration of off-site options, however until those could be realized, they wanted continued play at the Lake even if it required the incorporation of the proposed measures, including significantly reduced play hours. It is my understanding that the CSD Board voted to approve the re-opening of the Lake courts to pickleball if the permit was approved and the following concessions offered by the court users were implemented:
 - No Play before 9:00 am or after 7:00 pm
 - No Play on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday at all
 - A maximum of six of the eight available courts may be used before noon, with the empty court being closest to the Gates' fence. Maximum of four courts may be used after noon (permanent courts only)
 - Publish/Post and encourage the use of a 'quiet' paddle list and quieter USAPA approved balls.
 - Continue to investigate sound reduction barriers and materials to reduce the noise leaving the property. Board approval would be needed for type and extent for cost and budgeting reasons.

The bottom line, is that the CSD and the pickleball community all want to be good neighbors with the Gates as well as any of the other neighbors that may be concerned, but who have not taken the time or effort to get as involved as the Gates' have done. From my recollection, rarely did anyone other than the Gates' bother to show up at a committee meeting when pickleball noise was discussed during my tenure with the task force. Significant concessions have been offered to the Gate's with a continued unwillingness to accept anything other than complete elimination of Pickleball play at the CP Lake Courts, regardless of potential benefit of the proposed measures. Wanting elimination of play without allowing any of the mitigation options to be implemented is disingenuous and unfair to the many other users of the park. Is assuming that nothing will help really an option? We all get the fact that the houses adjacent the tennis courts have enjoyed relative peace and quiet when the courts stayed largely unused and

unoccupied and now that they are, have a new reality, but doesn't that go along with living next to a park? If the tennis courts were regularly filled with 40-60 players all talking and having fun, making noise and bashing the ball with zeal, or if there were heavily used volleyball courts, I would assume that may be an issue also? Parks are not quiet zones. If it was open space, that would be different. There is significant value and a major investment going largely unused right now. The park users want to enjoy their favorite sports without feeling guilty about bothering the neighbors, but solving this challenge requires **collaboration, compromise, and mutual respect, not a one-sided, all-or-nothing, win-loose mentality.**

The termination of play at the park due to the unapproved permit, has resulted in the disruption of recreation and social interaction between the literally hundreds of park users who came, even if on occasion, to play pickleball and see their friends in a location central to many of them. The gathering place it once was, hopefully will be restored and all the many friends and families who are now splintered all over El Dorado County, mostly using costly private club courts, can come back to reestablish the wonderful community we all enjoyed being part of. The inability to gather at the Lake Courts and enjoy a shared activity has denied the community of a valuable amenity and has significantly fractured and disrupted a large group of many seniors and retirees who have been gathering at the park courts to play and socialize. This group has grown and bonded through their inclusive and welcoming behavior, and love of the game. The regular users of the courts offered free lessons to the community, provided stewardship of the courts and spread their love of the game and what it has introduced into their lives, including exercise, social interaction, fresh air and sunshine, as well as the spirit of competition where physicality, gender and age are not major limiting factors.

It is for these reasons that I urge you to accept the permit as submitted by the CSD and approved by your staff and deny any appeals that prevent that from happening.

Additional considerations:

I am not an expert in CEQA or administrative permits, that is your domain, however in the appeal response it notes that CEQA may apply here. This may be for County Council to determine, however a quick search on-line notes numerous examples of public entities converting underutilized tennis courts for pickleball use and applying the categorical exemption (see <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2021120091> + attached)

The appeal notes correctly that noise complaints are a growing problem as well as the associated lawsuits and I can't opine about the number of complaints and or the success or lack thereof in defending those complaints, however I think it is fair to say that with the rapid growth of the sport, there has been and will continue to be an increase in the number of complaints. What is absent from the documentation in the appeal, is how many court conversions have occurred throughout the US and Canada in recent years. The appellant and the press accounts included, like to focus on the negative and those which have resulted in neighbor concerns and in some cases litigation, but I would also submit that where complaints

have occurred, many were likely resolved in part through compromise and mutual concessions, which have been proposed here. A quick Google search online will give you a pretty quick sense at the number of cities in California alone that have or are considering tennis court conversions to Pickleball. Just a few that I picked up in a quick search, were Mission Viejo, San Bernadino, City of Orange, Coronado, Chino Hills, Brea, Riverbank, Corte Madera, San Fernando, Hesperia, Cupertino, Shasta Lake,....If I had to guess, I would say literally hundreds, maybe even thousands of conversions across the country have occurred in the past few years. The reason is simple, the demand for courts has vastly outstripped the available existing court space and to satisfy the demand, public entities are looking to existing underutilized infrastructure, which provides the most cost-effective solution.

Much of the existing public court space exists within parks in the neighborhoods they serve and as the needs of the community evolve, so must the parks. It would be nice if the Community Service Districts and Cities that operate parks had available vacant land far from noise sensitive spaces, but that is simply not the case. This leaves few options but to utilize existing infrastructure and incorporate noise control along with compromises such as reduced hours.

The CSD's and City Parks Departments exist to provide recreational opportunities for the constituents they serve. Many seniors and community members want Pickleball within their public parks, as not everyone has the resources or desire to join private clubs.

The stats on the growth of Pickleball to date is astonishing, with a double digit expected growth rate through 2030. It is now the third highest participant sport behind biking and running. There is currently an inadequate supply of courts to meet the demand and it will only get worse. El Dorado County has a particularly acute shortage of public courts, with only a few (without Cameron Park Lake) for the entire west slope of El Dorado County.

I close by thanking you for reading and encourage you to approve the Request for approval of a staff level review and recommendation for Planning Director approval of Administrative Permit Application ADM23-0014 to allow for four dedicated pickleball courts, two multiuse pickleball/tennis courts and one dedicated tennis court for the use and enjoyment of the El Dorado County community.

Respectfully Yours,

Lowell Shields, PE

attachments

ceqa.net.spr.ca.gov/2021120091

Proposition 68 Grant - Laurel Park Tennis Court

Summary

SCH Number

2021120091

Public Agency

City of Los Alamitos

Document Title

Proposition 68 Grant - Laurel Park Tennis Court

Document Type

NOE - Notice of Exemption

Received

12/6/2021

Posted

12/6/2021

Document Description

Laurel Park Tennis Courts Project – includes re-surfacing of the tennis courts and converting on courts into four permanent pickleball courts, replace mesh fencing, and new benches and trash APN 241-241-34 & 35. (City Initiated).

Contact Information

Name

Tom Oliver

Agency Name

City of Los Alamitos

Job Title

Associate Planner

Contact Types

Lead/Public Agency / Project Applicant / Parties Undertaking Project

Address

3191 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Phone

(562) 431-3538

Email

toliver@cityoflosalamitos.org

Location

Cities

Los Alamitos

Counties

Orange

Regions

Citywide

Cross Streets

Los Alamitos Blvd. and Bloomfield Street

Total Acres

90720

Notice of Exemption

Exempt Status

Categorical Exemption

Type, Section or Code

Class 1 Section 15301

Reasons for Exemption

The proposed use is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301, the proposed project is exempt under the Class 1 (Existing Facilities) since the proposed project involves the re-surfacing of existing tennis courts and converting one court into four permanent pickleball courts. Further, it will replace existing mesh fencing, bench

receptacles in a manner that includes no expansion of the footprint beyond the existing area. A public services and facilities are already available to the proposed project site, and approval of proposed project would not result in significant adverse effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality.

County Clerk

Orange

Attachments

Notice of Exemption



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Yuba City

Purpose:

To renovate and diversify Sam Brannan Park athletic facilities by converting the existing tennis courts to a multi-purpose pickleball and tennis court facility.

Background:

In 1965, the existing tennis courts at Sam Brannan Park (810 Gray Avenue) were installed. The courts have required numerous resurfacing and overlay treatments over time in order to maintain an adequate playing surface. Currently, the courts are in poor condition due to age and weathering, and the best corrective measure is a complete reconstruction.

In recent years, the popularity of tennis has gradually declined, while the popularity of pickleball has increased significantly around the region. In 2017, the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) reported that pickleball currently has approximately 2.8 million players in the US, an increase of 12.3% in one year. Pickleball is a multi-generational sport with wide appeal.

In April 2017, the Yuba City area Pickleball Club President approached the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding programming a pickleball program and forming a potential partnership with the club. The Pickleball Club was formed in 2017. Since the inception of the club, approximately 60 to 80 people have joined and participated in the sport locally. Currently, there are no outside courts to play on and very limited space indoors.

The table below lists area cities/recreation districts which have remodeled or completely transformed their tennis courts to pickleball courts and the resulting community engagement.

Location	Courts	Participants	Tournaments
Roseville	11 indoor	120-200	2 times a year
Citrus Heights	6 outdoor	280	2 times a year
Livermore	6 indoor	150	1 time a year
Chico	4 outdoor	98-135	2 times a year
Folsom	7 indoor	140-160	N/A

Staff has monitored the use of the four Sam Brannan Park tennis courts and only one court has been used sporadically in the last nine months, which we believe is due to the current condition of the courts and the decline in popularity of tennis.

Yuba City Unified is partnering with the City on this project, as students from Gray Avenue Middle School will utilize the new facility for PE classes during their pickleball unit.

On May 1, 2018, Council approved the plans and specifications for the Sam Brannan Court Restoration and Conversion Project and authorized the Public Works Department to advertise for bids.

Yuba City

Environmental:

Staff has performed a preliminary environmental assessment of this project and has determined that it falls within the Class 1 Categorical Exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, as the improvements merely replace the existing tennis courts with pickleball courts in an existing recreational facility, and there will be negligible or no expansion of that facility, which will continue to be used for recreational purposes. Further, none of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in CEQA Guidelines 15300.2 apply to this project.

Alternatives:

Reject all bids and cancel the project.

Recommendation:

- A. Adopt a finding of Class 1 Categorical Exemption for the project per CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities).
- B. Accept all bids, award the bid to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, and enter into Contract No. 18-03 Sam Brannan Court Restoration and Conversion with Saviano Co., Inc. of San Jose, CA in the amount of their total base bid of \$220,300 with a bid alternate of \$27,000, for a total bid of \$247,300.
- C. Authorize the City Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the City, in substantial compliance with the material terms and conditions presented in the attached draft agreement, subject to review and approval as to legal form by the City Attorney.
- D. Authorize the Finance Director to make the following supplemental appropriations and transfers:
 1. Transfer CDBG Budget Appropriation from 204-6334 to project 961263-65501 in the amount of \$115,400.
 2. Record a supplemental appropriation to project 901263-65501 in the amount of \$63,630.
 3. Transfer Budget Appropriation of \$30,000 from project 901222 (Annual Playground Replacement) to project 901263.
 4. Transfer Parks and Recreation Vehicle Replacement funds of \$51,630 from the Vehicle Replacement fund to project 901263.

Attachments:

1. Contract No. 18-03
2. Project Location Map



AGENDA REPORT

Consent

7

Meeting Date

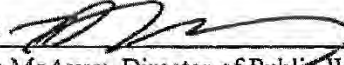

November 15, 2022

SUBJECT: LANG PARK PERMANENT PICKLEBALL COURT CONVERSION, AND CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION UNDER CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by the Recreation Committee that the City Council:

1. Direct staff to convert the one tennis court at Lang Park into three permanent pickleball courts, and approve a Categorical Exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Appropriation: _____ **Fund Name:** _____

Submitted By:  **Approved:** 
Mark McAvoy, Director of Public Works Shohreh Dupuis, City Manager

SUMMARY OF THE MATTER

The City Council has previously approved the following actions to expand pickleball opportunities within the City:

- On February 7, 2017, the City Council approved funding to convert the Lang Park tennis court into a multi-use court on a trial basis, accommodating both tennis and pickleball.
- On November 17, 2020, the City Council approved adding a third pickleball court on the Lang Park tennis court, expanding dedicated pickleball hours, and utilizing the court as a multi-use tennis and pickleball court at all other times.
- On July 27, 2021, the City Council approved the conversion of one tennis court at Alta Laguna Park to three permanent pickleball courts while maintaining two temporary pickleball courts on a second multi-use tennis court.

On August 8, 2022, the Recreation Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the City Council direct staff to install permanent pickleball nets at the three Lang Park pickleball courts and convert the Lang Park court to a pickleball-only facility.

Prior to the November 15, 2022 City Council meeting, staff noticed neighbors within a 300-foot radius of Lang Park to inform residents of the public meeting regarding the proposed court changes.

If the recommended changes are approved by the City Council, staff will proceed with the improvements at Lang Park, including the installation of Acoustiblok sound-reduction fencing, while also continuing to work with the pickleball community on court hours and rules, as well as options for additional court capacity.



**TOWN OF DISCOVERY BAY
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

RESOLUTION 2020-02

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TOWN OF DISCOVERY BAY,
AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR A LOCAL GRANT WITH
EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONVERTING
TENNIS COURTS INTO PICKLEBALL COURTS AT THE
DISCOVERY BAY COMMUNITY CENTER, ADOPTING A CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION
FOR THE PURPOSES OF SATISFYING THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT,
APPROVING THE PROJECT, AND DIRECTING THE GENERAL MANAGER
TO FILE A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION WITH THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CLERK**

WHEREAS, the Town of Discovery Bay Community Services District ("District") is a government agency organized and existing under the laws of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to apply for \$68,804.00 of Measure WW funds to convert two (2) tennis courts to six (6) pickleball courts located at the Discovery Bay Community Center; and

WHEREAS, the Discovery Bay Recreation and Sports, Inc. has committed to donate up to \$30,000 to supplement the grant funds to ensure enough monies are available to fully fund the conversion project; and

WHEREAS, the District is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") for the Tennis Court Conversion to Pickleball Courts at Community Center Project ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project falls within the categorical exemptions to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Repair to existing public facilities, pursuant to Section 15301 (Class 1) of the Guidelines for CEQA; and

WHEREAS, the Project also falls within the categorical exemptions under CEQA, Replacement or Reconstruction, pursuant to Section 15302 (Class 2); and

WHEREAS, the Project is categorically exempt under CEQA as a minor alteration and reconstruction of an existing facility on the same site for substantially the same purpose pursuant to Sections 15301 and 15302 of the Guidelines for CEQA, California Administrative Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19; and

WHEREAS, all other legal prerequisites to the adoption of this resolution have been met.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TOWN OF DISCOVERY BAY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The above recitals are true and correct.

Section 2: The General Manager is authorized to apply for a Measure WW Grant in the amount of \$68,804.00 to convert two (2) tennis courts to six (6) pickleball courts located at the Discovery Bay Community Center.

Notice of Exemption

TO: Contra Costa County
Clerk's Office
555 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

From: Town of Discovery Bay
1800 Willow Lake Rd.
Discovery Bay, CA 94505

Project Title: Tennis Court Conversion to Pickleball Courts at Community Center

Project Applicant: Town of Discovery Bay, 1800 Willow Lake Road, Discovery Bay, CA 94505

Project Location: 1601 Discovery Bay Blvd, Discovery Bay, CA 94505

Project Location – City: Discovery Bay

Project Location – County: Contra Costa

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Conversion of two (2) tennis courts to six (6) pickleball courts located at the Discovery Bay Community Center. The purpose of this project is to add recreational value and a new sport to the residents of Discovery Bay.

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project: Town of Discovery Bay CSD (District)

Name of Lead Agency Carrying Out the Project: Town of Discovery Bay Community Services District
925-634-1733

Exempt Status: (check one)

Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));

Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Repair to existing public facilities, pursuant to Guidelines for CEQA, Regulation Sec. 15301; Replacement or Reconstruction pursuant to Guidelines for CEQA, Regulation Sec. 15302

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code Sec. 21080.21, Guidelines for CEQA, Regulation Sec. 15269(b)



City of Palo Alto
City Council Staff Report

(ID # 10311)

Report Type: Consent Calendar

Meeting Date: 6/3/2019

Summary Title: Mitchell Park Court Park Improvement Ordinance

Title: Adoption of a Park Improvement Ordinance for Pickleball Courts at Mitchell Park

From: City Manager

Lead Department: Community Services

Recommended

Staff recommends that City Council adopt a Park Improvement Ordinance (Attachment A) for pickleball courts at Mitchell Park.

Background

The City of Palo Alto (City) has seen an increase in the number of pickleball players and requests for pickleball space. The Palo Alto Pickleball Club (formally Silicon Valley Pickleball Club) has been very active in Palo Alto. The club began using Mitchell Park Tennis Courts 5, 6, 7 on a first-come first-serve basis, which was not supported by the City's court policy. Staff saw an increase in pickleball play and felt it was important to address the growing demand for pickleball space. On August 28, 2018, staff presented recommended changes to the Court Use Policy to the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC). These changes would allow pickleball players to use Mitchell Park Courts 5,6,7 on a first come- first serve basis as well as providing dedicated times in evenings and weekends. These policy recommendations were supported by the PRC and approved by City Council on October 15, 2018. Both staff reports can be found here:

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?t=47888.16&BlobID=66491>
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?t=59206.86&BlobID=67123>

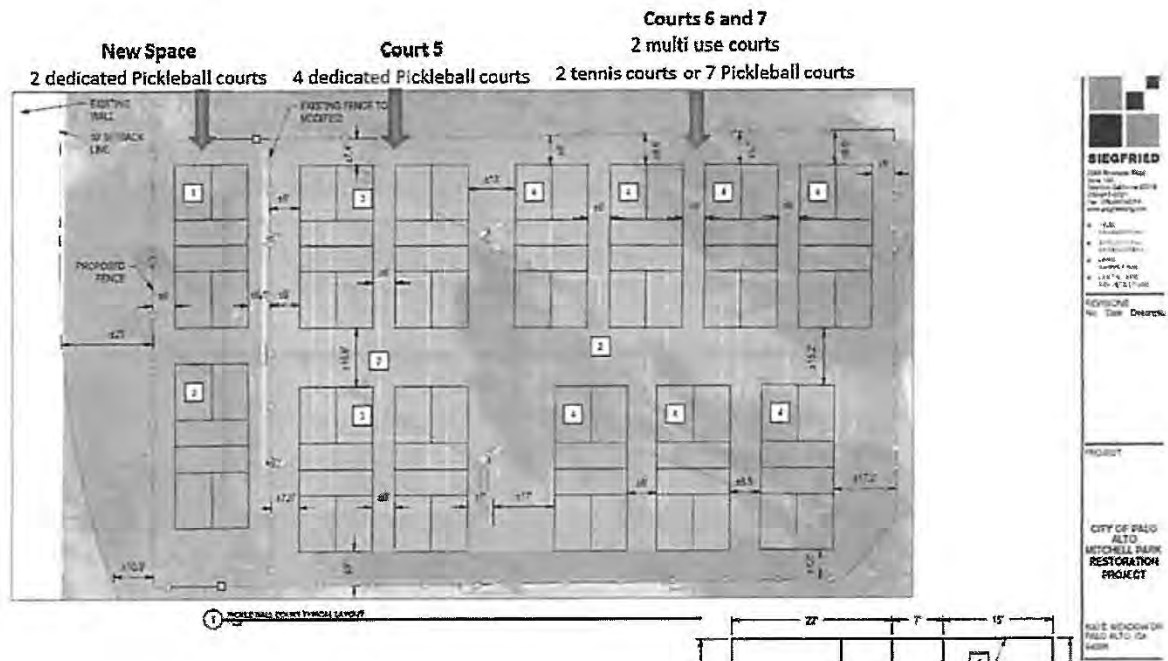
Discussion

The policy change legitimized the use of courts by pickleball players and provided dedicated times for pickleball play. However, the policy change still does not provide enough designated space to meet demand. When the pickleball community uses Mitchell Park courts 5, 6, 7 they must put together nets that they have purchased, set them up and take them down. With the continued growth of pickleball, staff feels it is important to provide additional, dedicated pickleball space for the Palo Alto community to use.

The Community Services Department and a PRC Ad Hoc Committee began looking into available space to provide designated pickleball courts. Given the extensive pickleball play on Mitchell Park Tennis Courts 5, 6, 7, staff proposed converting those courts to permanent pickleball courts. The proposal was met with resistance from the tennis community, specifically around the idea of losing lit courts and preferring a method that kept the courts available for joint use. As a result, staff and the PRC Ad Hoc Committee continued to explore other options for dedicated pickleball courts.

The proposal below is a design that minimizes the loss of lighted tennis courts, provides enough dedicated pickleball space to handle evening play and keeps the use of joint space to provide expansion for high demand times. The proposal includes the following changes to Mitchell Park courts 5,6, and 7:

- Area outside of Mitchell Park court 5 becomes 2 newly constructed pickleball courts
- Mitchell Park tennis court 5 is converted to 4 designated pickleball courts
- Mitchell Park Tennis Courts 6 and 7 remain multi-use courts with times designated for pickleball and tennis. Pickleball would be given priority 8:00am-2:30pm seven days a week. Tennis would be given priority 3:00 pm-10pm seven days a week. If courts are not in use, anyone can use the court but must vacate the space if the priority sport arrives and needs the space.



This plan would result in:

- Eight designated pickleball courts, including two that were recently converted paddleball courts. Four of the courts are lighted.
- Four designated lighted tennis courts
- Two multi-use lighted courts (two tennis courts, or seven pickleball courts)

Public Outreach

On February 19, 2019, staff held a public meeting to discuss the proposal to the users of the Mitchell Park courts. There were approximately 60 people in attendance; most of the users were pickleball players with a smaller contingent of tennis players. A summary of feedback received at the meeting is below.

Pickleball feedback:

- Would like a seating area included in design
- Addition of water fountain would benefit all court users
- Likes the mix of dedicated hours for multi-use courts, split seems fair

Environmental Review

This Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Regulation 15303 for New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Mitchell Park Pickleball Park Improvement Ordinance

NOT YET ADOPTED

SECTION 3. The City Council finds that this ordinance falls under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemptions found in Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15303 (New Construction of Small Facilities or Structures).

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall be effective on the thirty-first day after the date of its adoption.

INTRODUCED:

PASSED:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Deputy City Attorney

Mayor

APPROVED:

City Manager

Director of Community Services

Director of Administrative Services



CITY OF CORONADO

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

MAY 3, 2022

10b

REVIEW TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL COURT USAGE DATA AND 2022 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS, PROVIDE DIRECTION ON COURT RESURFACING SCOPE OF WORK AND TAKE RELATED ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive court usage data and review the results of the 2022 Tennis and Pickleball Community Survey, provide direction on a revised scope of work for the 2022 court resurfacing project, and take related actions as appropriate.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Coronado operates and maintains 15 USTA standard doubles size tennis courts with a current configuration that provides 14 tennis courts and 4 temporary pickleball courts:

Coronado Tennis Center (Glorietta Bay)	8 Tennis Courts
Library	2 Tennis Courts
Cays Park	4 Tennis Courts; 4 temporary Pickleball Courts

The Tennis Center-Glorietta Bay and Library tennis courts are used exclusively for tennis. At Cays Park, courts #1-4 are used for tennis and court #5 is taped with temporary markings to create four pickleball courts in the space of the single tennis court area. Cays Park Court #1 is a "soft top" cushioned court, but its degraded condition reduces the quality of play and the court is considered less desirable. In addition, Coronado High School (CHS) operates and maintains four courts. These courts may be used by the community when not used for school programming.

Pickleball is played at the Cays Park Courts, indoor at the Community Center and the Coronado Island Marriott Resort.

In April 2021, during a Special City Council meeting to discuss the Coronado Tennis Center's operations, the City Council requested information about the utilization of the City's tennis courts. This data was to inform the Council about the type and intensity of court use. In July 2021, the City advertised for bids for a court resurfacing project as court conditions were degrading and the courts were due for their cyclical resurfacing. Courts are generally resurfaced between four to seven years and the City's courts were last resurfaced in 2015. Consideration of the court resurfacing contract award was pulled from a subsequent City Council agenda to provide for a holistic review of court usage and the interests of the tennis and pickleball communities. A separate agenda item on the May 3, 2022 City Council agenda recommends rejection of the bids from the July 2021 solicitation so that the scope of work can be redefined, and the project rebid.

ANALYSIS:

This agenda report provides data on court usage and presents the results of the 2022 Tennis and Pickleball Community Survey. With this information, the Council is asked to provide direction about the scope of work for a court resurfacing project, as well as potential short- and long-term actions to support the needs of Coronado's racket sports.

In the Survey Results, each question is summarized, and graphical data presented (Attachment 1). Staff compiled the short answer questions into like-sentiment groups and selected pertinent quotations for the report. Many respondents offered multiple thoughts for a single question and therefore more sentiments were noted than the total actual responses received for a question.

A summary of results follows:

- The respondents represent both resident and nonresident tennis and pickleball patrons who utilize City facilities. Of the 726 individuals that completed the survey, 67.5% were Coronado residents.
- About 55 percent of respondents played tennis, 69 percent played pickleball. The overlap is from respondents playing both sports.
- The majority of respondents report playing between 1 and 4 times per month, for both sports.
- The majority of respondents prefer to play between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m.
- The top two locations to play tennis and pickleball in Coronado is Cays Park and the Coronado Tennis Center. Most respondents report only playing in Coronado.
- About 42 percent of respondents report having a somewhat difficult or very difficult time reserving court time. When sorted to resident responses only, about 64 percent of tennis players have it easy or neutral to reserve a court. For pickleball players, about 50 percent of resident respondents responded as such. In general, supply of courts for pickleball players was one of the most noted responses for court reservations.
- Blended line courts (with permanent markings for both pickleball and tennis in a single area) were disfavored. Over 62 percent of tennis players found dedicated courts important; about 74 percent of pickleball players answered the same. When filtered to resident only responses, 68 percent pickleball and tennis players alike found dedicated courts important to very important.

The survey provided open ended questions about court experience and suggestions for improvement. The overwhelming responses were the lack of dedicated pickleball courts, poor court conditions and crowded courts/court availability.

After the survey results were compiled, staff met with leadership from the Coronado Tennis Association (CTA) and Pickleball Coronado Association (PCA). City staff also met with and informally solicited feedback from players in a regular morning tennis seniors group at Cays Park Courts.

In addition to the feedback in the survey, the CTA indicated that courts are getting busier with more programming, and reservations need to be made well in advance. The upgraded LED lights have worked very well and additional lights would increase the availability of courts for winter evening play, especially in the 5 to 7 p.m. period. The courts at the Coronado Tennis Center courts have different attributes ranging from sun orientation, to full or half windscreens, to access to courts, and court condition, which should be considered in determining future improvements. The Cays Courts can be less desirable due to the degraded condition of the soft top Court #1, the distant location and quality of the restrooms and the lack of seating or a clubhouse facility. Additional comments offered on Cays Park included the lack of refillable bottle water stations, shade, handwashing stations and indoor space. Pickleball attracts spectators and a suggestion was to have a wall without a windscreen and seating.

Short- and Longer-Term Options

After consideration of the data, survey results and discussions with the sports communities, staff have options for the Council's consideration.

The first pertains to the scope of work for the court resurfacing contract. In addition to the Cays Park basketball court and Glorietta Bay wall ball/practice court, an option is to resurface the City's 15 courts as previously planned with three differences from the 2021 scope of work:

- (1) Resurface Cays Park Court #1, the existing soft top court, with a traditional court surface;
- (2) Convert Cays Park Court #5 to four pickleball courts with dedicated lines; and
- (3) Include the four CHS Courts as an add alternate line item to the bid so that the Coronado Unified School District may elect into the project, if desired and at the District's cost, and take advantage of the competitive pricing from the larger City bid.

This approach will provide dedicated public pickleball courts, which represents an upgrade from the temporary, taped lined at Cays Court #5. It will bring an underused Cays Park Court (#1) to a condition for more universal playability. Finally, it will provide the option for the high school courts to join the City's project. Those courts were resurfaced on a more recent cycle than the City's 15 courts and resurfacing may not be immediately needed.

Staff also see an opportunity for potential collaboration with the Coronado Island Marriott to support community access to the pickleball courts. Should Council be interested, staff can reach out and discuss possibilities.

Finally, with the Cays Park Master Plan process in the development phase for plan alternates and community engagement, there is an opportunity to consider the Cays Park Courts and amenities offered there. In the Council's recent Cays Park Master Plan discussion, moving the tennis courts elsewhere in the park was not favored, but there could be consideration of bathroom location and quality, and other courtside amenities, court enhancements or expansion to improve the experience and encourage use.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no immediate fiscal impact. Should Council direct staff to rebid the court resurfacing contract, there will be a subsequent agenda item to award the contract and authorize expenditure. Funds are appropriated in the Capital Improvement Program for this project.

ALTERNATIVE:

The Council may provide different direction or may chose not to move forward with a court resurfacing contract at this time.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT:

Not applicable.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

None required.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2022 Tennis and Pickleball Community Survey Results

Submitted By: City Manager's Office / Tina Friend



CITY OF LOMITA CITY COUNCIL REPORT

TO: Mayor and City Council **Item No. SCH 8a**

FROM: Ryan Smoot, City Manager

PREPARED BY: Emma Kelley, Recreation Manager

MEETING DATE: November 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Discussion and Consideration of Installation of Pickleball Court at Lomita Park

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission to authorize the installation of a hybrid pickleball court overlaid onto the existing basketball court at Lomita Park.

BACKGROUND

Over the last many months, City staff have received increasing interest from residents and park patrons in bringing the sport of Pickleball to the City of Lomita.

Pickleball has become a fast-growing sport with elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. Played with a paddle and a plastic ball with holes and can be enjoyed by all ages and skill levels.

A pickleball court is the same size as a doubles badminton court and measures 20x44 feet. The court is striped similar to a tennis court with right and left service courts. Courts can be constructed specifically for pickleball, or they can be converted using existing tennis or badminton courts.

It is recommended that pickleball courts be placed 300 ft – 600 ft away from residential homes to avoid noise constraints. And facing north to south, so that sunlight isn't obstructing players vision during play.

At its meeting on July 26, 2022, the Parks and Recreation Commission, requested discussion on the topic, and asked staff to prepare some background information for their consideration. On September 27th, staff presented its findings and the commission discussed possibilities for recommendation to the City Council.

DISCUSSION

With Pickleball being such a fast-growing and popular sport, many surrounding cities are exploring ways to provide facilities to accommodate the sport within their communities. Some of the recent efforts of area communities are outlined below:

- The City of Torrance currently has 8 total Pickleball Courts within the city at Wilson Park, Sur La Brea Park, and Walteria Park with more possible courts being considered at other possible locations.
- South Bay Tennis Center in Rolling Hills Rd. has 17 brands new pickleball courts.
- The City of Redondo Beach has explored and will be installing 13 Pickleball Courts within the City at Alta Vista Park, Perry Park, and Aviation Park.
- The City of Hermosa Beach currently has 4 court locations at Kelly Court, but two of those courts are currently closed.
- The City of Manhattan Beach has 7 Pickleball courts within the city at Manhattan Heights Park.
- The City of El Segundo has 4 courts on 1 multi-purpose Tennis Court with additional temporary courts added by staff by laying downlines with tape when needed.

Each agency has express challenges related to space, noise, conflicts with other sports, and costs, with the primary constraint being noise. Residents that live near a park or facility where pickleball is played have express concerns of excessive noise a Pickleball ball creates.

Other concerns have been raised with regard to additional lines added to existing tennis courts or basketball courts which can create confusion to those learning to play that sport.

Within the City of Lomita, park and open space is extremely limited with only one programed park – Lomita Park. In considering locations for possible installation of pickleball courts in the city, two locations were primarily considered – Hathaway Park (which is unstaffed) and Lomita Park, each with their own challenges and constraints.

Two options for court installation at Hathaway Park were considered – conversion or hybrid installation at the existing basketball courts, or construction of a stand-alone court toward the rear of the park. In review of these options, it was determined that in either instance, the proximity to surrounding residential uses may create problems related to noise and other concerns. It was also determined that the costs of construction of a stand-alone court could be prohibitive. The Commission is not recommending any installation at Hathaway Park at this time, though it could be considered in the future should there be increased demand.

Currently, Lomita Park offers tennis courts and one basketball court, among other amenities. City staff reports that the Lomita Park tennis courts are heavily used throughout the day, especially in the early mornings. The City offers adult tennis classes Monday and Wednesday mornings with youth tennis taking place in the early afternoon on Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays. We also offer weeklong tennis camps during the summertime.

The Lomita Park outdoor basketball courts are also heavily used in the afternoon typically starting around 12:00pm. In addition to general public users, the Lomita Park youth basketball programs use the outside court during the months of January and March from 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm Monday through Thursday for youth practices. And in the summertime for our notorious and admired weeklong, Lomita Park Youth Basketball Camp. Offered in June and July of each summer.

Although the existing outdoor courts are slightly less than the recommended distance from residential uses, staff considered possibilities for installation of hybrid court striping at Lomita Park over the existing tennis courts and/or over the basketball court. Ultimately, because of anticipated conflicts with the heavily used courts and confusion associated with the installation of striping over the tennis courts, staff is not recommending any changes to the existing tennis courts.

In exploring the possibility of installing hybrid court lines on the outdoor basketball court, staff explored two options – first, installation of dual (side by side) courts, and secondly installation of a single court striping. Ultimately it was determined that there is insufficient space within the existing court to install dual courts and maintain adequate safety clearances around the court edges. There was also concern that the additional lines could create confusion for those learning to play basketball through the City's existing programs. Should this option be considered, staff recommended installation of additional slats in the existing fencing to help mitigate the effects of additional noise to the extent possible.

After discussion and consideration of all of these options, the Parks and Recreation Commission is recommending that the City Council authorize the installation of a hybrid pickleball court overlaid onto the existing basketball court at Lomita Park, and direct City staff to implement appropriate signage, sound mitigation and programming to support its use. As proposed, drop-in play would take place Tuesday and Thursday 8:00am – 12:00pm.

OPTIONS

1. Approve the recommended action
2. Discuss, and provide alternative direction.
3. Take no action



HEALDSBURG PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM:	5.a. Pickleball
MEETING DATE:	November 17, 2021
PREPARED BY:	Mark Themig, Community Services Director
REQUESTED ACTION:	<u>Receive an update on the evolution of Pickleball, the City's response to support the sport, and options for the future</u>

BACKGROUND:

Pickleball is an "age-friendly" option for older adults and people of all ages, and has recently seen significant interest and growth in participation. According to the United States Pickleball Association (USPA), pickleball is a court sport played on a badminton-sized court with the net set to a height of 34 inches at the center. It is played with a perforated plastic ball similar to a wiffle ball and composite or wooden paddles about twice the size of ping-pong paddles. It can be played indoors or outdoors and is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players. In addition, the game has developed a passionate following due to its friendly, social nature, and its multi-generational appeal. It's typically played on a standard tennis court or court specially designed and constructed for pickleball.

Pickleball is also an option for to remain active as people age, and for many it is a transition from tennis for reasons such as:

1. Smaller court size = lower impact on the joints
2. Lighter ball = easier reaction time for a person slower reflex, poor eyesight
3. Racket has no strings = less stress on tendons in the arm
4. Play is underhand = easier range of motion
5. Social/educational = learning a new sport good for the brain, meet new people & is a social activity
6. Cost effective & Portable = Rackets range from \$50-\$150, ball is \$2 & the racket is twice the size of standard ping pong paddle. Attire is comfortable clothing for a court sport, there is no special attire needed.

After a tennis court use analysis and lively community debate, in 2018 the City created its first pickleball court with the striping of pickleball lines on one of the tennis courts at Giorgi Park. The pickleball community also added temporary lines to two sports courts at the High School, and the City created an indoor pickleball court at the Community Center for the winter months. In addition, the Montage resort has installed pickleball courts, and pickleball courts are also part of the Honor Mansion redevelopment project on Grove Street. Both facilities are private and not open to the public.

DISCUSSION:

Interest and participation in pickleball continues to grow nationally, throughout California, and locally in Sonoma County. Several local communities have added pickleball to existing tennis courts, as well as building new dedicated pickleball courts. The City has incorporated pickleball into its master plans for

both the new park in the Montage Development and the redevelopment of Badger Park, with construction likely to begin in 2023.

Options for Supporting Pickleball

Staff has been meeting with representatives of the local pickleball community over the past several months to work on options for providing more pickleball opportunities in Healdsburg. As part of this work the City added lines for a second pickleball court at the Giorgi Park tennis courts earlier this fall. Other options that we have explored included:

- A. Partnering with the School District to resurface the sports courts at the High School and developing pickleball as the primary sport and tennis secondary on the sports courts.

This option has the lowest cost and fastest project to deliver. However, the High School restricts the public on the school site during school hours. The District is willing to allow the City to develop a monitoring program using volunteers for use of the courts during school use hours, provided the courts aren't being used for school activities. These courts also have lights.

- B. Identifying potential locations for constructing new courts. We looked at two sites that have potential for new court development, in addition to the parks that are being master planned: (1) the Giorgi Park turf area next to the basketball court and (2) the site directly north of the Community Center parking lot.

This option has the highest cost and would take the longest to deliver. The Giorgi Park site would accommodate three dedicated courts; the pickleball community has expressed a strong interest in four dedicated courts. The Community Center site could easily accommodate four or more courts. However, parking is limited and sometimes full depending on activities.

- C. Creating interim courts on the south side of the Community Center.

Using a portion of the south side of the Community Center asphalt area has potential to create four dedicated pickleball courts, plus improve one of the basketball courts with new painting and lines that could add a dual use pickleball option for an additional two or three more pickleball courts. While we would lose space for other activities like parking or event staging, staff thinks that both can be accommodated. Given the condition of the asphalt this would likely be an interim step until the City can create permanent pickleball facilities elsewhere. We are working with our surfacing contractor to do a test area to see what the condition of the asphalt would be following the application of the surfacing material.

In our discussions with the pickleball community, staff recommends that the City move ahead with a modified option "A." and option "C.". Modified option A. would involve working with the District to develop an addendum to the City/District joint use agreement that would allow public use of the pickleball courts at specified times during school hours with a volunteer monitoring program that would track who is on the District property. There would be no improvements to the courts. This is a low/no cost option.

Option C. would make improvements to the asphalt area on the south side of the Community Center as described above, provided the surfacing test area has satisfactory results. This option is estimated to cost +/- \$150,000.

Funding

The City's adopted FY20-25 Capital Improvement Program includes a place holder for development of the new Montage development park site and with Badger Park's redevelopment. However, as the

24% responded
more pickleball cts!

Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
1	Would love to have more pickleball courts available in Menlo Park. Ideally at Nealon Park, where there is a critical mass of players already using the courts.
2	It is 3 to us to have more pickleball courts in Nealon Park, they are almost always full while the tennis courts are underutilized and could be made into temporary pickleball courts while retaining one for tennis. Pickleball creates a great sense of community but also is good for our mental well being. Check out Mitchell Park in Palo Alto. Thank you.
3	My wife and I play pickleball practically everyday since August 2021 at Nealon Park. We need more pickleball courts at Nealon. Shared pickleball courts on tennis courts 3 and 4. When the tennis players leave the pickleball nets can be placed on the tennis courts. It is possible to make 4, 6 or 8 pickleball courts on tennis courts 3 and 4. Thank you for supporting pickleball in Menlo Park.
4	We need more access to a pool for regular swimming lessons and open swim. Burgess is not handling their scheduling system well. I'm hoping Onetta Harris will be better when it reopens. Getting gymnastics back would be great too.
5	WE need more pickleball courts.
6	We desperately need more pickleball courts at Nealon Park
7	We need more pickleball courts. We need to priority today ver tennis at all times, better if permanent. Pickleball UNLIKE tennis is an open community and shouldn't be places piecemeal around the city. We need a central location or two as there many discourage players who either find the courts empty due to a lack of community or over crowded courts and being turned away.
8	Pickleball has been in creasing in popularity, but Menlo Park has not kept up with enough courts to meet this demand. Tennis courts usage has been on the decline, so some tennis courts should be changed to dual usage for both tennis and pickleball. There is a tremendous amount of illegal private tennis lesson at Nealon Park. I like to see enforcement policy to ban private tennis lessons.
9	Menlo Park should offer pickleball classes for all age groups. To accommodate the explosive growth of interest in pickleball we need to increase the capacity of pickleball courts in our city, both in the very near term (e.g. converting more tennis courts for both pickleball and tennis usage) and long-term (e.g. more permanent dedicated pickleball courts). Pickleball is a very social sports that promotes the sense of community and a wonderful way for our residents physical and mental well being. ; Menlo Park should offer pickleball classes for all age groups. To accommodate the explosive growth of interest in pickleball we need to increase the capacity of pickleball courts in our city, both in the very near term (e.g. converting more tennis courts for both pickleball and tennis usage) and long-term (e.g. more permanent dedicated pickleball courts). Pickleball is a very social sports that promotes the sense of community and a wonderful way for our residents physical and mental well being. For the immediate term I believe converting 2 tennis courts in Nealon Park for dual use of pickleball and tennis is a low-cost and effective way to address the pickleball community's need immediately.
10	Classes for kids and activities as well as sports for kids 7-10
11	Please bring gymnastics back. We have missed the classes and being able to do birthday parties there.
12	Classes for children, art, swimming, math, science etc
13	More pickleball courts!
14	Pickleball classes
15	Menlo Park gretly needs more pickleball facilities. Once more courts are available, there will be the potential for pickleball clinics which may be free or fee based.
16	All the ones listed above are great.
17	We need many more pickleball courts. The pickleball community continues to grow and attract people of all ages. Menlo Park needs to support this growing and active community now, by creating more shared tennis-pickleball courts, and in the future, by developing plans to expand more permanent pickleball courts in addition to the town's tennis courts.
18	More pickleball courts spread throughout the city.
19	Recreation classes need to include more variety. There are many dance, martial arts, and gymnastics classes, but the variety is lacking. For example, the only "art" classes now are sewing. The city has also repeatedly failed to program any classes for individuals with special needs or disabilities or insist that contracted instructors accommodate residents with disabilities. Instead of very specific classes, like drawing or sewing, what about a class that could accommodate a variety of abilities like Mixed Media, collage, non-representational art? Dance classes are very specific to type and age, what about a dance for all class that had a wider age and ability range so more could benefit? The community has identified the need for teen programming for many years but has yet to program for it. If teens don't have positive outlets, they will find not so positive ones.
20	Expanded pickleball courts such as at Nealon Park, not necessarily dedicated to pickleball but another tennis court with the dual stripng
21	Menlo Park residence really should have priority over venues and timeslots. Also, it needs to be VERY affordable. Not just "affordable" considering we're in the area of Atherton and many parts of Menlo Park. If you want Menlo Park residents, in particular Belle Haven residents, to be excited about using facilities and the services, you need to incentivize them. ; Being a Belle Haven resident, I realize I just can't afford things the way other people in the area can. Going to yoga classes was very affordable at the Onetta Harris community center. Also my sons went to karate there as well. Unfortunately the teacher passed away. And they could not find anybody else. I'm not sure if teachers get paid the same no matter which location they work at. I wanted my kids to do gymnastics but really can't afford the gymnastics at Arillaga.
22	Would love access to swimming lessons and activities for young kids with affordable fees.
23	Gardening to feed the family ;), raising bees and chickens
24	Adult King Fu, Kempo or defensive martial arts, gardening, home maintenance/ remodel classes, learn another language, solicit opportunities for local residents to offer classes based around their skills / hobbies

All comments are shown as they were written and submitted by the respondents, and are numbered in the order they were received.

Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
	Having access to child care if a caregivers would like to enroll to community center classes but unable to due to childcare issues Priority to those who reside in Belle Haven
25	Affordable community center classes
26	Pool; gymnastics; sensory play; dance classes; Zumba for adults;
27	- Annual family membership to Burgess and other MP pools is needed - Do not use tennis courts as pickleball courts
	Nursing rooms for nursing/lactating mothers. Infant care classes.
28	Updated track and field.
29	Life skills for teens (handling finances, job interviews, education opportunities). Cooking.
30	More off leash dog access particularly on weekends.
31	Pool use more hours during the year.
32	2 additional mixed-use pickleball / tennis courts at Nealon, more dedicated pickleball courts in the future (across MP)
33	Open the gymnastics classes for children.
34	Just want to have weight/physical exercising classes with discounts to residents
35	Pickleball is hugely popular and growing sport. We need more courts now. Conversion of two more tennis courts at Nealon to 8 pickleball courts (which can be used for tennis or pickleball) is necessary and makes great sense for our community.
36	The pool is critically important for older adults who cannot manage the dry land exercises. However, the pool has been taken over by athletes to the exclusion of ordinary families and seniors.
37	I very much enjoyed and benefitted from Aquatic Wellness for senior citizens. Feel it is 3 to offer this service to seniors as water exercises is the most beneficial and least apt to cause injury than any other programs for Seniors.
38	water wellness programs for elderly and disabled people are important
39	I used to participate (as a Palo Alto resident) in the excellent aqua wellness program at Burgess Pool, but it has not been offered in the same format, at the same times, nor as often, since the Covid shutdown. I swim occasionally and appreciate the warm pool, but have had to find a private aqua wellness program, which is much more expensive and further away.
40	I really appreciate the option to attend meetings in the library or Rec Ctr rooms where community organizations are presenting — such as SFBBO (about local birdwatching) or topics that offer ways to more enjoy where I/we live. I am extremely disappointed at the Burgess Pool's dropping their very successful aquawellness programming in favor of more cardio-focused aqua-exercise or PT, 1:1 type of aqua exercise that are much more expensive and not as valuable to overall whole body conditioning/wellness.
41	Please, open back gymnastics. This is only one gymnastics in Menlo Park/Palo Alto/Stanford area. The classes were so convenient (there were classes for different age kids at the same time). Coaches were super friendly and absolutely kind to kids, Kids loved environment and a huge and bright room. Please, bring it back, now the closest gymnastics for kids is in 25 min drive one way and it is packed. Thank you!
42	Please let us swim in the burgess pool. I cannot afford the private pools and burgess is always too busy with the team sheepher group
43	Please reopen arilaga gymnasium and restart gymnastics!
44	Please reopen gymnastics- such a wonderful program and we can't find anything else like it
	Menlo Park's library is a disappointment compared to other cities (eg Palo Alto). It would be great to see an investment into a better one
	Local music and art classes for toddlers are great, but often full. I'd love to see more. I'd also love to see swim classes for infants/toddlers in menlo park
45	Lastly, it would be interesting to have local block parties to meet neighbors.
46	We would really love for the gymnastics program to be restarted.
47	Aerobic exercise classes after 4 or 5 pm Monday through Friday
48	- Open swim time for families on weekends - Group swim lessons vs. private lessons - Open access to lap swimming in the Performance pool (early morning and evening) so that people who work during the day and can't afford Masters can continue to swim - Limiting rental to other organizations at least until 2023 when the new MPCC opens - Reasonable pricing so all Menlo Park residents can swim - Menlo Park should take back ownership of the pool and end the arrangement it has with its for-profit contractor that has been crowding out public access in favor of private programming.
49	We used classes and programs heavily when the kids were younger. Now that they're tweens/teens there doesn't seem to be as much for them. Would be nice to have a free hangout space to rival downtown and Menlo Church. Some place for them to go now that swimming is over

Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
50	Free swimming lessons for Menlo Park residents. More open swim time for families. Reasonable pricing for swimming so families can afford to swim. Eliminate the programs we do not want. Consider public safety programs aimed at educating the community. For example, run programs on how to make (inexpensive) indoor air filters or how to use a fire extinguisher. I also do not see programs aimed at the residents living in Belle Haven. For example, start a "family time" where there is something for the whole family with entertainment for kids, enjoyable couple time for parents and even a simple dinner. I also think that MP should end it's public-private partnership with a for-profit pool operator who puts his paying students ahead of residents.
51	Having lived here almost a full year I'm not up to speed at all what the City offers in terms of programming. Would love to know more and excited to learn more to be more involved in the community for my family and kiddos. Would love to be added to an email list if one exists. Also has there been thought given to incorporating any sort of announcements (kid related) into the school newsletters?
52	Larger library budget for acquisition of both hardback and e-books.
53	City programs and classes should reflect the needs of the diversity that exists in the City of Menlo Park (more than just Dance).
54	We have two little ones and would love to see the gymnastics center open again as well as more swim and affordss as me athletic programs for their age group.
55	The dog park at Nealon is a fabulous community resource. How can it be improved or hours extended to encourage fewer off-leash dogs elsewhere?
56	We're interested in children's theater & gymnastic programs + table tennis or tai-chi for seniors
57	Aqua wellness/aqua therapy classes for seniors without class space reduced for children and lap swimmers plus taught by knowledgeable experts in that specific field.
58	My family and I really love Menlo Park and feel very safe in it, but there are a lot of things to be done, a free gym or athletic center for the community, outdoor events and celebrations for the whole community, gatherings, bbq, 4th of July is coming up so there should be something for everyone in Menlo Park to gather and celebrate
59	The gymnastics program should reopen.
60	My children participated for many years in the gymnastics program, and we were incredibly grateful for it. The instructors were generally very good, and my children thoroughly enjoyed the classes beginning with mommy and me classes and ending with competitive team participation. The gymnastics program, in my opinion, is a highly valuable program offered by the city.
61	BRING BACK GYMNASTICS FOR TODDLERS AND PRESCHOOLERS. It's crazy to me that Menlo Park has yet to bring back this program and found a way to adapt during the pandemic. We have instead used more community resources from Palo Alto. Much more impressed with their community resources.
62	Please begin hosting summer concert and activities again!
63	There is a park on willow oaks that has 3 tennis courts it will be great if one of them is converted to 2 pickleball courts. That will engage more people to come
64	Please bring back gymnastics! HUGE gaping hole in Menlo Park right now!! :(
65	Please open the gym for the kids! It's world class facility and it's just sitting there unused. What a waste. There's no reason why it's not open when everything else is open.
66	The aquatic exercise classes, taught by Sheralee Beebe, are valuable to people who have disabilities or whose advanced age makes other kinds of exercise impractical. I attended the classes at Burgess pool for two years before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. The program in Menlo Park is still not available for me, so I go to aqua fitness classes in the Palo Alto YMCA.
67	Bring back gymnastics!
68	More outdoor programs eg. Storytime at the library can be in the courtyard instead of indoors. Outdoor dance/martial art classes etc.
69	Tennis courts have been impacted by pickleball. Any expansion of pickleball courts should not be at the expense of tennis.
70	I worry that when my 7 yo is a tween/teen he will have nowhere to go and hang out with friends if he's not on a sports team or wants to hang at the skatepark. Why not take some of the vacant space on Santa Cruz Ave and turn it in to a STEAM hangout for kids with a juice bar, music space etc...like a modern teen center. Older kids could work there and be paid too. There could also be an area for bike repair. So many kids bike to Hillview. Kids need constructive places to gather. And what about programs for kids that take them outside the city on a hike, whitewater rafting, fishing etc..
71	I'd like to understand what outside groups are using the fitness facilities (Arlaga gym, pool) so that I can use the facilities through their programming if the city programming doesn't fit my schedule. A good example is the early morning fitness at the gym. I don't see that listed on the class list but I see all sorts of groups when I run past the gym in the morning.
72	Warm water (92+ degrees) aquatic therapy pools: handicap accessible
73	I was an avid attendee to the former Aqua Wellness Program for years. We had an excellent teacher who kept us moving forward even though we were aging! The present programs are geared to the younger population with focus on intense cardio movements. The new program led by a physical therapist has its place, but should NOT be considered a replacement for Aqua Wellness. If we need that intense of a program we would be attending, but we are not severe yet nor can we afford it on a fixed income.

Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arrangement for Belle Haven families to have access to swimming during the 3-year closure of their neighborhood pool. - Open swim time for families on weekends - Group swim lessons vs. private lessons - Open access to lap swimming in the Performance pool (early morning and evening) so that people who work during the day and can't afford Masters can continue to swim - Limiting rental to other organizations at least until 2023 when the new MPCC opens - Reasonable pricing so all Menlo Park residents can swim - Menlo Park should take back ownership of the pool and end the arrangement it has with its for-profit contractor that has been crowding out public access in favor of private programming.
79	
80	Two public run swimming pools at more affordable rates for residents as we used to have
81	Don't let third-party providers run the programs primarily for their benefit; focus on serving Menlo Park residents. Fee differentials for residents and non-residents should be substantial (like, double for non-residents)
82	I'd love to see a ceramics class where you can use a pottery wheel. There aren't many around here, whereas you can often find other programming, like music, at other places.
83	3 that Tim Sheeper/Menlo Swim continues into the future managing the swimming pool and it's programs. He and his staff do an outstanding job not only on maintenance but providing a variety of programs servicing all ages and skill levels
84	More fitness classes, more arts and crafts
85	Pool exercises in water shallow enough to touch shoulders for walking and stationary exercises. More senior exercises.
86	To include nearby East Palo Alto residents
	<p>Upon moving here I was surprised by how few classes are offered via parks and rec, and how few community events there are.</p> <p>There should be a wide variety of classes for kids, adults and seniors. These classes can be run by different community organizations, companies and individuals. San Carlos and Redwood City have a much wider variety of classes than Menlo Park – as well as wonderful community events -- and would be good cities to emulate.</p>
87	Please also bring back musical performances and other arts performances.
88	Being a family with small children, we would be excited for programs geared towards families & children.
89	I'd love to see the entire gymnastics program for kids open up again. It's a huge bummer we don't have it in Menlo and residents need to travel to RWC or Sunnyvale to get them.
90	Appreciate all fitness classes for adults; also tech classes. I'd like to see classes on using iPhone for photography and video - for beginners.
91	would like a well-thought out informed strategy for pickle ball courts, which are used by people from as far away as San Jose.
92	make pool more accessible to the whole community-private lessons are given preference when this is a community pool; get the gymnastics program back. this was a very valuable program for our kids and I talk with many parents who want it for their kids
93	We NEED more pickleball courts. I don't know how many years have to go by to get something done. The courts we have now are always busy and the nets are falling apart. Please add more courts. the tennis courts are rarely used.; I am filling out this survey because the community needs more pickleball courts. thank you.; Nealon Park has only four courts and the tennis courts right next to the pickle ball courts are, most of the time, unused.
94	More Pickleball courts! Nealon Courts have had the most positive neighborhood impact of anything we've experienced yet!
95	Increase Pickleball Courts!
96	Pickleball becoming very popular. Courts are important.
97	Permanent Pickleball courts are needed.
98	Dedicated pickleball courts and more dual tennis/pickleball courts, especially at Nealon Park
99	My passion is pickleball. Earlier this year I used to play it 1x or 2x a wk at Nealon Park but I got discouraged by the crowds there. We need more pickleball courts in Menlo Park. Thank you!!
100	I love the way pickle ball brings together people of all ages. If we could have more pickle ball courts that would be great.
101	I believe pickleball is the fastest growing sport, it's quick to learn, inclusive and very social. Each city should have courts.
102	would like more pickleball courts
	<p>I ow buress but dressing and shower frailties for women are way too small for all the users. Actually need deprecate pool for lessons, summer camps and classes, the pool gets so much more use than any other piece of the open park area, baseball fields etc.</p> <p>More pickle ball courts</p> <p>Class times are geared to working people as they are scheduled in the early morning, lunch and evening, nothing for seniors mid morning or afternoon. We don't want evening classes.</p>
103	What about a servie that matches seniors to volunteering to assist with classes, camps etc, not just the senior center.
104	Guitar classes!
105	There is an increase of older people to play sports such as pickleball. We need more courts available. Thank you
106	Pickleball classes for all ages

Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
109	I'd love pickleball classes
110	Keep the name of Onetta Harris for Belle Haven new Center on Terminal
111	regular in-person teens socializing programs, inclusive programs (especially of people with disabilities), lower-cost recreation programs for toddlers, children, and teens in Menlo Park, sibling discounts
112	Pickleball classes.
113	Bring back the gymnastics program for young kids. I've heard great things and my daughter has been waiting to try it. Green spaces are important, especially with shade.
114	Swimming/improvement lessons for adults.
115	You're doing a great job - thank you.
116	I'd love to see more big community gatherings. Movie nights, music in the park, art festivals downtown, maker spaces at the library.
117	There is a need for an open gyms at both community centers with equipment for exercise & low fees for usage.
118	Expand and improve pickleball courts.
119	This past school year, i wished that there were more swimming lesson options during after school hours. Now, i understand the swim team that meets at Burgess has a lengthy waitlist? If there were an option to expand via staff (if it isn't a facility capacity issue), that could be worth attention! We have also been waiting, along with many other kids' families, for the excellent gymnastics program to come back! Thanks!
120	Would like to see the grassy areas open during the summer and fall months. At this time they are fenced off for reseeding.
121	Art studio classes
122	Cafe at the library
123	I would love to see the gymnastics for toddlers to come back. We've never been able to use this resource and I heard it was amazing
124	Remember that the parks belong to the residents of Menlo Park and not just organized soccer groups. The parks seem to be surrounded by orange mesh most of the year for restoration. Local residents who like to play in the park, visit with neighbors, walk their dogs, etc., can't use the parks most of the year. As for community classes, there are many low income residents who can't afford to take classes. Making the classes more affordable would be great. Also, don't forget about the adults and seniors. Seems most classes are geared towards children. Remember the tax payers.
125	Downtown fairs and events are always wonderful. Would be great if there were movies in the park (like in Redwood City) and more summer activities for families and all ages.
126	We want gymnastics back, kids enjoy that pre pandemic, now when everything is open it still has been closed. That's frustrating.
127	I'd like a makers space with tools
128	More events at the libraries or rec centers for babies/toddlers.
129	Continue providing services and get services that were closed due to COVID back up and running like the gymnasium.
130	Continue to support Menlo Swim and Sport programs
131	I can't speak to how important these classes are. They all seem to be important. Are people taking them? I'm sure that will be evaluated.
132	Please add more options for pickleball use. It is a wonderful way to bring all facets of the community together.
133	The city should endeavor to enable and seek out local Menlo Park contractors for resident programs. The city should work in conjunction with the school district, to organize a competitive sports environment for kids in school by hosting city championships in various disciplines as well as hosting city events events for adults. Too much favor is given to outside contractors from other cities who are not invested in our local community.
134	More Pickleball courts and activities and communication, like Foster City and Palo Alto do.
135	Please reopen the gymnastics center
136	pickleball classes
137	I would like to request the permanent conversion of courts #3 and #4 to pickleball in addition to court #5 being kept for dual usage
138	I hope we can have group swimming lessons for children again. We can't afford privates. And can we please reopen the gym (gymnastics programs)? That was a treasure. The loss of swimming lessons and gymnastics because of covid has very much impacted our family and other parents in our community. Covid restrictions seem to have made the public space less accessible in general to families who are not wealthy enough to hire private teachers for everything. Please re-open if possible. Thank you!!
139	new in the area so i say the library is the perfect place to meet new people and know more about the area
140	Pickleball classes for new players. Many of us got introduction to pickleball from the Palo Alto City classes. Also, Intermediate classes for pickleball.
141	I have older kids that no longer live at home. I have never been impressed with Menlo Park's programs. We've typically driven around (when kids were younger) to do other programs outside of Menlo Park. I have recently started playing Pickle Ball at Nealon Park. Would LOVE to see some more tennis courts get converted as the PB courts more busy than Tennis.
142	We hope to have a big pickleball court . So people do not need to go to Palo Alto playing everyday
143	Love to have more pickleball court space
144	We need more pickleball courts vs tennis courts. One of the fastest growing sports in America and certainly on the peninsula.

Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
147	More pickle ball courts
148	More pickle ball courts
149	summer programs that are reasonably priced for kids, e.g., coding, gymnastics, swimming, acting.
150	Tener clases de inglés y que nos ofrezcan cuidado de niños al momento de asistir a clases
151	Exercise classes, physical fitness, gardening, discussion groups keep me thriving. Any possibility of a community garden in Menlo Park? It may interest folks who may wish to expand gardening opportunities beyond small patio container options. Thank you for the nice maintenance of the duck pond and park in Sharon Heights - it's my go to place for walking and relaxation.
152	Como cuidar el medio ambiente, usar material reciclado para otras actividades y minimizar la cantidad de plásticos en el planeta, como mantener limpia la ciudad, hacer campañas de limpieza por lo menos cada 3 ó 4 meses al año.
153	We enjoy live music at Fremont Park. PLEASE consider a complete, weekly schedule of music in the future. The pandemic has clearly impacted city events, but the live music draws residents of all ages and brings the community together in a safe way. This is the best way for us to get outside and enjoy the downtown restaurants. Thank you.
154	More community events. Look at Los Altos. They do an amazing job!!!
155	I've lived in four different neighborhoods of Menlo Park over the past 40 years. When my daughter was young, she enjoyed the dance and gymnastics programs for children. I participated in exercise programs for many years until an injury made it difficult. I love MP library and am often frustrated by the variable hours of operation- especially when the library was no longer open after my morning exercise class. I walk daily and find the lack of sidewalks not only frustrating but downright dangerous. The bumpy yellow patches at intersections may help some, but are a trip hazard for others of us. I wish we had more unpaved walking paths which are much easier than concrete on aging joints.
156	I walk the dirt path by the RR tracks on Alma almost daily because walking on concrete is dangerous for my feet prone to plantar fasciitis. I wish we had dirt walking paths where the trains didn't blow past. But it is lovely walk under the trees by the RR tracks. Off-topic: I saw a lady with grandson feeding the ducks - right by the DO NOT FEED DUCKS sign. She couldn't read English but was very happy to learn what the sign says. You need that sign in several languages if you really want the ducks treated right.
157	Please re-open the gymnastics center or rent it out to those who can provide classes.
158	Pickleball classes Cooking classes or demonstrations
159	Please open the gym. Also should prioritize Menlo park residents need and benefit first.
160	Please make the swimming classes more affordable for children who live in Menlo Park.
161	Please reopen gymnastics
162	Improve Access to Pickleball . more courts.. more hours.. and please cut the lock on the gate at the Pickleball court. It is a fire hazard / earthquake hazard to LOCK people in with only one way out. Be smart about this.
163	Would like to have ballet/dance/gymnastics classes for toddler or young children.
164	Please continue to invest in the Belle Haven community.
165	More dedicated pickleball courts
166	Release more pickle ball courts in Menlo Park
167	need a bench to sit on between games at Nealon Park Pickleball courts.
168	Community gardens. Outdoor festivals.
169	-Provide culturally relevant activities and programming. -Offer comprehensive services to the Belle Haven area. -Provide free/affordable service/programming to low-income residents.
170	Teens have very little to do in MP or the surrounding area. They tend to like to hang out in the evening and there is just nothing for them. In addition, Menlo Park is one city, not East and West, so ensuring equity of services is paramount.
171	More pickleball courts!
172	suggest to add more pickleball courts at Nealon park
173	More pickleball courts. How many pickleball courts can fit on a soccer field? Pickleball uses far less land, doesn't need water, pesticide, herbicide (although could be more green-friendly), used by ALL ages including families.
174	I think all of these are extremely important for the community and would be inclined to pay for/attend if available. ; I'd love to see free swim lessons for communities who need them.
175	Open the gymnasium which has been closed for 2+ years and run it at the same high level as the Burgess pool.
176	Please do not consider closing pool or changing current management. Many people know what the pool was like before Sheeper was running it. Swimming pools and programs are vital to a healthy community. Integrity will triumph.
177	We need to make MPO a more vibrant community - current programs except for those at Burgess are not good enough. And Why is the Arrillaga Gym still closed?? oi kids cannot get access to gymnastics
178	More availability for community use of pool
179	Parents of young kids (2-5) need local options for gymnastics, soccer, and ballet.
180	pok'
181	Different martial arts, flag football, hi-5 sports programs, more swimming lessons
182	We have been waiting for the Gymnastics program to start up again. The only other gymnastics program in the area (in redwood city) is very full with long waitlists. It's so convenient to have gymnastics through Menlo Park and it's unfortunate that it hasn't opened back up yet.

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Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
183	It seems like compared to neighboring cities, Menlo Park classes, services and events have not come back or take much longer, even outdoor options, which has been disappointing. I have a 5 year old and after living here for a decade, it now seems like he may age out of the ability to take advantage of the gymnastics offerings, which also have not come back. Local parent and neighbor Facebook groups complain about this often.
184	We would highly appreciate an inclusion program that can support inclusion of children with special needs in the Menlo Park after school and camp programs (similarly to the assistance they get at school)
185	Kids gymnastics
186	I'd like to suggest that the City Council, if they have not yet, survey other municipalities in San Mateo County, and see how other aquatics programs serve the needs of the community. My guess is that "the squeaky wheels are getting grease" in the current situation at Burgess. Residents who are happy with the programming are not so likely to let you know as those who have complaints. I was an aquatics professional for 30 years. I have done the work that Tim Scheeper is doing and I can tell you that there are few programs in the country that provide such diverse programming and give opportunity to so many people. It's not an easy job and certainly more difficult when the support of the municipality is not behind you. I strongly urge the city council to look on the bright side of what is being offered to the community. Having been the professional who was squeezed out of space by those "squeaky wheels" myself, I can comment that it is likely those people who are complaining will probably not attend often anyway and those who are being disenfranchised will lose their opportunity. The pool would sit empty is my guess. Water is a precious resource. Better to have the pool occupied and scheduled for activity rather than giving those who MIGHT show up more opportunity. The team at Burgess knows how to maximize the space and time. Even those squeaky wheels have time allowed for their use though they may not choose to go when the time is available. I would love it if my swim practice was at 10AM. I retired now and it would be my best choice. But I go when the time is scheduled for the programing I participate in. Seniors, families and disabled should do the same. That way everyone has equal opportunity.; Team Scheeper is doing a Jam up job!!
187	Dance classes, children's arts and sport classes, music concerts
188	We have been desperately waiting for kids programs and gymnastics to come back
189	More space in children's sports activities, they're always waitlisted. More slots in swim classes, we've been trying to get in for over a year. Make space for other creative training.
190	Options for mothers to get together with young babies or kids!
191	We would love to see gymnastics reopen and the pool continue to be use for recreation, camps, and swim teams.
192	First aid for all ages
193	It's time to count unincorporated Menlo residents as residents. It is the biggest factor in my family avoiding classes and the pool.
194	The gymnastics program at Burgess hasn't been running since Covid began and it's time to bring it back. The facility is sitting empty, when hundreds of local children should be using it. It is ridiculous that the gymnastics program hasn't been reinstated.
195	These programs need to be restored to pre covid levels it is really a problem, when nothing is done for over a year or more once county restrictions were lifted.
196	Outside Zumba. Park exercise where you can show up. I've done this in other communities. Group to meet people.
197	more variety classes for adults (non-seniors) that isn't just dancing (art classes would be amazing!), and a real gym where residents can freely use weights, equipment, etc.
198	Love the new pickleball courts at the Nealon Park, amazing addition for our family. Please keep them! Would like to see more soccer fields for youth soccer and would like a better /larger swimming pool for families. It is dominated by lessons and crowded, would be great to have a larger one or more options to swim in Menlo Park.
199	walking clubs
200	We need the pool to stay open :) I'm also not sure if the survey is asking how important things are *to me* (and my family) or how important I think they are to the general community. Those are two different answers for many of the questions. For instance, below on the swimming question - my kids are out of swim lessons so they are not important "to me" but are 3 to the Menlo Park community and I support them. I'm filling out the survey assuming that the questions are asking how important things are to the wider MP community, not just to my personal wants/experiences. For our family, there are enough private groups offering things like singing lessons and soccer and martial arts that we haven't looked to the city to meet those needs.
201	We took years of lessons at Burgess and now have two kids in swim team there and I regularly swim laps.
202	Need more wellness and arts programs for seniors and teenagers.
203	Develop a park at SGI! Lots of people walk more now post- pandemic, and many got dogs. Pickleball is blowing up. This should absolutely be included in the Flood Park renovation!! Gymnastics at Burgess needs to be scaled way way up once it reopens. There is so much pent up demand for our little ones that have never had a chance to do it with COVID's impact. We can't even get ON a waitlist, local classes are SO full. Did I mention pickleball yet????? :)
204	I regularly attended adult gymnastics and Circus Aerials years ago, and would like to see this return. It would be great to see Menlo Park consider adding a disc golf course to one of its vacant green spaces.
205	It would be nice to bring back the gymnastic program. It was such an amazing program for the kids.
206	None

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Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
207	Tim Sheeper has dramatically benefited Burgess and the entire MP swim program and community. All ages, all levels of athleticism. He took it from an under used program that was failing economically to a profitable Program so heavily used that people complain that they are comparatively under served. The problem now is too much success and popularity and the call for more services. Tim's success should be supplemented rather than punished.
208	I use the Burgess Park Pool and have for many years. My children participated in swim lessons, swim team and swim camp there. I value the Burgess Park Pool as an important aquatic resource on the peninsula. The Burgess Park pool is exceptionally well run with a wide range of programming for youth through seniors. The pool area is clean and safe, the staff is friendly and well trained, the availability of lap lanes is good. Many people depend on this resource for health, fitness and children's water safety
209	I would like to see more computer skills classes.
210	We raised our kids taking swimming lessons from age five, Menlo Maverick's, swim team, Camp Menlo summer camp, aerial silks, fun free swimming, lap swimming, and masters swimming for the past 12 years.
211	I formerly lived in Menlo Park for over ten years and then joined the Menlo Masters Program. I have swum with Menlo Masters for over 13 years and dearly love the program and want it desperately to continue.
212	All programs are essential to keeping Menlo Park an outstanding community . Reduced fees for residents is critical. Non profit organizations that can increase access to programs for underserved communities of Menlo Park should continue to be utilized.
213	The circus program at the gymnastics center is the most important and the one that is most important to our family and the most unique to Menlo (aka attracts people from the outside).
214	More pickle all courts, please. Also, a dog park for smaller dogs.
215	We need gymnastics open for our kids, Burgess playground it looking a little shabby lately, the library hours need to be extend to open earlier, more classes for toddlers
216	Guided walks, gatherings where people can work on crafts together (not teaching, just doing), a way to link language learners together (i.e. I am learning Spanish with Duolingo, but would like to meet someone my age to chat with and improve my understanding and fluency)
217	PLEASE PLEASE We would LOVE to see the Arriaga Gymnastics class for toddlers/childrens come back.
218	We need a beautiful dog park. With grass and large expanses to run and play. The Willows dog park is subpar. If the field next to the school were available the community would come out far more than they do now. I would venture that more than half of the non-dpg households have gotten a dog in the last two years. This needs to be vastly improved.
219	I don't participate in many community programs anymore but I do think they are 3 for the community. I would also like to see more mixed age programs, for instance Dungeons and Dragons, for seniors/adults/teens, and not just offering programs to the age group we conventionally associate with that activity. I also think the community will benefit from interacting with all ages and not conforming to agist stereotypes.
220	recreational gymnastics, working (repaired) playgrounds, classes for special needs, classes, support and open space for home schoolers.
221	please bring back softball, widen basketball appeal
222	There are dozens of new residents in BH and we all meet while walking dogs and our dogs want and need and deserve a good dog park to play in!!!
223	My fear is that people of color may not feel welcome because our community has changed so much. There must be a way to help long term residence to feel that it is still our community.
224	Classes for all, students, seniors, adults, families, children of all ages
225	Free classes for residents
226	Belle Haven--Senior \$ management classes, low income housing education, pet laws + county licensing opportunities brought to community, golf
227	Beginning hula and Hawaiian huna healing (ho'oponopono)
228	Bring back the gymnastics program, PLEASE! It was awesome and the kids all loved it. Even my 8 year old keeps asking for it.
229	It is very sad that playing tennis is so expensive in our city.
230	Kids love soccer Toddler/young kid tennis
231	More community-building events, like Redwood City does
232	Love to have more cooking classes like cheese making! (Cheese making will be a huge hit at Menlo Park)
233	I would appreciate more Pickleball courts. It's both social and exercising in one. It's so easy on the body, playing on smaller courts using a wiffle ball - Very good for the soul. Everyone should do it, but there are so few courts.
234	More pickleball courts
235	Please install more permanent pickle ball courts! Thank you for being willing to get community feedback
236	more pickleball courts are needed as the demanded continues to rise!
237	Creative classes for seniors
238	More pickleball courts
239	Would like to see more pickleball courts available
240	Beginning pickleball should be taught. Clad would fill quickly. Also intermediate PB
241	More pickleball courts, please!
242	More pickleball courts it's good for all ages and it brings the community together. It is a growing sport. It benefits health. We are a member of the Palo Alto pickleball club which has over 700 members. Othe communities are having more pickleball courts. The courts could be used for tennis as well as pickleball. There are people that play both. Thank you
243	Pickleball. Needs more courts. It fits all ages. Community builder. Terrific future

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Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
244	Add more pickleball courts. Give lessons for residents/non-residents.
245	More pickleball courts, please.
246	I play pickleball everyday
247	Contract the pool and gymnastics- do not run in house
248	More senior programs in the afternoon.
249	Sewing (beyond beginner), toddler gym
250	More dog parks and pickleball courts!
251	no idea
252	We need more pickleball courts please. They are used by so many all the time and bring together 6yr olds to 86yr olds @ it is good clean fun which brings so much joy to so many
253	It would be great to have more robust Pickleball offerings!
254	More pickleball courts!
255	It would nice to have Spanish speaking lessons available in Menlo Park.
256	I would like some pickle ball courts on the west side of MENLO Park, Closer to my neighborhood.
257	more flat areas
258	Culture exchange. Mental Health. Family relationship building. Arts & Music. STEAM.
259	I know Palo Alto has priority for MIP residents when enrolling in classes hopefully MP can implement something similar.
260	We need to get the pool with more activities for kids and after school sports.
261	I don't hear much for free courses or at least pay for a class such as art, dance, or any other that is given on weekends. Also would be helpful to have on hand a magazine with all activities.
262	More recreational facilities for classes on dancing, pottery, art & crafts
263	Please bring back all the dance and sport activities for children
264	Table tennis, badminton, dance classes
265	Belle Haven needs same access and perks as the West Side MP. S
266	-Blinking lights at crosswalks! -More local art! If not murals, an opportune place for people to show-case! -A better wide-spread newsletter. It's hard for Belle Haven residents to know about events.
267	Thai Chi for seniors
268	Que nos den clases a los adultos. Gracias
269	community college campus
270	Have more activities for kids, After School Programs. Wood shop, music classes, basketball, etc. Need supervision. Have the suggestion what they like and want to do.
271	More daytime dance classes for adults such as Zumba, hip hop, jazzercise etc.
272	My husband works at Bay Club so we are fortunate to have our fitness + some community needs met there.
273	toddler gymnastics classes
274	It would be great to have a free fitness center.
275	We should honor the diversity in our community by having community gatherings in the community center for all; We should use this new center for everyone in our community instead of allowing outsiders to rent or use or fields for sports Bellhaven residence should have priority
276	I would like to see a variety of equity & inclusive involvement of Black people and programs throughout Menlo Park.
277	Please make the charge to use the swimming pools very low for residents. I don't use the pools because the fees are to high. Lessons for the kids in Belle Haven should be free! It saves lives.
278	Gardening, growing vegetables, fruits, etc
279	I was not fully fully aware of availability and other details of classes
280	More green space, outdoor play, gymnasiums, pools
281	Still don't feel that safe w/ covid doing indoor clases - outdoor yoga? zoom classes? more language and art offering, how about a menlo service orientation class?
282	Aqua swim programs core classes
283	maybe community cookouts/bbq to meet residents. Community garage sales. More free or discounted things to bring the community together.
284	It's 3 to offer similar classes that are held at West Menlo Park. It's also important that rates remain similar to Onetta Harris prices. Affordable for the community that live in Eastern MP.
285	Plaza should be nice. Shopping outlets. Malls
286	I'd love to have pickleball courts in the parks!
287	Maintain green areas and mature trees, particularly natural spaces (of which MP has very little), don't replace them with built environment, including hard surfaces or plastic coverings.
288	food preservation classes, local history/culture, welding and metal crafts, and acting/theater
289	hindi class for children, kid's soccer program, kids swimming classes
290	very excited for new kelly park construction to be finished! maybe a little more information at track about what's to come!
291	I'D LOVE TO LEARN AND PLAY PICKLEBALL! WHAT I HEAR IS THERE ARE VERY FEW COURTS AND THEY ARE VERY BUSY. ALSO, I'D LIKE TO FIND INSTRUCTION . MANY PEOPLE I TALK TO ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING AND PARTICIPATING IN THIS ACTIVITY.
292	Pottery open studio please

All comments are shown as they were written and submitted by the respondents, and are numbered in the order they were received.

Q7. Please tell us your ideas, needs, and suggestions for the city community programs and classes.	
293	estate planning education
294	It is 3. You did a good job for the city community programs and classes. It is 3 to me.
295	English classes
296	English classes
297	cheaper housing for seniors
298	We only recently moved to Menlo Park from San Mateo. San Mateo had a great parks and rec program for taking classes for the kids. Would love to have recreation soccer, baseball, basketball, tennis and swimming opportunities available for the kids (5,5 and 8 years old). The kids go to school in a different town, and would be a great way for them to meet other Kids in the community.
299	affordable classes for youth/adults. More times for working parents
300	Terapia de arte Clases de natacion para adultos clases de yerrios
301	N/A
302	No es buena idea que trabajen o ayuden mímberos de la misma familia
303	Que tengamos lases para las personas, que no sabemos leer, y unas clases para las personas de la tercera edad que no sabemos escribir y que respete.
304	I would like to see more library program for teens, especially ones focused on arts, crafts, etc. Also, please start offering classes for teens from Academy of Design: https://www.academyofdesignsf.com/ .
305	When will the gymnastics for kids restart? This was great!
306	Please do even more to support tweens/teens with free or heavily subsidized activities they can do on Fri/Sat evenings. Board game night, D&D night, etc. I am willing to help with this so please reach out to me if you want help!
307	Due to covid, I think things have to be offered online. A lot of people that are older are also still working so it would be great to have classes outside of typical work hours.
308	Para mi todo lo que enseñan me gusta los niños aprenden un poco de todo cada día
309	no tengo comentarios
310	Currently just have lack of information about community events. Belmont mails out notices or packet explaining offerings for the season.
311	Would love to have more info on these programs more accessible to the community. It would be nice to get a letter/email sent w/ all upcoming activities/classes for the month/year!
312	Exercise classes for after work hours. Many classes are during the day when I'm at work. Would love to participate if there were evening and weekend scheduled classes.
313	Create useful programs that are needed for young children and adults.
314	Having educational for the youth & teens. Job skill programs & training
315	Would love to see a rec center with a heated pool for elderly to do walking. And as much free for those of us living < the poverty line.
316	Offer digital classes, certifications would also be great to use towards resume
317	Children's & teens activities would be great for the community. Senior also but most may not be able to get there
318	I would love for there to be programs to create social spaces for parents with young children. For new parents especially this can be a nice way to build community with other folks in a similar life stage. Seattle, Washington has a program like this and it is very highly regarded. Perhaps Menlo Park can facilitate these social connections? It wouldn't require many city resources to implement, except for some administrative support.
319	Programs for small kids (under 2)
320	More civic centerswith affordable prices for the commy.

All comments are shown as they were written and submitted by the respondents, and are numbered in the order they were received.

Shots

YOUR HEALTH

Pickleball For All: The Cross-Generational Power Of Play

October 19, 2017 · 10:00 AM ET

By Ingfei Chen



Val Olson (from left), Rick Kamm, Steve David and Dee Haskins play up to the net during a pickleball game at Monument Valley Park in Colorado Springs, Colo., in 2011.

Colorado Springs Gazette/MCT via Getty Images

It's a bright fall morning in Santa Cruz County, Calif., and the tennis area at Brommer Street Park is overrun with dozens of people. But they aren't here for

tennis. Instead, cadences of *pick-pock* sounds fill the air as doubles players — many in their 50s and older — whack yellow Wiffle-like balls back and forth on eight minicourts.

This recreational craze, which has an estimated 2.8 million players nationally, has a quirky name: pickleball.

I stumbled across the game last summer, when I started coming to this park to hit the tennis balls around with my dad, who's still nimble at 87.

Could this upstart racket sport, I wondered, be something my elderly father and I could enjoy together?



SHOTS - HEALTH NEWS

Get Off The Couch Baby Boomers, Or You May Not Be Able To Later

My dad has played tennis for fun, for most of his life, but he's out of practice and slowing down. And with my bum knee and elbow tendinitis, I haven't played much tennis since high school. He's still better at the game, though I'm quicker on my feet; we both spend a lot of time trudging around to retrieve wayward balls.

Pickleball, which borrows from tennis, ping pong and badminton, looks more manageable, and fun.

Easy to learn, and feels gentler to joints than tennis

The ball is lighter than a tennis ball, the paddle shorter and there isn't as much running back and forth. But the moderate exercise and social nature of the

game keeps participants coming back. New research suggests that taking up pickleball as a serious form of leisure can enhance mental health and well-being in older adults.

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Pickleball was born as a cross-generational game in 1965 when three dads in Washington State invented it to entertain their kids.



SHOTS - HEALTH NEWS

Student Athletes Who Specialize Early Are Injured More Often, Study Finds

It's easy to learn, and — this is key — with less ground to cover on a smaller court, "it's not that hard on the joints," says Drew Wathey, director of recreational programs at the USA Pickleball Association. It can be a great alternative to tennis as we get older, or for anyone nursing overuse injuries from other sports.

The beauty of the game is that it can be enjoyed at any level of intensity, says Karen Long, a 57-year-old nurse who is president of the Santa Cruz Pickleball Club and a USA Pickleball "ambassador." Even sedentary seniors can safely be taught an easy doubles game, she says, starting with dinking the ball back and forth at the net.

And though anyone can play it, Long says, "it takes a long time to perfect."

Strategy and finesse are more important than driving the ball hard. Much of the game is played in quick-paced rallies up at the net, where an artfully dropped "dink shot" can win the point. That's why the sport lends itself well to intergenerational recreational play; older players can hold their own against young ones.

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Can be a good cardio workout for people with overuse injuries

And it can be a good cardio workout, says Molly Smith, a 65-year-old exercise science professor at Weber State University, near Salt Lake City, Utah, who both plays and studies the game. Even if you've had shoulder or knee injuries, she says, "you could still probably play a pretty competitive game of pickleball doubles and get your heart rate to the high end of the moderate-intensity exercise zone."

That's according to a preliminary study that Smith and colleagues conducted in a dozen middle-aged, novice and intermediate pickleball participants: Across 30 minutes of doubles play, their heart rates increased to an average of 117 beats per minute, with a peak rate of 140 — comparable to, say, fast ballroom dancing. And they burned 40 percent more calories than during a half-hour of walking.

Injury risks from pickleball have yet to be systematically investigated, she says, when I ask about potential impacts on achy and aging joints.



SPORTS

Pickleball, Anyone? Senior Athletes Play New Games And Old

Even on a pickleball court, quick changes in direction while chasing the ball could put stress on the knees, notes Matt Denning, a sports biomechanics specialist at Brigham Young University's Idaho campus. For those with prior knee problems, he says, certain types of knee braces may help.

Long, the nurse and pickleball aficionado in Santa Cruz, tells me pickleball has been gentler than tennis on her elbow, which she seriously injured five years

ago as a competitive doubles player. She now competes in national pickleball tournaments instead.

Beyond physical fitness benefits, 'camaraderie' improves life's quality

But the exercise may not be the best part of the game.

"It's very social," says Dave Witte, treasurer for the Santa Cruz Pickleball Club, which welcomes beginners. The game seems to me more casual than tennis; because anybody can pick it up pretty quickly, that maybe increases the friendliness factor.

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"You get that whole camaraderie thing going," Witte says.

That's especially important for retirees, he says, because "as you grow older, the last thing you want to do is become isolated."



SPORTS

There May Not Be Flying, But Quidditch Still Creates Magic

Researchers have noticed the camaraderie, too, and have started examining the psychosocial benefits of the sport. In a study published this month in the *Journal of Positive Psychology*, investigators from Texas A&M University and Florida State University surveyed 153 participants, ages 51 to 85, at pickleball competitions.

The more deeply engaged in pickleball these enthusiasts were, the more likely they were to be highly satisfied with their lives and have a positive experience with aging.

Meanwhile, back at the park in Santa Cruz, spirits are high among the 50 people gathered to play pickleball on a weekday morning, some chitchatting in lawn chairs as they wait their turn. My dad sizes up the scene and opts to just observe the game, for now.

Long hands me a loaner paddle, and she and a friend graciously instruct me in the basics.

I'm matched up with two other beginners — Caroline Nicola, a 48-year-old massage therapist, and her mother, Heide Nicola. It's Heide's 75th birthday, and pickleball looked like "a fun new activity to try out together," Caroline says.

At first, I'm whiffing like a cartoon character on many shots. Ouch. My coordination is off because the plastic ball isn't as bouncy as I expected, and

the racket is shorter than I'm used to. But the learning curve seems pretty quick. Dad, watching from nearby, is amused.

Fast forward one week: We're back at the park, and my father says he's ready to give pickleball a try, too. As two regulars kindly coach us in doubles, I watch Dad grapple with the same frustration of missing his shots.

"Keep your eye on the ball," one instructor tells us. After an hour of practice we're both getting better.

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Dad still isn't ready to trade-in his tennis racket, but I'm hoping that with a few more pickleball sessions, he'll change his mind. I, meanwhile, can see how the game could become an addiction, if my joints hold up. So far, so good!

We'll be out there again.

[table tennis](#) [badminton](#) [elderly](#) [tennis](#)

P.C. 08/24/2023
Item 4

Cameron park pickle ball courts.

Donna Mack <donna.mack95@gmail.com>

Tue 8/22/2023 12:47 PM

To:Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>

You don't often get email from donna.mack95@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Commissioners:

I request that you Deny the appeal and uphold the approval of Administrative Permit ADM23-0014, based on the Findings and subject to the Conditions of Approval as approved by the Planning Director.

(Supervisorial District 2)

Donna Mack

3353 Bow Mar Ct, Cameron Park, CA 95682