

September 14, 2023  
Item 6

**TITLE: REVIEW DONOR SPONSORSHIP TO ADD PICKLEBALL LINES TO STONERIDGE CREEK TENNIS COURTS AND CONSIDER A PROCESS FOR ADDING PICKLEBALL LINES TO ADDITIONAL CITY COURTS WITH RESURFACING PROJECTS**

**SUMMARY**

As interest in pickleball continues to grow, staff is receiving requests from community members to add pickleball lines to surfaces like basketball courts, inline skating areas and additional tennis courts. The Stoneridge Creek development has offered to fund the addition of pickleball lines to the courts at the Stoneridge Creek tennis courts. Staff is requesting Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation on double-striping these courts for both tennis and pickleball use. Staff is also requesting commissioner input on a policy for double-striping additional city courts as they are due for resurfacing.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Review donor sponsorship to add pickleball lines to Stoneridge Creek Tennis Courts and proposal to consider a process for adding pickleball lines to additional city courts with resurfacing projects.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

There is no direct financial impact resulting from a Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation. Stoneridge Creek community has pledged to fund the approximately \$2,600 cost to add striping for two pickleball courts added to one tennis court at Stoneridge Creek Tennis Courts. Future restriping would be budgeted with the annual resurfacing projects.

## **BACKGROUND**

Pickleball was invented in the 1960's in Washington and slowly increased in popularity until the early 2010's when it grew by 650% over a six-year period. The game is similar to tennis but played with a whiffle ball on a badminton-sized court. Four pickleball courts fit in the same approximate area as one tennis court.

The City's tennis vendor, Lifetime Tennis, started holding pickleball games in 2017 at Tennis and Community Park and also hosts drop-in play at the Pleasanton Middle School gym on Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.

The pickleball courts at Muirwood Community Park were opened in 2022 to continue to meet the demand for pickleball players. Even with the addition of these six courts, staff continue to receive feedback from the community that more courts are needed.

City staff was approached by staff from the Stoneridge Creek community requesting the addition of pickleball lines on one of the two Stoneridge Creek Tennis Courts. Currently there is a pickleball court inside the community and the demand for play on that court is overwhelming. Staff from Stoneridge Creek asked if lines could be added to the public courts and agreed to sponsor the cost for the addition.

As the courts at Stoneridge are open to the public, staff conducted a survey to determine interest from players outside the Stoneridge Creek community. The survey results are as follows:

- Total of 347 responses
- 70.43% want pickleball striping
- 46.18% live within walking distance to the courts
- 68.24% play pickleball.

## **DISCUSSION**

### Stoneridge Creek

Staff, with the support of the sponsor, propose to add striping for two pickleball courts to one tennis court at Stoneridge Creek Tennis Courts, (Attachment 1). The configuration of these courts requires that participants will either need to bring their own net to the court or have a net provided in a storage container placed near the courts. The goal is to encourage pickleball use on the courts but also allow for tennis games to continue to be played. As these are drop-in courts, they will be open during regular court hours and players can decide to play pickleball or tennis as they would like. The second tennis court will not have pickleball lines added at this time.

Upon review of the sponsorship by this commission, staff will formalize a contract with Stoneridge Creek and engage the services of contractor to add the striping. Staff will also discuss with the sponsor providing storage and nets near the courts for players that do not have their own nets.

### Double-Striping of Additional Courts

As the popularity of the sport continues to grow, so do the requests for additional pickleball courts. Staff proposes that as future resurfacing, renovation, and

refurbishment projects are planned for tennis courts, basketball courts and inline skating courts, a review of pickleball demand be completed prior to any work being done on these surfaces. This process would mirror what was done through surveying at the Stoneridge Green tennis courts.

If demand is strong for additional pickleball courts in a certain park, staff will provide the commission with designs and costs to include pickleball lines where appropriate. Focus will be placed on spaces that can add pickleball without negatively impacting useability for other sports. Future consideration of pickleball striping during renovation projects will help meet the demand for pickleball, while maximizing fiscal efficiency.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michele Crose".

Michele Crose  
Assistant Director, Library and Recreation

Attachments:

1. Pickleball striping configuration