

Proposal for Dedicated Pickleball Courts

Background

On March 18, 2014 I, Karen Siemsen, did a presentation to the PRMCC introducing the fast-growing sport of Pickleball to the community and requesting that the PRMCC make a recommendation to the City Council regarding providing lines to play the game on one or two of the city tennis courts. Not having received a response, I approached the City Council about 6 months later in Sept. 2014. The City Council permitted me to do a formal presentation about the growing popularity of the sport and need to establish places to play.

In early November, the City Engineer and City Maintenance personnel arranged to have 2 courts striped for Pickleball use at Hidden Valley Park, on Center Avenue. In Sept. 2014, the Martinez Pickleball group received a grant from the USAPA Pickleball Association, allowing us to purchase one portable net along with some paddles and balls. At the same time, the City also provided a net so that we could support two games on the newly striped courts.

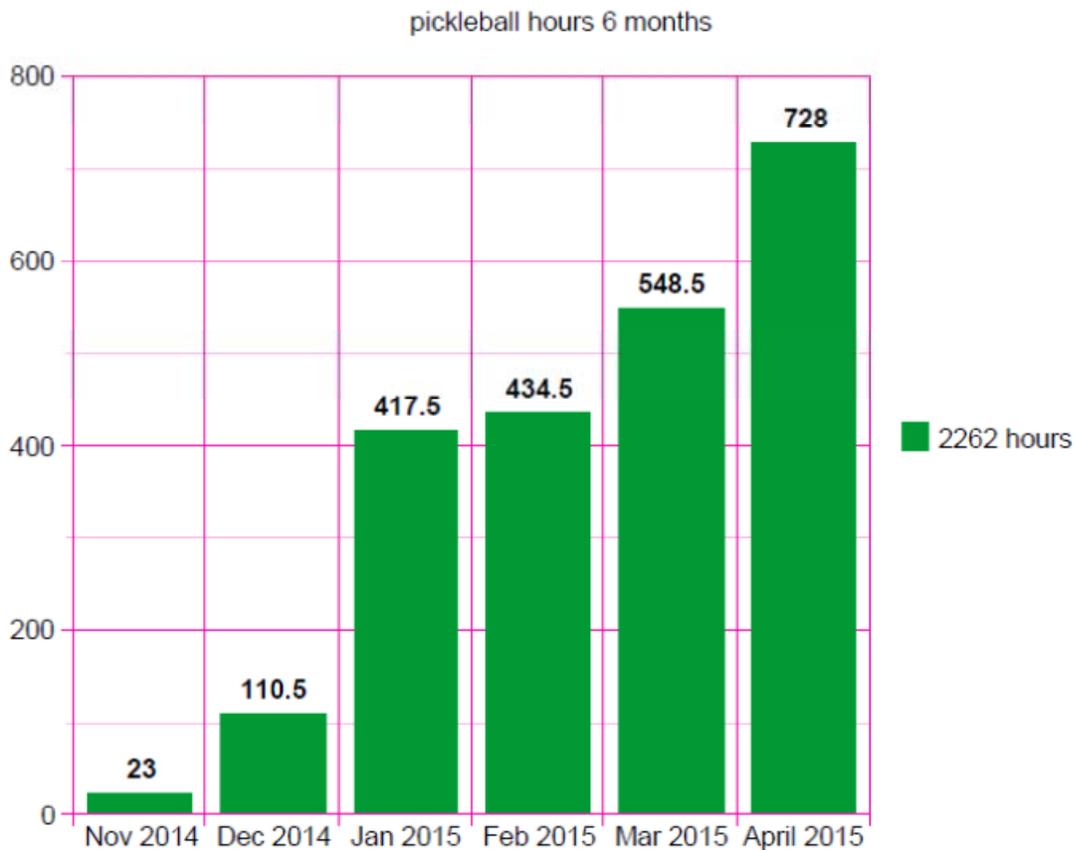
On February 17, 2015, due to growing popularity of the sport in Martinez and the inadequate facilities to accommodate demand, we again approached the PRMCC about: (a) having specific times for Pickleball to avoid conflicts with tennis players, (b) lining additional courts for Pickleball use, and (c) introducing the idea of a joint project to convert tennis courts to dedicated Pickleball courts. At that time, we were asked to wait until the conclusion of the 6 month “trial”.

Usage

For the past 5+ months we have tracked the court usage of the “trial” Pickleball courts, kindly provided by the City at Hidden Valley Park. The two courts were installed in early November, and we celebrated a Grand Opening on December 6, 2014 with approximately 30 people in attendance. At that time, we asked everyone to track the dates and times they played so that we would have some accurate information about the usage the courts were getting. I should point out that we started using the courts in the winter months.

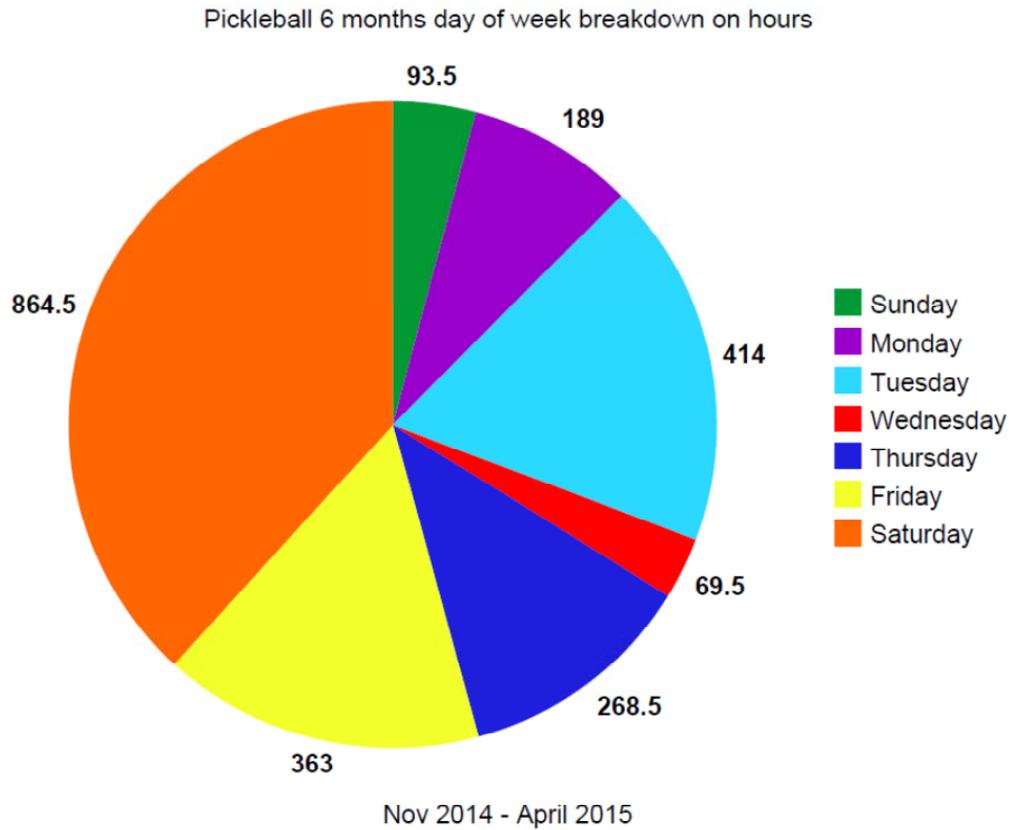
In November before people really knew about the courts, they were used 3 times. In December, the number of times doubled to 6, even with the holidays and some wet weather. Once players were aware of the courts, the number of days they were used jumped to **18** in January, **20** in February, **21** in March, and **18** in April, so far.

The number of players has increased each month along with the number of hours played per month. In November there were **25** hours, December **110.5** hours, January **417.5** hours, February **434.5** hours and March **548.5** hours, and April **728.0** hours (through April 25). On some weekend/holiday days, there are as many as **20-30** players for just 2 courts. Even though 4 people play at a time, it still means that players have to wait quite a while between games, resulting in some players leaving.



Because Pickleball is also a social sport, players like having the opportunity to mix up the teams and play other people, looking for the best competition for their

skill level. With only 2 courts available, it makes it difficult to find the time to accommodate all the people and various skill levels.



Impact on Tennis

For the past several months we have also been tracking some of the usage of the tennis courts at Nancy Boyd Park. There are 3 courts at that park. Whenever we have randomly checked, only one or two courts have been used, with one exception. The largest number of people playing has been 5. At no time are there other players waiting to use the courts.

This is in sharp contrast to the usage of the Pickleball courts at Hidden Valley Park where as many as 16 people have to wait to play, while 8 people are playing. Based on these observations, as well as conversations with tennis players and

others in the area of Nancy Boyd Park, it seems that these facilities are under-utilized.

Conversion Proposal

As a result of these findings, we would like to propose doing a joint project with the City of Martinez at the Nancy Boyd Tennis Courts so that Pickleball players have more facilities at which to play. Two of the 3 courts at that location (the adjoining courts) could easily be converted to dedicated Pickleball courts and receive much greater usage than they do now, while still leaving one court for the tennis players.

We could get 6 dedicated Pickleball courts on those 2 tennis courts, giving players more opportunities to play and allowing for various skill levels. If this were to happen, we would be able to give up the courts at Hidden Valley Park. However, we would still need the lock box for equipment such as balls and paddles, so it would have to be relocated to Nancy Boyd Park.

Discovery Bay and Santa Rosa have converted some tennis courts to dedicated Pickleball courts, and Walnut Creek will be doing it at Rudgear Park in May. The sport is growing rapidly and the demand for places to play is ever-increasing.

When conversions have been done in other communities, players have shared in some of the cost through fundraising efforts, sponsorships, or donations from local community organizations. Obviously, we are not in a position to raise all the money necessary for the conversion, but we would be willing to assume responsibility for some of the cost to demonstrate our vested interest in making this happen. We would also like to have some input on the project.

Cost Estimates

We contacted 2 companies that have converted tennis courts to Pickleball courts so that we could obtain an estimate of the cost to make such a conversion. We asked about the cost to convert the 2 courts to 6 Pickleball courts with both estimates coming in between \$17,000-\$20,000. (See below).

**ADAMS SURFACING
P.O. BOX 1825
SANTA ROSA, CA 95402
707 528-9651
FAX 707 544-5349
Email: adamssurfacing@yahoo.com**

January 28, 2015

RE: Conversion of tennis courts to pickle ball courts in Martinez, CA

Dear Karen:

With regard to our telephone conversation last week, I am the person who converted two tennis courts at Finley Park in Santa Rosa for the City of Santa Rosa and Santa Rosa Pickle Ball Club into four pickle ball courts. Although I have not seen your courts, I can give you a rough budget number.

To convert two tennis courts into six pickle ball courts, it would probably be in the range of \$18,000.-20,000. This would include some crack filling, complete re-coloring and pickle ball striping, as well as six new sets of permanent pickle ball net posts and nets. These net posts would be sleeved.

Hope this estimate suffices for your purpose of beginning the process for city approval.

Sincerely,

**Steve Adams
License #689697**



8299 21st Ave., Sacramento, CA 95826

www.abasphaltsealing.com

(916) 452-4151 tel

(916) 452-9771 fax

PROPOSAL & CONTRACT

License #584901

Bid Date Feb/9/2015

Company Nancy Boyd Park Phone (925) 525-6268 Ext _____
 Contact Karen Siemsen Fax _____
 Address 100 Church Street E-mail kasiemsen@aol.com
Martinez, Ca. 97889 Estimator John Foster
 Job Name Proposed Pickleball Courts

We propose to furnish all labor, material and equipment necessary to perform the following items of work, subject to terms and conditions stated:

Item #	Work Description	Quantity	Qty Price	Total
1	Budget proposal to change 2 tennis courts into 6 Pickleball courts			
2	Installation of Pickleball posts and nets			\$6,800.00
3	Install 12 Fraser-Edwards vinly coated posts and 6 Edwards nets			
4				
5	Pickleball surfacing and striping (quote includes 3 colors)			\$10,200.00
6	Blackout existing tennis lines			
7	Layout 6 Pickleball courts			
8	Apply three coats Plexipave Color			
9	Stripe two inch white Pickleball lines			
10	Install nets			

"Contractors are required by law to be licensed and regulated by the Contractors State License Board." Any questions concerning a contractor may be referred to the Registrar, Contractors State License Board, 3132 Bradshaw, CA, Mailing address: PO Box 26000, Sacramento, CA 95826

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS and GENERAL INFORMATION

Acceptance of Proposal:

The terms, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to consider this our acceptance of your proposal.

Signature: _____ Date of Acceptance: _____

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____

This conversion would involve providing new surfacing and striping for 6 Pickleball courts along with the installation of 6 nets and posts. It would mean we would retain the tennis nets as a divider and line the 6 courts (3 on each side of the tennis nets), allowing us to get 2 additional Pickleball courts in the space. Both companies indicated that the cost and installation of each net would be about \$1100 for a total of \$6600 , which is included in the estimate. The remaining cost would be for the resurfacing, painting and striping.

We are very sincere about doing a joint project and sharing in the cost to obtain dedicated Pickleball courts. We look forward to having the opportunity to work together on this project.

Revenue Estimates

If there were dedicated Pickleball Courts, there is a possibility of adding revenue through the formation of leagues and tournaments which would be run by City staff. We could explore hosting “The Martini Cup, the Inaugural Martinez Pickleball Tournament,” which could draw competitors from across northern California.

Recommendation

We would like to request the PRMCC recommend that the City Council support the Court Conversion Project and direct staff to work with the Martinez Pickleball Group on its implementation.