



City of Martinez

Memo

Date: August 13, 2015
To: Alan Shear, Assistant City Manager
From: Patty Lorick, Recreation Supervisor
Subject: Creating New Pickle Ball Courts

Recommendation

PRMCC vote to recommend to the city council, if funding is available, the Cappy Ricks Tennis Courts be striped for Pickle Ball creating a dual use facility, Pickle Ball and Tennis. Also, PRMCC vote to recommend to City Council, if funding is available, that all tennis courts install new signs that indicate that tennis courts are "First Come, First Served" and are to be used for Tennis type activities.

Background

The Parks Subcommittee scheduled a public hearing to discuss the use of Pickle Ball on City Tennis Courts, Tuesday, June 24. There wasn't a quorum for the subcommittee but Chairman Radke, agreed to listen to public comments. Public testimony was heard from sixteen people from both sides of the issue.

Attached are e-mails and program information.

From: Carolyn Daniels <proflo@aol.com>

To: proflo <proflo@aol.com>

Date: Mon, Jun 22, 2015 7:44 am

Presentation to the City of Martinez

by Addie Mattox, USAPA Ambassador
amattox@earthlink.net

June 23, 2015

- Membership has risen 102% in the past two years
- 3,200 places to play, not including schools
- In 2013, 523 new locations were opened, 44/month
- In 2015, 76 new places per month
- Sports Fitness Industry research study estimated 2.4 million players
- Tennis is decreasing about 10% annually

Benefits

- Wellness, particularly for older people
- Transition sport for tennis players
- Wellness, for youth - replace TV and electronic entertainment
- Easy to learn, even for non-athletic people
- Inexpensive for players
- Socialization
- No need to pre-organize foursomes, drop in

June 26,2015

To members of the Martinez Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission

I am Barbara Bogue, I was one of many present at the 6/23 sub-committee meeting this week –but didn't speak. I am in favor of permanent designated Pickleball courts.

I grew up on Milano Way. I have many friends in Martinez so I spend a good deal of time, playing, visiting, attending events, as well as shopping and eating out (a lot) which I hope is contributing to a strong economy in Martinez.

Pickleball is played at all levels from recreational to national and international competition. It's fun, social and easy to learn. Everyone can play. Athletes and "non"-athletes, families, singles, baby boomers, and people with physical limitations all enjoy the game.

It is a fast, steady, high energy, low-impact sport. There are a few indoor "pay to play" venues in the region, however like tennis, the vast majority of players prefer outside courts.

On another level, I've personally been involved in recreation management for years. Recreation departments constantly adjust to population growth, demographics and program popularity. Trends towards physical activity and healthy living have an impact as well

I'm reminded when Soccer entered into the mix, field management became a full time job. Competitive Boys HS Volleyball teams became as popular as the Girls teams. It was only about 5 years before those kids began to impact Adult Sports and are still playing in Coed leagues today. Outdoor sand courts are used as much as the basketball courts.

Swimming, Golf, Tennis, Softball and Bocce programs flourish. Most City sports venues have needed major upgrades and new construction to accommodate the increased activity, especially in the last 25 years

Pickleball participation is currently growing at an incredible rate, and needs the permanent designated space the other sports enjoy. Everyday, we see people new to the game, joining in. Players wait for prime time court space. I know Martinez Jr. High students play Pickleball in their normal PE rotation. We see some of them coming back to the sport as young adults.

After the 6/23 meeting, a tennis couple asked to see a paddle and said it looked like fun.

I told her the wonderful thing about Pickleball is that she and her husband can play competitively at the same level. That got a big smile. They plan to try it out at Hidden Valley.

I know Cities are hard pressed to keep pace with growing demands and new programs, yet it is essential that they do exactly that.

I hope you understand the need and will support permanent designated courts for Pickleball players. You might even try a game or two. You'll find Pickleball players most welcoming.

Thank you.

Barbara Bogue
barbbogue@gmail.com
(925) 930-0662



To: Martinez Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Michele Beith
Re: Dedicated Pickleball Courts in Martinez

Hello.

My name is Michele Beith. I am a resident of Concord. Over the last several months I have enjoyed playing pickleball with my friends from Martinez at the Hidden Lakes Tennis Courts. From what I understand there has been some conflict within Martinez regarding the sharing of Martinez Courts with the Tennis Community.

Second hand I have heard that many Tennis players attended a meeting and indicated that most of the players were "old people from Walnut Creek." Well now that has been dispelled as Walnut Creek has graciously made dedicated courts available for Pickleball to a rousing success. I am still playing several days at the courts in Martinez and don't see any tennis players around. Most of the people I play with are Martinez residents.

I ask what is old? To a teen 30 is old, is it 40? 50? 60? 70? I am sure there are at least several Martinez residents who play hard fought, highly competitive slow pitch softball games in Concord. I would think that Martinez residents may also partake in soccer matches at Boatwright Park in Concord. I don't think of my neighbors from the great city of Martinez as interlopers. In fact when the Concord Naval Weapon Station design comes up for review, I am going to be first in line to propose both Tennis Courts and Pickleball Courts be part of the project. I do not envision a Concord official at the gates asking for proof of residency.

Pickleball is a growing sport – not just for the ancient, I play with people in their 30's through 60's, there's even some young whippersnappers in their 20's out there. My request is that there be some dedicated courts where we can enjoy the camaraderie and competition. I do not believe we are a threat to overrun the tennis players.

In the words of the philosopher Rodney King, my request is simply "Can't we all just get along?"

Thank you.

mickyd123us@yahoo.com

From: Carolyn Daniels <proflo@aol.com>

To: proflo <proflo@aol.com>

Date: Mon, Jun 22, 2015 7:42 am

Hi Carolyn,

I plan to attend the city counsel meeting but am not comfortable speaking, however I would still like to express my opinion.

I have never liked tennis because the sport is too taxing and difficult for most beginners. All you seem to do is chase down balls, which of course is no fun! I've been playing pickleball now for four months, 4-5 times a week, and love the fact that it's available to all levels of skill, age and competitiveness. It's also a great form of exercise and weight loss. In addition, I find it to be a very social sport; I've met so many new people and have even made new friends!

Like tennis, pickleball should be available to the public. There are so many unused tennis courts in Martinez so why not dedicate at least one location to such a great and fast-growing sport? Tennis players are upset for picklers using courts they don't even own. As a homeowner and taxpayer of Martinez for over six years, I strongly urge the city council to consider our plea for dedicated pickleball courts! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deirdre Morris deirdre8morris@gmail.com

Resident of Martinez

Subject: Re: Martinez Pickleball Meeting- Tuesday, June 23 6:00-7:00 Martinez City Hall- 525 Henrietta St.

To Whom it May Concern,

I have been playing Pickleball for almost a year in both Martinez and Walnut Creek. As an athlete and as a Physical Therapist I can attest to the fact that this is an important and very popular form of exercise and of entertainment and recreation. There simply aren't enough venues to accommodate the popularity of this growing sport. I strongly urge this subcommittee to seriously consider the need for dedicated courts for the burgeoning interest in Pickleball. There is no downside to this request!

Most Sincerely,

Lynn Whelan, PT whelanpt@value.net

From: Carolyn Daniels <proflo@aol.com>

To: kasiemsen <kasiemsen@aol.com>; proflo <proflo@aol.com>

Subject: 3 letters put together and printed

Date: Thu, Jun 18, 2015 7:43 am

Make room for pickle ball courts in your community. It is wonderful sport for the senior community. It Provides physical exercise, hand-eye coordination, movement, memory and sociability. It encourages seniors To be healthy and active. Build those Courts for your senior community.

Helene. Schneider

helene.schneider@sbcglobal.net,

Hi Carolyn,

Sorry we will be unable to attend the meeting but want to express how important the game is to us.

Dedicated Pickleball courts in Martinez are important to me because this game can be played by people of all ages. The physical abilities are not as demanding as Tennis and I am able to play the game with my 73 year old Dad. We appreciate the permanent lines at Hidden Valley but really need to have permanent nets. This will allow for more play and less set up. This is the fastest growing game in the Country and having dedicated courts could allow for league play, which may raise some revenue for the City. Please consider dedicating space to the great game of Pickleball. Thank you.

Leona Hartman

leona.hartmann@sbcglobal.net, or LHARTMAN@ehsd.cccounty.us

K - I work til 7pm on Tues but here are my comments:

To PRMCC Committee,

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the nation. This new sport happens to coincide with the largest aging group in the nation. "Retiring" tennis players are pickleball's greatest advocates. As opportunity meets reality I urge you to be proactive in preparing your city to be on the cutting edge of taking advantage of the opportunity. With the internet available for finding out what's going on, Martinez can join the growing lists of places people from everywhere are using to find out where they can play pickleball. Both tennis and pickleball can coexist successfully if each side supports and respects the other. Please focus on the future needs of both groups and make accommodations accordingly. Sincerely, once a tennis player now a pickleball player

Barbara Harrison

baba.harrison@gmail.com

From: Carolyn Daniels <proflo@aol.com>
To: proflo <proflo@aol.com>
Cc: kasiensen <kasiensen@aol.com>
Date: Tue, Jun 23, 2015 10:55 am

From: Peter Scherr <peterscherresq@gmail.com>
Date: June 23, 2015 at 10:09:41 AM PDT

Subject: Martinez Pickleball

Dear Martinez City Council -

When I was asked to send an email to you urging your town to dedicate some of its courts to pickleball, it stuck me as a bit odd. Given that pickleball has become the fastest growing sport in the country, is played by people who range in age from their twenties to their eighties. It is an incredibly accessible activity that certainly enhances the quality of life of all that play. It is a natural enhancement of the City of Martinez.

From opportunities to socialize and mingle, to enjoy some exercise (yes, enjoy exercise) and reduce stress, this game is boon to all that play and most certainly to the communities that facilitate the sport.

I started playing at your City's NorCal courts last summer and have meet people of all walks of life Pickleball doesn't care if you are young or old, or poor or wealthy. All are welcome.

As an inclusive, healthy and popular activity, your citizens and guests deserves a more permanent home for one of their favorite activities.

Thank you for your courtesies and consideration. I am,

Very truly yours,
Peter J. Scherr

From: Carolyn Daniels <proflo@aol.com>

To: proflo <proflo@aol.com>

Subject: Fwd:

Date: Tue, Jun 23, 2015 7:55 am

From: Marcia Yamashiro <myamashirord@yahoo.com>

Date: June 23, 2015 at 12:57:24 AM PDT

To: Carolyn <proflo@aol.com>

Subject: Re: 8:30 Friday pickleball

Here are my thoughts:

There is such a need for dedicated pickleball courts in Martinez as this sport continues to grow in popularity every day.

As a previous competitive racquetball player, I have found this sport to provide even more fun, competition, and exercise! The growing group of players have encouraged new friendships which has been the most positive part of this new sport for me.

To accommodate and promote more pickleball, there is a need for courts. We greatly need your help and support. Thank you! Marcia Neishi

From: starzero <starzero@astound.net>

To: proflo <proflo@aol.com>

Subject: Martinez Pickleball Courts

Date: Mon, Jun 22, 2015 8:23 pm

Carolyn: I will be unable to attend the meeting tomorrow.
Please deliver a
copy of this letter to the City council
on my behalf.

To the Martinez City
Council and To Whom It May Concern:
Citizens of central Contra Costa county,
particularly
Concord to Martinez, are in dire need of more ready to use

recreational facilities. Pickleball is a wonderful sports
activity growing
in popularity even as I write. Our older
residents especially are finding
this the perfect game for
fun and exercise.

I strongly urge the creation of
Dedicated Pickleball
Courts for Martinez.

Respectfully

James Kain

1596 West

St

Concord, Ca. 94521

925-566-8114

From: Carolyn Daniels <proflo@aol.com>

To: proflo <proflo@aol.com>

Date: Tue, Jun 23, 2015 7:09 am

From: Charles Zook <czook@charleszook.com>

Date: June 22, 2015 at 7:26:35 PM PDT

To: Carolyn <proflo@aol.com>

Subject: **if any edits are needed, let me know**

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Charles Zook. I have resided in Napa since 1980 and I enjoy taking advantage of recreation opportunities all over the Bay Area. Whenever possible a favorite of mine is to drive about 40 minutes to Martinez to play Pickleball at Glacier Courts. Great exercise, fun people, commonly followed by a few of us going somewhere in Martinez for lunch/drinks, etc. As a Napan, I know how hard Napa works to attract tourists to come and play and spend their dollars here in Napa. Pickleball is a very popular and growing sport. Napa lacks the leadership and dedication such as Carolyn and Karen have provided, dedicating untold hours to encouraging people to get out of the house and have some fun (and spend some money), as well as encouraging the facilities to allow for said activities. If we had someone like Carolyn and Karen Napa could be luring people here. As a visitor to your fine city, I encourage you to do all you can to support people getting exercise, having fun, and, yes, coming to your town to support your local businesses. Right now you have the opportunity to be on the cutting edge, a place where people know they can come and have fun. Anything that can be done to allow for the large number of people enthusiastic to play Pickleball without stepping on the toes of the infrequent tennis players will be much appreciated by all.

Charles Zook
308 East Berna Avenue
Napa CA 94559
707 246 2226

Carolyn and Karen,

I will not be speaking at the meeting on Tuesday, June 22, 2015, but I will be attending as a 3-year resident of Martinez and an avid pickleball player and supporter. I want to express my feelings regarding pickleball and getting dedicated courts in Martinez.

I started playing this wonderful sport in August of 2014. I got hooked immediately. I researched where I could play in Martinez and found that NorCal had pickleball but only on Mon, Wed and Fri mornings. I started going outside the area because I wanted to play more. Only a few cities like Walnut Creek, Pleasanton and Albany had courts, and they all used those flimsy portable nets.

Recently, with the efforts of Karen Siemsen/Carolyn Daniels and The City of Martinez, we now have painted courts at Hidden Valley. Since those courts have been painted for pickleball, the sport has grown tremendously in Martinez. We get people jogging by, walking their dogs, looking amazed at all the people hitting plastic balls, laughing and having fun that they'll stop and ask us what we're doing, and of course we tell them we're playing pickleball and to come join us. These courts are so popular that we have had over 30 people playing and waiting to play on most Saturdays.

I have played softball, ping pong, tennis, bowling, golf, jogged, gone to the gym, and I can say that this is the best activity/sport bar none. It is so much fun, relieves stress, good exercise and very social. You can find pickleballers playing anywhere from one to five hours on any given day. I hear how much weight people have lost and having tons of fun in the process. I have met over 80+ people just from playing and know them by name.

I can't express to you how strongly I feel that The City of Martinez should help get dedicated pickleball courts in Martinez. The demand is very high. I estimate we have over 200 people of all ages that play pickleball in the East Bay but few places to play. We're only asking for one tennis court venue. There are plenty of places for tennis

players to play tennis but very few for pickleballers. We are also willing to fundraise to get dedicated courts.

Looking ahead, we can hold tournaments which would help bring revenue to the City: lodging, food, etc. Other cities that hold tournaments hold 3-day events with a couple hundred entrants. This can only help the City of Martinez.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lori Tokutomi

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Lori K. Tokutomi
Tokutomi & Associates
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From: Jim Heick <ghlyghoti@yahoo.com>

To: Carolyn Daniels <proflo@aol.com>

Subject: Council Meeting

Date: Tue, Jun 23, 2015 3:04 pm

Carolyn,

I decided not to fight the traffic to go to the council meeting. I hope the letter below will help. I know it's not the same as a warm body.

Martinez City Council
re: Pickleball

I am a resident of Oakland and one of many people who live outside of Martinez who have been using the Martinez pickleball courts adjacent to Hidden Valley Park two or three times a week since they were resurfaced for pickleball. Unfortunately, the courts are often crowded, resulting in long waiting times, so I, and others, whether residents of Martinez or not, don't play on them as much as we would like. Were more courts available, I am certain I, and other non-residents would spend more time in Martinez.

I do feel there is some small benefit to Martinez by having non-residents come there on a regular basis. We often go to lunch after playing, we buy gasoline, and sometimes even shop. The economic impact may be quite small, but it exists.

Also, while pickleball players are by no means all seniors, the City of Martinez is providing an opportunity for seniors, of which I am one, to engage in vigorous, healthful, outdoor exercise in a safe and pleasant environment. Unfortunately, those opportunities are far too rare.

My fellow pickleballers and I sincerely appreciate what the City of Martinez has done for us, and hope you will continue to give us your support in any way you can.

Sincerely,

Jim Heick
Oakland

Pickleball's popularity calls for flexibility by rec center officials

Good news: Coachella Valley Pickleball is still growing rapidly!

Bad news: There is a real big problem at the Palm Desert Recreation Center!

Specifically, the management fails to understand that there is this age old phenomena called "supply and demand" and "best use of community resources."

Since this area is very seasonal for outdoor physical activities, the indoor courts at the Rec Center play a vital role for dozens of active citizens throughout the hot months.

As background, last summer we had to lay down tape to outline the courts every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and then remove it at the end of play each day. We also use temporary nets that have to be assembled and disassembled each day.

This summer, things are better. The Rec Center has allowed us to leave the tape down as a semi-permanent court setting (three courts fit into the basketball/multipurpose floor area) So far things sound OK, but here now is the significant evolving problem: The sport of pickleball is growing too fast for the Rec Center to manage properly.

For example, the past two Tuesdays and Thursdays, there have been about 2 to 4 basketball players playing on a single basket end of the room from about 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. They have the whole room if they want to use it for a full court game. However, it never happens because there are not enough basketball players to fill 2 teams (that is 10 folks for you nonbasketballers). Then other players get it again at 1 p.m. because that is the way the Rec Center management has done it in the past.

Meanwhile 40 to 50 Pickleball players jam into the allotted Tuesday and Thursday 10



Byron Graves

a.m.-1 p.m. slot. This past Tuesday there were 50 players so we had to play shortened games to get everyone some playing time.

Ho hum for failing to take a business or economics course on supply and demand. Oh how fun it is to watch bureaucracy at its finest in this little setting. The bottom line Rec Center management is that you need to understand who is using your facilities to the highest and best use of the citizenry. And guess what, it's the fee paying Pickleballers 10 to 1 over basketballers! I got it, so why don't you get it? (I trust my degree in business isn't interfering with my rational thought process here)

The answer is really simple; allocate more days and more time for the fastest growing sport in the United States and in the Coachella Valley in particular. Folks of all ages are playing it now, not just us old folks/Senior Citizens or whatever you want to call us retirees age group.

Simple problem identified!
Simple solution identified!
Hey, if I can figure it out, then I can only assume the bureaucrats at the Rec Center could have a handle on it, too.

One final note on the Rec Center is deserved. It is a beautiful, clean facility with a friendly front desk staff, so management folks, you are doing something right here. So why not get it all right.

Email Byron Graves of Indian Wells at byron@nethere.com.

Nancy Boyd Court Usage

	<u>Time</u>	<u>people</u>	<u>number of courts</u>
1-17-15	2:00 PM	0	0
1-19-15	9:00 AM	0	0
	12:30 PM	2	1
1-25-15	3:00 PM	4	1
1-27-15	4:45 PM	0	0
2-2-15	12:15 PM	4	2
2-3-15	6:30 PM	0	0
2-10-15	6:30 PM	4	2
2-11-15	7:00 PM	2	1
2-12-15	9:00 AM	0	0
	3:30 PM	0	0
	7:00 PM	2	1
2-13-15	11:30 AM	2	1
2-14-15	11:30 AM	3	1
2-15-15	3:00 PM	2	1
2-16-15	10:30 AM	0	0
	3:15 PM	5	2
2-17-15	11:15 AM	0	0
	6:30 PM	0	0
		0	0
2-19-15	1:30 PM	0	0
2-12-15	2:00 PM	2	1
2-24-15	9:00 AM	2	1
2-25-15	7:30 PM	1	1
3-3-15	4:00 PM	4	2
3-4-15	noon	2	1
	7:30 PM	2	1
3-6-15	7:30 PM	0	0
3-7-15	4:30 PM	2	1

not tennis playing with dog

		People	Camps
3-8-15	7:30 P M	⊙	⊙
3-9-15	12:15	2	1
3-10-15	6:00 P M	⊙	⊙
3-11-15	12:30 P M	⊙	⊙
3-13-15	6:30 P M	⊙	⊙
3-14-15	5:15 P M	4	2
3-16-15	noon	⊙	⊙
	8:00 P M	2	1
	6:00 P M	⊙	⊙
3-17-15		⊙	⊙
3-18-15	11:30 A M	⊙	⊙
3-20-15	6:30 P M	4	2
3-22-15	12:30 P M	4	2
3-23-15	11:30 A M	⊙	⊙
3-24-15	5:00 P M	4	2
3-26-15	3:00 P M	⊙	⊙
3-27-15	7:00 P M	⊙	⊙
	3:00 P M	⊙	⊙
3-28-15	3:00 P M	⊙	⊙
3-31-15	2:00 P M	⊙	⊙
5-24-15	1:00 P M	4	2
	2:00 P M	2	1
	7:00 P M	⊙	⊙
5-25-15	5:00 P M	⊙	⊙
5-26-15	4:00 P M	4	2
5-27-15	4:00 P M	1	1
	6:00 P M	⊙	⊙
5-28-15	4:30 P M	2	1
5-29-15	2:00 P M	⊙	⊙
	4:00 P M	⊙	⊙
5-30-15	3:30 P M	2	1
5-31-15	12:15 P M	5	2
	7:30 P M	2	1

		people	counts
6-1-15	12:30 PM	2	1
	8:30 PM	2	1
6-2-15	8:30 AM	0	0
6-3-15	5:00 PM	2	1
6-4-15	3:30 PM	0	0
6-5-15	2:30 PM	0	0
	5:00 PM	0	0
6-6-15	4:30 AM	0	0
6-7-15	9:30 AM	0	0
	3:30 PM	1	1 playing with dog
6-8-15	11:00 AM	0	0
6-9-15	2:30 PM	0	0
	6:15 PM	0	0
6-10-15	2:00 PM	0	0
6-11-15	1:30 PM	0	0
	5:00 PM	0	0
6-12-15	7:30 PM	4	2
6-13-15	1:00 PM	1	2
	4:15 PM	4	2
6-14-15	12:30 PM	2	1
	6:15 PM	2	0
6-15-15	3:30 AM	0	0
6-16-15	1:15	1	Back board only
6-17-15	3:00 PM	0	0
6-18-15	10:00 AM	0	0
	5:00 PM	0	0
6-19-15	9:00 AM	4	2
6-20-15	12:30 PM	2	1
	6:15 PM	0	0
6-21-15	Noon	2	1
	7:15 PM	0	0
6-22-15	4:30 PM	2	1
6-23-15	10:30 AM	0	0