City of Piedmont
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: September 5, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Rosanna Bayon Moore, City Administrator

SUBJECT: Future Use and Restriping of Linda Beach Tennis Courts (Recommended CEQA Action: Exempt Under Sections 15301, 15323, 15601(b)(3))

RECOMMENDATION

1) Dedicate and restripe Linda Beach Tennis Courts for pickleball play and allow for youth programming to advance tennis and pickleball skill building for ages up to 11 years old; find the restriping and repairs exempt under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301, 15304, 15232, and 15601(b)(3)

2) Establish maximum court use as follows effective immediately:

Mon	**Tues**	**Wed**	**Thurs**	**Fri**	**Sat**	**Sun**
9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	2-6 PM Youth only	9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	9-3 PM Adult Pickleball open play

* During Daylight Saving Time, play shall be extended by 1 hour to 7PM Monday through Saturday.
** During school breaks, time of Youth only play may change but not exceed 4 hours.

3) Require use of City approved low noise equipment list posted at the courts.

4) Evaluate Adult pickleball play fee scenarios for action by the City Council within six months.

5) Provide a progress update to the City Council in six months.

6) Revisit maximum court use on an annual basis.

BACKGROUND

Linda Beach Playfield is adjacent to Beach School and includes two tennis courts with overlayed

striping for four pickleball courts, a soccer/baseball field, a tots play structure and sand pit, and picnic tables. There is also a public restroom. This public facility is located in Zone B. The two tennis courts were added to the park prior to 1925, and the overlay of 4 pickleball courts was added in 2019. The court facility is approximately 9,850 square feet.

In May of 2018, the Recreation Commission formed the Subcommittee on Tennis Court Use and Pickleball. The Subcommittee was tasked with reviewing the management of the City's tennis facilities and programming, as well as addressing growing interest in pickleball in Piedmont. The subcommittee arrived at two primary recommendations for pickleball: 1) to form a partnership with PUSD to explore creation of pickleball courts at the PMS Courts and 2) to implement an eight-month trial of dedicated pickleball hours at Hampton and Linda Beach Courts. Those recommendations were adopted by the Recreation Commission on January 16, 2019 and City Council on March 4, 2019.

Immediately following City Council's approval, pickleball courts were lined on both Hampton and Linda Beach tennis courts. The eight-month pickleball trial period began on April 8, 2019. After the fourth week of the trial period, a community survey regarding pickleball noise was mailed to all Piedmont residents within 350 feet of the tennis courts at both Beach and Hampton. The survey received 29 responses with most (18 of 29) finding the noise associated with pickleball to be negligible or non-existent. Four (4) respondents characterized the noise as noticeable but acceptable. Given the favorable responses, the City continued with the remaining six months of the trial period and did not engage an acoustical consultant at the time.

On June 3, 2019, the City Council approved a Use Agreement between the City of Piedmont (City) and the Piedmont Unified School District (PUSD) for the Piedmont Middle School (PMS) Sport Courts and approved an appropriation of $50,000 to fund the resurfacing, configuration and striping of the courts. The construction of the PMS Sports Courts was completed on August 24, 2019 and, per the Use Agreement between the City and PUSD, access is available for City use during non-school hours in coordination with PUSD.

In September of 2019, the Subcommittee met to review the eight-month pickleball trial period which was set to conclude in November of 2019. Subsequently, a notice of a public meeting was posted. The notice was also distributed to concerned segments of the community, including neighbors of Beach and Hampton Parks, and the pickleball and tennis communities. A public community meeting was held on October 7, 2019, at which open comment regarding the eight-month trial period was solicited. Written comments were also received from the public. At the Recreation Commission meeting on October 17, 2019, the Subcommittee provided a tentative set of conclusions and recommendations, solicited public comment, and announced that a final set of conclusions and recommendations would be presented for consideration at the Recreation Commission's November 20, 2019 meeting.

At the November meeting, the Recreation Commission approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to move forward with dedicated hours of play for pickleball and for the Piedmont Recreation Department to sponsor and support formal instruction and programming to expand and foster pickleball play among different age groups and expertise levels.

On January 6, 2020, the City Council approved the Commission's recommendation to approve dedicated pickleball hours of play as follows:

- Hampton Courts: Wednesday and Friday: 12:30-3 pm
- Linda Beach Courts: Tuesday and Thursday: 10am-1pm
- PMS Sports Courts: Saturdays 10-1 and Sundays 1-4pm

At that time, the City Council also authorized the Recreation Director to designate hours and regulations for pickleball play on City tennis courts. Currently, there is striping for four pickleball courts overlayed on top of two tennis courts at both the Linda Beach and Hampton Park facilities. The PMS Sport Courts are lined for multi-use including striping for nine badminton courts, three street hockey courts, one volleyball court and six pickleball courts.

As the interest in playing pickleball continued to grow, demand for pickleball exceeded available court space in Piedmont. Pickleball play was expanded in February 2022 with an additional 30 minutes of play added to Hampton and one additional day of play added to Linda Beach. Hours at the PMS Sport Courts were also expanded to weekends from 9AM to 3PM. Even with additional hours, pickleball players were experiencing full courts with 20-30 players waiting to play and demanding additional time and dedicated courts.

The City of Piedmont resurfaces and repairs tennis courts on a rotational schedule set in the Facilities Maintenance Plan in this order: Linda Beach, Hampton, Corey Reich Tennis Center and Park Courts. The City completed a full cycle of repairs and resurfacing on all courts between 2016 and 2020, including larger renovations to Hampton and Corey Reich Tennis Center courts. To start the cycle again, repairs to Linda Beach were scheduled for Fiscal Year 2023-24 which will allow for address of deteriorating conditions, including damage caused by tree roots. At the Recreation Commission's September 2022 meeting, an item was considered to form a subcommittee to look at possible expansion of pickleball at Linda Beach prior to the resurfacing and restriping of the courts. The Commission did not vote in favor of forming a subcommittee at that time. Instead, staff was urged to move forward with a trial of dedicated pickleball play at Linda Beach Courts. The goals were to gain a better understanding of demand for pickleball in the community and gather data to make a recommendation about restriping at the end of the trial.

On January 13, 2023, letters were sent to approximately 300 property owners surrounding the Linda Beach Courts. These neighbors were notified of the proposed five-month trial to take place from February 27, 2023 to July 31, 2023. In response to initial feedback that pickleball impacts were concentrated only at Linda Beach and court capacity for tennis was inadequately programmed, the Recreation Commission decided to reconsider the trial and parameters at their February 2023 meeting.

On January 31, 2023 a press release was published with information about the proposed trial, inviting the community to attend and provide input. Leading up to the February meeting, the Commission received 88 written comments, six of which expressed concerns with pickleball noise. The Recreation Commission considered written correspondence, in addition to public comments and ultimately approved the trial parameters for pickleball.

The trial began on March 1, 2023 and was set to end on July 31, 2023. Linda Beach was open for dedicated pickleball play from 9AM to 9PM (or dusk), Monday through Sunday. Pickleball play at Hampton was suspended during the trial to provide for additional hours for tennis play and the hours at PMS Sports Courts were extended on weekends from 9AM to 5PM. To track usage during the trial, pickleball players were asked to check-in by scanning a QR code at the Linda Beach Courts which opened a short survey asking about the number of players in the group, how long they intended to play, their mode of transportation to the courts and if they were a resident or non-resident of Piedmont.

In April 2023, the Recreation Commission voted to form a subcommittee to review concerns, issues and data collected during the trial and develop criteria to aid the Commission in forming a recommendation on the restriping of Linda Beach Courts.

Throughout the trial, staff and the Recreation Commission received and reviewed extensive community input regarding the trial in the form of emails, public comments, player statements and petitions. In reviewing feedback, the Subcommittee found there were several common themes expressed by both sides of the issue and the Subcommittee looked to these themes to develop a framework of criteria that could be used to aid the Commission in making a recommendation for the restriping of the courts. At the May 2023 Commission meeting, the Subcommittee proposed structuring the evaluation of Linda Beach restriping based on three criteria: safety, noise and best use of space. The Recreation Commission subsequently approved the proposed approach as presented.

Over the course of the next two months, the Subcommittee met numerous times to collect and analyze information associated with the three criteria listed above as well as from interviews, usage data, technical reports, community survey results and community input. A brief summary of the approach is as follows:

Safety

The Subcommittee interviewed Piedmont Police Staff, Schoolmates Staff and PUSD Staff. The Piedmont Police Speed Trailer was deployed to conduct traffic counts on Linda Avenue and provided data from the counts and the pickleball QR code check ins to a third-party traffic engineer to evaluate.

Noise
The City engaged Salter, Inc. as a qualified and experienced technical consultant to conduct a noise survey of Linda Beach Courts and specifically to examine noise generated from pickleball play to assure that the pickleball noise did not violate and City policies or regulations regarding noise. The study established that pickleball activities do not violate Piedmont's General Plan or Noise Ordinance. The Salter Study noted that "noise levels varied +/- 2 dB when comparing days with pickleball, limited pickleball, and ambient (no pickleball). As noted in the General Plan, changes of less than 3 dB are generally considered not perceptible and a "less than significant" impact under CEQA." The Salter Study also concluded that measured noise levels do not exceed those considered normally acceptable by the City General Plan, and do not violate the City's noise ordinance. The Subcommittee also communicated through correspondence or interviews with the Beach School Principal, Schoolmates staff, and Piedmont Police Department personnel to collect information on noise complaints from school personnel and community members during the trial.

Best Use of Space
The Subcommittee considered what is the best use of space to best serve the greatest number of Piedmont residents. They reviewed tennis reservation data from 2021 and 2022 that showed Beach Tennis Courts were the least reserved courts of Piedmont's four tennis facilities. They noted that when the courts are used as pickleball courts they can potentially serve twice as many players compared with when used as tennis courts.

The Subcommittee looked at where tennis decal holders lived and where they reserved courts and found that residents do not necessarily use the court closest to their homes to play but rather make tennis reservations throughout the City. They reviewed tennis court availability and usage data during the trial which showed that there was significant time available for tennis reservations at Hampton, Park, and Corey Reich Tennis Center while Beach was closed to tennis.

QR code check-ins generated at total of 8,168 player check-ins from the beginning of the trial through mid July 2023 and data showed that there was a consistent distribution of players by day of the week and consistent play during the day.

The Subcommittee released a community survey inviting residents to share how the trial had affected their recreational activity choices and specifically impacts on tennis and pickleball play. The survey received 810 responses and 563 open-ended comments which were all reviewed by the Subcommittee.

SUBCOMMITEE CONCLUSIONS

The Subcommittee concluded that there was no evidence that pickleball play has created a safety hazard at Beach school. They found that a significantly greater number of people would be able to play pickleball on the courts than tennis or any other recreational activity. Lastly, while the sound study did not find pickleball noise to exceed standards set forth by the General Plan or Municipal Code, the Subcommittee concluded that additional noise reduction strategies could be considered to further reduce pickleball sound in the neighborhood.

RECREATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

At the Recreation Commission meeting on July 21, 2023, the Subcommittee presented their report and recommendations on the restriping of the Linda Beach Courts based on fact finding efforts. The Commission received a significant number of written comments in advance of the meeting and 44 public comments from attendees in person at the meeting. While the vast majority of comments were in favor of dedicated pickleball use of Linda Beach Courts, neighbors from the surrounding area expressed that the substantial increase in utilization of the facilities continues to be a concern.

After considering the report, community input and much deliberation, the Commission approved the Subcommittee's recommendation. In summary, the Recreation Commission recommended that:

1) The Courts be restriped for permanent Pickleball only play and they be used as Pickleball courts with permanent Pickleball nets.

2) The hours of Pickleball play at the Courts be limited to 9AM to 6PM each day of the week.

3) At the conclusion of the Trial on July 31, 2023 from August 1, 2023 until Council considers the Commission's recommendations, the Linda Beach and Hampton Courts revert back to the pre-Trial dedicated Pickleball hours (i.e., Beach: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10AM to 1PM; Hampton: Wednesday and Friday from 12:30PM to 3PM).

4) To encourage Pickleball play at the PMS Sports Courts, Staff should work with the PUSD to maximize the time available for Pickleball play at these courts, especially in the late afternoon and evening.

5) Only low noise balls and paddles be used on the Beach courts. Players will be expected to comply with an approved low noise equipment list posted at the courts. This list should be updated as necessary by PRD. The Subcommittee recognizes that the cost of low noise equipment could be a barrier to court access. Therefore, the Subcommittee requests that PRD develop a check-out system to provide equipment to those who need it.

6) The City continue to leverage the Pickleball community leadership group to help communicate the low-noise equipment rules. PRD should conduct regular audits of the Courts to ensure the rules are being followed.

7) The City should request specific noise reduction strategies from the sound consultant, such as sound barriers, that would further reduce Pickleball noise transfer at the Courts.

8) A future Commission Tennis and Pickleball subcommittee should be formed to review the possibility of reservations, court fees, and rules.

9) The appropriate City department reviews passenger loading signage near the Courts at Beach Elementary School.

ADDITIONAL EFFORTS TO EXPLORE POTENTIAL SOUND MITIGATION AND COMPROMISE

On August 7, 2023, the Piedmont City Council authorized City staff to pursue the formation of a working group to explore opportunities for compromise. Despite the Salter Study conclusion that measured noise levels do not exceed those considered normally acceptable by the City General Plan, and do not violate the City's noise ordinance, the efforts of the Recreation Commission and the Subcommittee have provided the City with important insight into pickleball demand, its transformative effects and neighborhood impacts. It is clear from the inception of pickleball play in Piedmont through the trial period that great recreational enjoyment is derived from play of the sport. At the same time, elevated demand and increased facilities utilization may produce unintended consequences. The extensive hours and duration of the trial period and activation of a largely dormant public facility have challenged the surrounding neighborhood. Neighbors continue to be concerned about co-existence with pickleball play at Linda Beach Courts.

The Recreation Commission examined dimensions of pickleball that have been of acute interest to neighbors and enthusiasts. The City's study prepared by Salter, Inc. establishes that pickleball activities do not violate Piedmont's General Plan or Noise Ordinance. The Salter Study noted that "noise levels varied +/- 2 dB when comparing days with pickleball, limited pickleball, and ambient (no pickleball). As noted in the General Plan, changes of less than 3 dB are generally considered not perceptible and a "less than significant" impact under CEQA." The Recreation Commission's recommendation to reduce the hours of play at Linda Beach Courts by 25% from 84 hours per week during the trial to 63 hours represents a substantial effort to mitigate neighborhood impacts in the absence of a noise ordinance violation. Still, further mitigation appeared to be a common interest expressed among stakeholders and echoed in the Recreation Commission's recommendation *to request specific noise reduction strategies from the sound consultant, such as sound barriers, that would further reduce Pickleball noise transfer at the Courts*.

After the July 23, 2023 Recreation Commission meeting, City staff pursued dialogue with two distinct stakeholder groups - pickleball enthusiasts and concerned neighbors. A common point raised in each meeting was interest in obtaining more information on sound mitigation measures. Potential measures were subsequently published as part of the City's exploration of a "Good Neighbor Policy" (See Attachment A).

At the request of City staff and following City Council action on August 7, 2023, a working group was formed and met two times over a two-week period. A single representative from the Linda Beach neighborhood and the pickleball community, as well as the Recreation Director and City Administrator participated.

City staff specifically sought to review potential sound mitigation measures should pickleball programming be expanded with future utilization of the courts. The City defined the following outcomes from the outset of two meetings of the working group:

1) To optimize community resources
2) To identify opportunities for compromise
3) To support respectful co-existence
4) To inform staff recommendation

City staff are grateful for community representatives agreeing to meet and engage in additional dialogue. Following the two meetings held, each representative submitted a summary of respective positions (See Attachments C and D). Although an earnest effort was undertaken, mutual agreement was not attained.

In recognition of the history and process undertaken to date, City staff's recommendation seeks to consider the totality of facts, analysis, opinions and perspectives presented. The proposed hours for court use reduce trial hours by 61% and the Recreation Commission's recommendation of hours by 19%. Designating a day for youth programming to promote tennis and pickleball skill building reflects community input and also presents the additional benefit of reducing the level of overall activity at Linda Beach during daylight hours.

Based on the foregoing, staff recommends the following Council actions:

1) Dedicate and restripe Linda Beach Tennis Courts for pickleball play and allow for youth programming to advance tennis and pickleball skill building for ages up to 11 years old.

   Beach courts repairs include the removal of tree and tree roots that caused court surface damage and the resurfacing and restriping four pickleball courts. The four courts will be restriped side by side in a north/south orientation. Fence posts will be replaced. New net posts, nets and net barriers will be installed.

2) Establish maximum court use as follows effective immediately:

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	2-6 PM Youth only	9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	9-6 PM Adult Pickleball open play	9-3 PM Adult Pickleball open play

   *During Daylight Saving Time, play shall be extended by 1 hour to 7PM Monday through Saturday.
   *During school breaks, time of Youth only play may change but not exceed 4 hours.

3) Require use of City approved low noise equipment list posted at the courts.

4) Evaluate Adult pickleball play fee scenarios for consideration by the City Council within six months.

5) Provide a progress update to the City Council in six months.

6) Revisit maximum court use on an annual basis.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The proposed use is exempt from the provision of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15301, 15323 and 15601(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Section 15301

Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use.

The proposed project to restripe the existing Linda Beach tennis courts for permanent pickleball play is exempt under the Class 1 (Existing Facilities) exemption since the proposed project involves the re-surfacing of existing tennis courts and converting the courts into permanent pickleball courts. These are activities that currently occur on the site. There will be no expansion of the footprint beyond the existing area. As to hours of usage, the facility has been used for tennis courts and utilized during the hours of 8:00AM to 9:00PM (91 hours per week). Since April of 2019, the courts have included pickleball use. During the pickleball trial period, the courts were used 84 hours per week, and at the conclusion of the trial period on July 31, 2023, there are presently 9 hours of dedicated pickleball play per week. Staff's recommendation is to have pickleball at the site for 51 hours. Because the hours of operation for the courts generally have been 91 hours, the use of the courts for 51 hours of pickleball is negligible and involves no expansion of use.

Section 15323

Section 15323 consists of the normal operations of existing facilities for public gatherings for which the facilities were designed, where there is a past history of the facility being used for the same or similar kind of purpose. For the purposes of this section, "past history" shall mean that the same or similar kind of activity has been occurring for at least three years and that there is a reasonable expectation that the future occurrence of the activity would not represent a change in the operation of the facility. Facilities included within this exemption include, but are not limited to, racetracks, stadiums, convention centers, auditoriums, amphitheaters, planetariums, swimming pools, and amusement parks.

This proposed use is exempt from CEQA based on Section 15323 due to the fact that this is an existing recreational facility. The facility has been used for tennis courts for over 95years with hours of operation of 91 hours a week. Pickleball activities have occurred on premises since April of 2019. Staff's proposed use of the facility for pickleball for 51 hours a week would thus not represent a change in the operation of the facility.

Section 15061(b)(3)

Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.

The re-striping of the tennis courts for pickleball use does not impact overall usage of the site as the facility is presently used as a recreational facility for 91 hours per week. Increasing hours of dedicated pickleball play to 51 hours per week would not have a significant effect on the environment. Moreover, increased use of pickleball does not change the underlying use of the site.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Salter, Inc. Memorandum dated August 1, 2023
B. Recreation Commission Subcommittee Report dated July 14, 2023
C. Requested Neighborly Accommodation Proposal from Piedmont Pickleball Committee dated August 23, 2023
D. Report from Pickleball Neighborhood Working Group Representative Kara Christenson dated August 25, 2023

By: Chelle Putzer, Recreation Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 1 August 2023

NAME:	COMPANY:	EMAIL:
Rosanna Bayon Moore, City Administrator	City of Piedmont	rbayonmoore@piedmont.gov

FROM: Ben Piper

SUBJECT: Linda Beach Park Pickleball Courts
Potential Noise Reduction Strategies

PROJECT: 23-0212

Though measured noise levels were in the normally acceptable range as defined by the General Plan, pickleball noise was observed to be audible in the residential zoning adjacent to the courts. This memo presents noise reduction strategies that could be implemented to reduce the propagation of pickleball noise to the surrounding neighborhood. Consider applying some or all of the following:

- Provide a solid material (such as attached to the chain link fence) at the court boundaries. The goal would be to break direct line-of-site between the courts and neighboring residences as much as feasible. We expect a barrier with the following characteristics would reduce pickleball noise by as much as 15 dB in some locations, which would be a noticeable reduction:
    - Be situated at the top of the chain link fence and hang down to no more than 3 feet above the court surface
    - The material could extend the entire perimeter of the court, but should at least be located across the east and west sides of the court
    - Be as continuous (free of cracks and gaps) as possible
    - Be constructed of a material with a minimum surface density of 1 psf, such as the following:
        - exterior-grade plywood
        - mass loaded vinyl (https://kineticsnoise.com/knm/mass-loaded-barrier)
        - construction sound blankets (https://www.soundblanketcurtain.com/product/construction-sound-blankets/)
        - Plexiglass (such as if visibility from the streets to the courts is a safety concern)

  Note that where the barrier does not break line-of-sight to at least portions of the court (i.e., due to elevated positions of nearby receivers), then this would not reduce pickleball noise. Surveying work

could be conducted to provide additional clarification of sightlines between nearby residences and the courts.

- Reduce the hours of play.
- Though we did not investigate noise generated by different paddles, studies conducted by others indicate that some models are quieter. Sun City Grand Pickleball Club in Surprise, Az has published a list of "acceptable" and "unacceptable" paddles based on noise[1]. This has been included in Appendix A for reference. The club has not publicly clarified the criteria that they used to qualify or disqualify paddles as acceptable. However, we understand that the testing was conducted by an acoustical consulting firm. Similar enforcement could be used at the Linda Beach courts.
- Similarly, "quiet" balls could be used.

Our measurements indicate that pickleball noise at this site is directional – with noise levels parallel to the direction of play measured at 3 dB higher than perpendicular. However, this topic is still being analyzed in the broader acoustical consulting community as additional data is collected. Therefore, we do not recommend reorienting the courts at this time, unless this has been coordinated ahead of time with the neighbors.

Our measurements indicate that pickleball is one of a few noise sources at the project site. Because there are other significant contributors (e.g., bus and other vehicle traffic, rec field activity, dog park noise), we do not expect that overall (L_{dn}) noise levels at the surrounding low-density residential zonings would decrease significantly with implementation of these mitigations. However, these would reduce pickleball noise transfer specifically.

* * *

This concludes our summary of potential pickleball noise reduction strategies. Please let us know if you have any questions.

[1] http://web.archive.org/web/20220308110745/https://pball.grandpickleball.org/paddlerule.pdf

APPENDIX A: SUN CITY GRAND PICKLEBALL CLUB – RECOMMENDED PADDLES

Grand Pickleball Club Paddle Sound Study
Sort by Manufacturer and Model - March 1, 2022

Brand	Model	Usage
A11N Sports	Hyperfeather	**Green Zone** Approved for use in Sun City Grand. ONLY BUY PADDLES LISTED IN THE GREEN ZONE. Paddles not on this list may not be used on SCG Pickleball courts.
Aero Paddles	Swift	
Aero Paddles	Swift 2.0	
Amazin' Aces	AA Pro Series Cambria	
Amazin' Aces	Quality Sporting Goods Graphite	
Amazin' Aces	Signature	
Armour Pickleball	Axiom Compressed Core Technology	
Armour Pickleball	Axis Compressed Core Technology	
Armour Pickleball	Helio	
Armour Pickleball	Helio Carbon Graphite	
Armour Pickleball	Helio X2	
Armour Pickleball	Invigor	
Armour Pickleball	Invigor 8	
Athlete Ratings	Play Hard	
Darin's Pickleball Paddle	Pro Shop	
Diaden	Icon	
Diaden	Riptide	
Dink Sports	Black and Blue	
Eastport Pickleball	Champion	
Engage Pickleball	Elite Pro	
Engage Pickleball	Encore	
Engage Pickleball	Encore Blade	
Engage Pickleball	Encore Lite	
Engage Pickleball	Encore Pro	
Engage Pickleball	Encore X Series	
Engage Pickleball	Guardian	
Engage Pickleball	Guardian II	
Engage Pickleball	Mystic	
Engage Pickleball	Pulse	
Engage Pickleball	Spartan	
Engage Pickleball	Tear Drop	
Engage Pickleball	Ultimate	
Engage Pickleball	Ultimate	
Engage Pickleball	Ultra	
Franklin Pickleball	Ben Jones	
Franklin Pickleball	Ben Jones 16mm	
Franklin Pickleball	Centre	
Franklin Pickleball	X1000	
Gamma Sports	Compass	
Gamma Sports	Compass LH	
Gamma Sports	Jester	
Gamma Sports	Legend	
Gamma Sports	Needle	
Gamma Sports	Proton	
Gamma Sports	Razor	
Gamma Sports	Shard	
Gamma Sports	Twister	
Gearbox	GX5 Control	
Gearbox	GX5 Power	
Gearbox	GX6 Control	
Gearbox	GX6 Power	
GRÜVN	The Launch-C	
GRÜVN	The Launch-G	
GRÜVN	The Gripper-G	
GRÜVN	The Rounder-G	
Head	Extreme Elite	
Head	Extreme Lite	
Head	Margaritaville Changes	
Head	Margaritaville FINS	
Head	Margaritaville It's 5 O'Clock Somewhere	
Head	Margaritaville Washed in the Ocean	
Head	Radical Tour L	
Head	Radical XL	
Head	Extreme Pro	
Head	Extreme Pro L	
Head	Extreme Tour	
Head	Radical Elite	
Head	Radical Pro	
Head	Radical Tour	
JP WinLook	Graphite Honeycomb (Speedy)	
Laser Sport Products	1402 (Wood)	
Laser Sport Products	1403 (Wood)	
Laser Sport Products	1404 (Wood)	
Manta	Cylon	
Manta	Extreme	
Manta	Matrix	
Manta	Tornado F5 Edgeless (GGG) Poly Core	
Monarch	Dragon Slayer	
Monarch	Mercenary Graphite	
Nexxed Pickleball	Pro	
Nexxed Pickleball	Victor	
Nexxed Pickleball	X1	
Nexxed Pickleball	X2	
Onix Sports	Attitude	
Onix Sports	Evoke Graphite	
Onix Sports	Evoke Oval	
Onix Sports	Evoke Premier	
Onix Sports	Evoke Premier Light	
Onix Sports	Evoke Pro	
Onix Sports	Evoke Square	
Onix Sports	Graphite Phantom Widebody	
Onix Sports	Graphite Zen	
Onix Sports	Outbreak	
Onix Sports	React	
Onix Sports	Signature	
Onix Sports	Summit	
Onix Sports	Voyager	
Onix Sports	Voyager Pro	
Onix Sports	Wood	
Onix Sports	Z5 Widebody Graphite	
Onix Sports/S-Type	Core 2 Graphite	
Onix Sports/S-Type	Slammer Graphite	
Onix Sports/S-Type	Z5 Widebody	
PaddleBoardZ	Tracker	
Paddletek	Bantam EX-L	
Paddletek	Bantam EX-L Pro	
Paddletek	Bantam Sabre Pro	
Paddletek	Bantam TS-5	
Paddletek	Element	
Paddletek	Phoenix G6	
Paddletek	Phoenix Genesis	
Paddletek	Phoenix Genesis Pro	
Paddletek	Phoenix Pro	
Paddletek	Power Pro Play	
Paddletek	Stratus	
Paddletek	Sweet Spot	
Paddletek	Tempest	
Paddletek	Tempest Wave Pro	
Paddletek	Ultra Sweet Spot	
Paddletek	Ultra Warp 9	
Paddletek	Wave II	
Pickle-Ball Inc	Champion Eclipse	
Pickle-Ball Inc	Champion Graphite Elite	
Pickle-Ball Inc	Champion Graphite X	
Pickle-Ball Inc	Champion Graphite XL	
Pickle-Ball Inc	Champion PolyPro	
Pickle-Ball Inc	Champion Spark	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Attack (Graphite - Aluminum)	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Attack 2.0	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Elite (Graphite - Aluminum)	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Elite Finesse	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Elite Power	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Elite Skill	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Venom	
Pickleball International	Pursue Graphite	
Pickleball International	Tidal Wave Graphite	
Pickleball International	Velocity Graphite	
Pickleball Now	Classic Lite (edgeless, discontinued)	
Pickleball Now	Classic Metalite	
Pickleball Now	Club (wood)	
Pickleball Now	Force Classic	
Pickleball Now	PN2000	
Pickleball Now	The Edge	
Pickleball Now	The Force Metalite	
Pickleball Now	Whomper	
Pickleball Now	XL Lite	
PickleballCentral	Rally Flare	
PickleballCentral	Rally Graphite Power 5.0	
PickleballCentral	Rally PX Graphite	
PickleballCentral	Rally PXL Graphite	
PickleballCentral	Rally PXT Graphite	
PickleballCentral	Rally Tyro 2	
PickleballCentral	Rally Tyro 2 Pro	
PicklePaddles Plus	Hyper Wide	
PicklePaddles Plus	Nexus Alloy	
PicklePro	Barricade	
POP	Aluminum AMHC	
POP	ATHC Aluminum Tear Drop Honeycomb	
POP	AXLHC	
ProKennex	Ovation Speed	
ProKennex	Pro Speed	
PROLITE Sports	Apex Power	
PROLITE Sports	Blaster	
PROLITE Sports	Bolt	
PROLITE Sports	Chrome N-R-G	
PROLITE Sports	Covert	
PROLITE Sports	Crush Power Spin	
PROLITE Sports	Crush Power Spin 2.0	
PROLITE Sports	Cypher Pro	
PROLITE Sports	Enforcer Graphite	
PROLITE Sports	Groove	
PROLITE Sports	Ignite (I Series)	
PROLITE Sports	Illuminate 2.0 (I Series)	
PROLITE Sports	Magnum XP	
PROLITE Sports	Power	
PROLITE Sports	Rebel Power Spin	
PROLITE Sports	Rival Power Spin 2.0	
PROLITE Sports	Rocket XL	
PROLITE Sports	Rockstar	
PROLITE Sports	Skyline	
PROLITE Sports	Supernova Black Diamond Series Pro	
PROLITE Sports	Surface NRG	
PROLITE Sports	Titan	
PROLITE Sports	Titan Pro	

RiverStyks	Fox Orange	
RiverStyks	Fox Purple	
RiverStyks	Rubicon	
Selkirk Sport	200PXL	
Selkirk Sport	300AXL	
Selkirk Sport	Amp X5 Invikta McGuffin	
Selkirk Sport	EPIC 20PXL Composite	
Selkirk Sport	Epic 30PXL Graphite	
Selkirk Sport	Epic Amped X5 Fiberflex	
Selkirk Sport	Epic Vanguard X5 Quadcarbon Lightweight	
Selkirk Sport	Epic Vanguard X5 Quadcarbon Midweight	
Selkirk Sport	Invikta Vanguard X5 Quadcarbon Lightweight	
Selkirk Sport	Invikta Vanguard X5 Quadcarbon Midweight	
Selkirk Sport	Latitude Composite Wide Body	
Selkirk Sport	Mach6 Vanguard X5 Quadcarbon Lightweight	
Selkirk Sport	Mach6 Vanguard X5 Quadcarbon Midweight	
Selkirk Sport	Maxima 21P MXO	
Selkirk Sport	Maxima Amped X5 Fiberflex	
Selkirk Sport	Maxima Vanguard X5 Quadcarbon Lightweight	
Selkirk Sport	Maxima Vanguard X5 Quadcarbon Midweight	
Selkirk Sport	Neo	
Selkirk Sport	Omni	
Selkirk Sport	Omni Amped X5 Fiberflex	
Selkirk Sport	Pro S1C	

BANNED PADDLES

Grand Pickleball Club Paddle Sound Study
Sort by Manufacturer and Model - March 1, 2022

Brand	Model	Usage
Armour Pickleball	Helix	**Red Zone** Paddles banned for use in Sun City Grand. **DO NOT BUY THESE PADDLES.**
Coach Mo	Sweet Spot	
Coach Mo	Sweet Spot Lite	
Engage Pickleball	Encore GP	
Engage Pickleball	Encore Max	
Engage Pickleball	Encore XL	
Engage Pickleball	Raven Wide Body	
Franklin Pickleball	CM	
Gamma Sports	Atomic	
Gamma Sports	Fusion	
Gamma Sports	Ion	
Gamma Sports	Micron	
Gamma Sports	Mirage	
Gamma Sports	Voltage	
Head	Radical Pro L	
Manta	Pro-Team	
Manta	Stingray	
Manta	Tornado F5 & Manta Ray Nomex Core	
Onix Sports	Phantom Widebody	
Onix Sports/S-Type	Core 2 Composite	
Onix Sports/S-Type	Storm	
Onix Sports/S-Type	Storm Graphite	
Onix Sports/S-Type	Stryker Graphite	
Paddletek	Warp 9	
Pickleball Depot	Victory CF3	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Champion (Fiberglass-Aluminum)	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Champion (Graphite-Nomex)	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Champion Aluminum	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Champion Graphite	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Elite (Graphite - New Paper Core)	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Legacy	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Revolution (Graphite - Nomex)	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Tracer	
Pickle-Ball Inc.	Vortex 2.0	
Pickleball Now	Classic Lite II (2013 model with edge guard)	
Pickleball Now	Competition	
Pickleball Now	XL Carbon	
Pickleball Now	XL Lite	
PickleballPaddlesPlus	Hyper Lite	
PicklePaddles Plus	Nexus Carbon	
PicklePro	Classic	
POP	4.0 Touch	
POP	5.0 Touch	
POP	7.5 Dual Touch	
POP	E-glass /HC	
POP	Graphite Tear Honeycomb	
ProLite Sports	Aero-D Graphite	
ProLite Sports	Blaster 2 Alloy	
ProLite Sports	Classic	
ProLite Sports	Graphite Blaster	
ProLite Sports	Impact	
ProLite Sports	Intercept 1 Series	
ProLite Sports	Magnum Composite	
ProLite Sports	Magnum Graphite (Used)	
RiverStyks	Kicking Horse	
RiverStyks	Kicking Horse 2.0	
RiverStyks	Tigris	
Selkirk Sport	200AL	
Selkirk Sport	200AXL	
Selkirk Sport	S2 Prime X4 Fiberflex	
Third Shot Drop	Chaos TSD-CA	
Third Shot Drop	Chaos TSD-CB	
Third Shot Drop	Chaos TSD-CC	
Third Shot Drop	Chaos TSD-CD	
Third Shot Drop	Chaos TSD-CF	
Third Shot Drop	Chaos TSD-CG	
Third Shot Drop	Kratos TSD KA	
Third Shot Drop	Kratos TSD KC	
Third Shot Drop	Kratos TSD KD	
Third Shot Drop	Kratos TSD KF	
Viking	Re-Ignite	
Viking	Re-Ignite Lite	
Viking	Synergy	
WhipperSnapper	Light	
WhipperSnapper	Medium Weight (2 weeks old)	
WhipperSnapper	Medium Weight (Used - Detuned)	
WhipperSnapper	New model 2014	
WhipperSnapper	PT	
WhipperSnapper	X Heavy	
WhipperSnapper	XX Heavy	
Wilson	BLX	
Wilson	BLX	
Wilson	Energy	
Wilson	XCEL	
ZZT	Classic Thin (lite)	
ZZT	EVO Classic	

Piedmont Recreation Commission Subcommittee Report and Recommendations on the Restriping of the Linda Beach Courts and their Future Use

Report and recommendations made by

Commissioners Sara Ironside, Rebecca Posamentier, and Dick Carter

July 14, 2023

This provides the Piedmont Recreation Commission ("Commission") Linda Beach Courts ("Courts") Restriping Subcommittee's ("Subcommittee") report on and recommendation for restriping the Courts, as well as recommendations for the Courts' future use.

Subcommittee and Report Objectives

The objective of the Subcommittee and this report is to make a recommendation to the Commission regarding the most appropriate restriping of the Courts upon the necessary resurfacing project to be completed in 2023/24. This restriping will determine their use as the Courts may be restriped for Pickleball only, tennis only, or both. The Commission will consider the Subcommittee's recommendations in determining its recommendation to the Piedmont City Council's ("Council") for its final decision/s regarding the Courts.

Additionally, the Subcommittee feels that it and the Commission have a role in recommending to the Council appropriate additional actions and parameters for the most beneficial usage of the Courts by Piedmont residents (See recommendations at conclusion.).

The Subcommittee has seriously considered the robust community feedback in the creation of the following report and the recommendations.

Background

Historical Context

The game of Pickleball was created in 1965 and made its appearance in Piedmont in about 2018. Since then it has grown in popularity both nationally and in Piedmont. Pickleball is gaining popularity because it is easy to play, low impact, and appeals to a wide range of people from kids to senior citizens. Pickleball is a lifetime sport, rapidly growing, and one of the largest activities in Piedmont for its older adult population. The activity is expanding to youth, adults, and families.

Historically, the City of Piedmont ("City") operated 10 tennis courts at four sites. The City has had no dedicated, permanent Pickleball courts. Prior to 2019 there were no Pickleball courts available in Piedmont to accommodate the number of players who wanted to play.

In May 2018, an original Recreation Commission Pickleball and Tennis Subcommittee was formed to make recommendations to the Council regarding the play of Pickleball in Piedmont. In March 2019, the

Council approved this Subcommittee's recommendations for an 8-month trial of Pickleball play at different Piedmont courts. This trial lasted from April 2019 to November 2019.

In June 2019, the Council approved a partnership with the Piedmont Unified School District ("PUSD") to refinish the PMS Sport Courts' ("PMS Courts") surface. This was completed in August 2019. This refinishing provided lines for temporary Pickleball courts that could be set up and taken down with portable nets.

In September 2019, the Subcommittee was reactivated to review the trial. In January 2020, the City Council approved Pickleball play at the Hampton Park and Linda/Beach courts during limited, designated hours. In February 2022, an additional 30 minutes of play was added to Hampton's hours and an additional day was added at Beach.

Since that time, Pickleball's popularity has continued to grow and the demand for court time to play has continued to increase.

Current Situation Including Trial Process

The City has budgeted resurfacing and repair of the Courts, which have long been in poor condition. At the Commission meeting in September 2022 the Commission considered the establishment of a subcommittee to explore the expansion of Pickleball play at Beach Tennis Courts. In that meeting the Commission decided not to form a subcommittee to consider a trial ("Trial") of exclusive Pickleball play at the Linda/Beach courts, but rather told Piedmont Recreation staff ("Staff") it had no objection to Staff moving forward with a Trial of Pickleball play only at the Courts. The goal of the Trial is to gain a better understanding of the demand of this sport in the community and to gather data to make a recommendation about restriping them at the end of the Trial period.

Staff sent letters on January 13, 2023 informing neighbors in nearby homes of the proposed Trial 45 days prior to the Trial start date of February 27, 2023. At the request of a few neighbors, the Recreation Commission decided to reconsider the Trial and review the Trial parameters at its February 2023 meeting. Details of the Trial and parameters were considered and ultimately approved by the Commission. These parameters included times of play, opportunity for feedback via two designated Recreation Commission meetings to hear public comments, and a usage survey ("Beach Courts Pickleball Trial Survey") to better understand the interest of residents.

A press release was posted on January 31, 2023 with information about the Trial, the February 15th Commission meeting, and invited public comment. A second press release was posted on June 12, 2023 to publicize the Beach Courts Pickleball Trial Survey referenced in this report, subcommittee formation and July 19th Commission meeting. The third and final press release was issued on July 7, 2023 informing residents of the community feedback received, data collected during the trial, release of the results of the sound study and upcoming July 19th Commission meeting and the August 7th City Council meeting where the future use of the courts will be considered.

During the Trial period, the Beach Courts were converted to Pickleball play only. The court hours are 9 AM to 9 PM (or dusk, whichever comes first) all seven days of the week. Courts are locked in the evenings. Organized drop-in Pickleball play is available Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 1 PM.

The Courts are open for informal drop-in play during remaining hours. Pickleball hours at Hampton were suspended during the Trial. Pickleball play at the PMS Courts is available on Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 5 PM.

To track usage during the Trial, a QR code that linked to a short survey asked players to check in with information about how many people were in their group, how long they intended to play, if they were a resident/non-resident, and their mode of transportation. This data is referenced throughout this report.

Staff and the Commission have reviewed a significant amount of community input regarding the Trial of dedicated Pickleball play at the Courts. Input has come in the form of emails, public comments at public meetings, player statements from Pickleball players, a petition to halt the Trial, a petition to support creating dedicated Pickleball courts, Beach Courts Pickleball Trial Survey, and a petition regarding noise concerns.

Specifically, the Commission received 330 emails and pieces of correspondence, which were reviewed closely by the Subcommittee. The Commission heard 88 public comments during five Commission public meeting agendas items throughout the span of the Trial as of July 13, 2023. In reviewing community feedback, the Subcommittee found the following common themes:

Noise	Loss of neighborhood tennis courts
Popularity of Pickleball	Gain of neighborhood Pickleball courts
Parking availability	Condition and size of courts
Dedicated courts for Pickleball	Tennis & Pickleball fees, reservations, open play, drop-in, decals
Best utilization of Beach Courts	Public process
Community building valued	Courts for Tennis & Pickleball (Mixed use)
Availability of tennis courts in City	Health benefits
Traffic conditions	Pickleball popular with older adult community

Criteria for Final Recommendation

In its April 2023 meeting, the Commission formed this Subcommittee to study the issues and make a recommendation on the Courts' restriping to the Commission, which, if approved, will go to the Council for its final decision on the restriping and use of the Courts in August, 2023.

In May 2023, the Commission approved a Subcommittee recommendation that the Commission's recommendation for the restriping the Courts should be based on the consideration of the following three framework criteria:

1. Safety
   This is the physical safety of the Beach Elementary School students.

2. Noise
   This is the amount of noise associated with Pickleball play that is experienced by the residents of homes and Beach School near the Courts.

3. Best Use of Space
   This is what the Subcommittee judges to be the fullest and most beneficial use of the Courts' space for Piedmont residents.

The Subcommittee recognized that there are other issues associated with Pickleball play at the Courts, but decided that these issues would not significantly influence its final decisions and recommendations regarding the Courts. Therefore, the Subcommittee chose to not include them in its evaluation, but rather would focus its evaluation and recommendations on these three areas that would.

City, Staff, and Subcommittee Actions

The City, Staff, and the Subcommittee have taken the following actions regarding each of the three decision considerations.

Safety

- Obtained a traffic assessment conducted by Kittelson & Associates, a transportation engineering and planning consultant, ("Kittelson") from the City Department of Public Works on the traffic effects of Pickleball play on Linda Avenue. The QR survey for tracking play dates and times are noted in this assessment.

- Contacted Piedmont Police Department ("PPD") Captain Chris Monahan and received a statement from him.

- Received community input from multiple sources how Pickleball play affects safely dropping-off and picking-up students at Beach.

Noise

- Commissioned a sound study by Salter Inc., an acoustic engineering consulting firm.

- Received input from Beach Schoolmates Site Leader Sarah Normart.
- Contacted Beach Elementary School Principal Anne Valva and received a statement from her.
- Received community input from multiple sources on the effects of Pickleball noise.
- Partnered with PRD to implement noise-mitigation strategies to the best of their abilities during the Trial.

Best Use of Space

- Considered feedback provided in the Usage Survey.
- Measured the use of tennis court reservations in various locations (Park, CRTC, Hampton, Beach) by resident decal holders over the course of two years of 2021 and 2022.
- Conducted staff and recreation commissioner site audits of Pickleball play at the Courts and the PMS courts, as well as at the tennis-only Piedmont courts.
- Considered day and time Court usage data from the Kittelson traffic assessment.
- Analized QR Code Check-in data

<u>Findings</u>

Findings related to the Subcommittee's three decision considerations are:

1. Safety

The Kittelson traffic assessment found, "A comparison between the variation in traffic volumes on Linda Avenue and the estimated trip generation for the Pickleball courts shows the Courts generate substantially less vehicle volume than the typical variation in the number of vehicles traveling along Linda Avenue." Based on their analysis, Kittelson concluded "the conversion of the two tennis courts to four Pickleball courts at Beach Field on Linda Avenue would generate vehicle traffic that would be indistinguishable from the natural variation in traffic along Linda Avenue. Therefore, no adverse effect on traffic operations is anticipated." The Kittelson assessment is Attachment A, which includes data from the QR Code check-ins.

In an email response PPD Captain Monahan stated, "No issues from our end. Drop off and pick up at every school is congested. We have not observed or received any additional concerns related to the school there."

2. Noise

There have been communications from the community, including local residents, saying that they feel Pickleball play does not create annoying noise. However, a petition, comments, and emails communicate that the noise associated with frequent play is quite disruptive for some people living close to the Courts. Some of these communications suggest that the evening time is most disruptive, as well as the constant play throughout the day.

The Staff has attempted to reduce this noise by providing players with lower noise balls and offering lower noise PRD paddles from the approval paddle list on the Courts for those who do not have them.

Beach Schoolmates Site Leader Sarah Normart, said regarding noise that she hears Pickleball popping all day and finds it distracting. She often keeps her door closed during the daytime. The kids haven't commented on the sound of Pickleball and it is less disruptive when the kids are out playing, but she can hear it all day.

Beach Principal Anne Valva was out until the end of July, but sent a note saying, "We're not bothered by the noise."

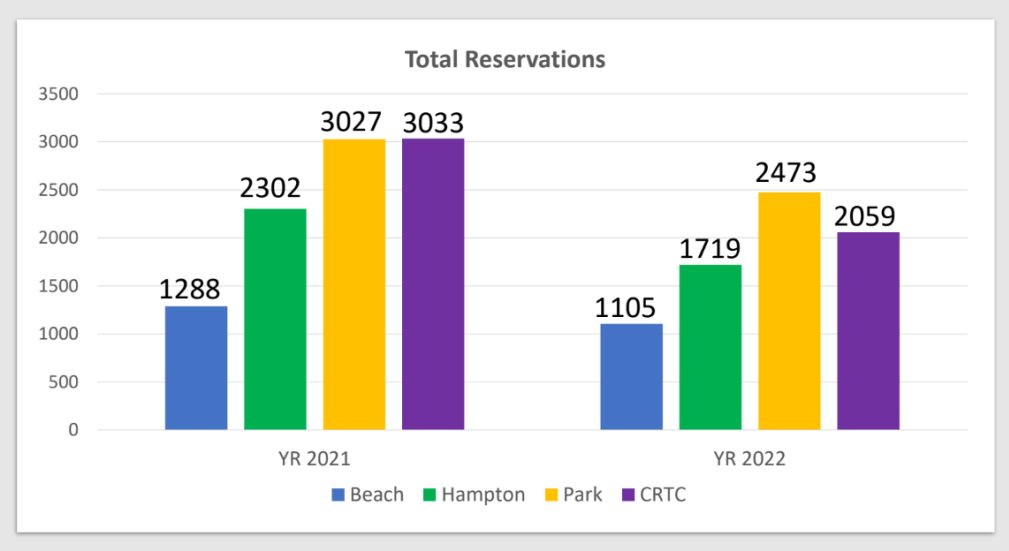
In correspondence with PPD Captain Monahan he stated, "We were receiving some noise calls early in the process. We dispatched staff and did not confirm any dramatic noise concerns beyond the usual. We did speak to the reporting party and explained how we were responding to his complaints. He called me the next day and apologized. He was not trying to trigger a response to his noise concerns, he just thought that was the best way to track his noise complaints. No further calls beyond that."

Staff retained Salter Inc., a San Francisco based acoustical consulting firm that was founded in 1975, to conduct an acoustical survey of Linda Beach Park to investigate noise from the Courts. Their report stated, "Our measurement data indicates that pickleball does not increase noise levels above those considered 'normally acceptable' by the City General Plan. Additionally, because this is a sport activity (that does not involve noise generation from mechanical means) occurring in a recreational zoning, we do not consider this to be a violation of the Municipal Code. (Attachment D). However, we did observe that pickleball noise is audible in the residential zoning adjacent to the courts – such as at homes along Sunnyside Avenue and Howard Avenue. As a 'good neighbor' effort, noise reduction strategies could be implemented to reduce pickleball noise transfer." Salter's Pickleball Noise Survey is Attachment B.

3. Best Use of Space

The Subcommittee considered what is the best use of space to best serve the greatest number of Piedmont residents with recreational opportunities. For tennis use, the Courts are comprised of two sub-standard sized courts. They are not usable for USTA tennis and the overrun areas do not meet the recreational standards of safety. The Court's condition is poor due to cracks caused by tree roots and it must be repaired. It is due to this repair that there is an opportunity to potentially change the striping to allow for only Pickleball, only tennis, or a combination of both.

As the PRD reservation data below shows, Piedmont tennis courts were reserved in 2021 and 2022 by tennis decal holders at Hampton, Park Courts, and the Corey Reich Tennis Center ("CRTC") significantly more than at Beach.

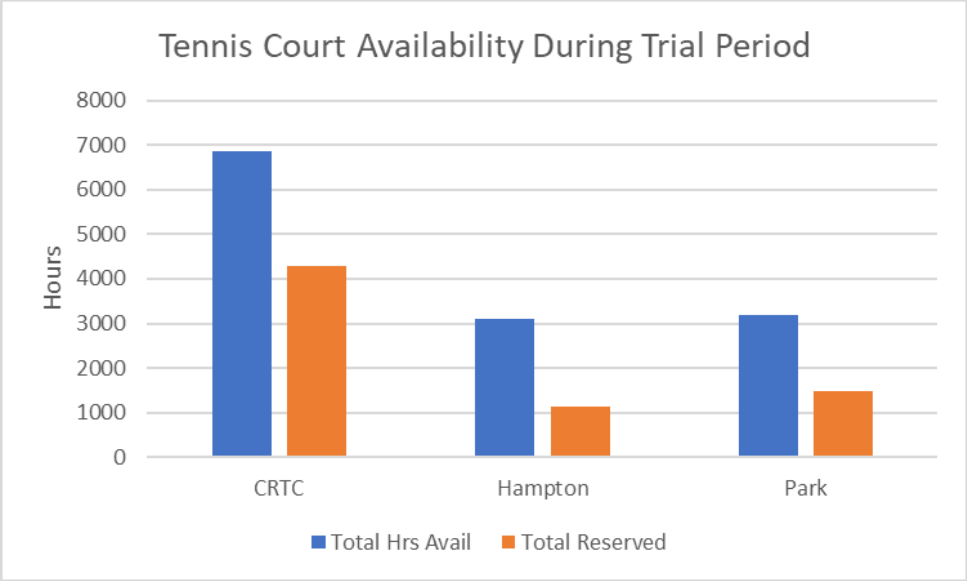


Additionally, while a maximum of eight people could potentially play tennis (with safety hazards due to the lack of overrun space), up to 16 people - double the number of tennis players - can play Pickleball in that configuration. When used as Pickleball courts, this space can potentially serve twice as many players compared with when used as tennis courts.

The Court repairs will not change the size of the footprint of the Courts to meet USTA regulations. Due to the size and shape of the Courts, Pickleball play is rotated at a 90 degree angle and four Pickleball courts fit into the space of the two sub-standard tennis courts.

When plotted on a Piedmont map, tennis reservations made by residents generally show that residents make reservations at each of the four courts throughout the city in a relatively even manner. They do not necessarily go to the closest court to play, as is seen in Attachment E.

The chart below shows the total available hours for each Piedmont tennis court during the Trial, and the number of hours reserved. There has been significant time available at each location for tennis reservations when the Beach courts have been closed to tennis.



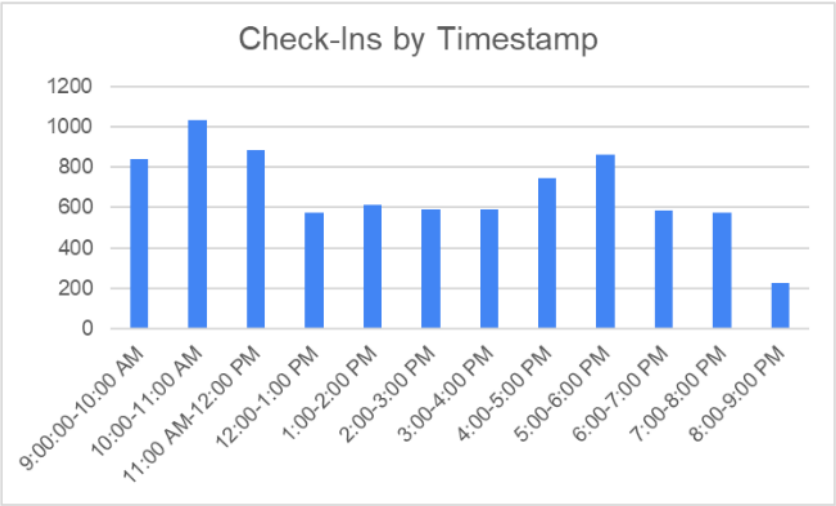
The PMS Sports Courts have also been used for Pickleball play. Throughout the Trial these courts have been available from 9 AM to 5 PM on Saturdays and Sundays, and once the school year ended on Wednesdays from 9 AM to 12 noon. These courts are used through an agreement between PUSD and PRD. They are a shared space. The Pickleball volunteers group has organized and managed the setup and take down of the Pickleball nets. The group has also provided access to the courts at the beginning and end of the day. These additional shared courts are a resource for the Pickleball community, however conditions are subject to change due to potential needs of PUSD.

The QR code posted for tracking Pickleball play at the Courts during the Trial generated a total of 8,168 individual check-ins with related data.

With regards to Court usage, the Kittelson traffic assessment found:

- There is **a consistent distribution of players by day of the week** with Wednesday having the least (11.5%) and Friday and Saturday having the most (15.4% and 15.8%, respectively).
- There is **constant play during the day. Time of day usage usually peaks between about 10 AM and noon and from 4 to 6 PM, and drops off at 6 PM. At 8 PM only 2.2% of play was recorded**. See Attachment A Kittelson Traffic Assessment

The chart below of players' check-in times at the Courts is based on the QR Code check-ins through July 10, and shows a similar time of play distribution.



Beach Schoolmates Site Leader Sarah Normart said, regarding the use of courts, she loves that people are using the courts and would love for the kids to have access. Some volunteers offered to teach a few lessons in the spring; she would like more opportunities for kids to get on the Courts next year.

The Staff and Commission sought out and considered public comment on Pickleball play in Piedmont since 2016 in many different ways. Most recently, the City invited residents to share how the Trial has affected their recreational activity choices by completing an online Beach Courts Pickleball Trial Survey (Attachment C) that was available June 12 through July 2, 2023. This Survey was intended to gather information not being collected through other channels, specifically focusing on how the Trial has impacted individuals' tennis and Pickleball play. Additionally, respondents had an opportunity to provide open-ended feedback on the Trial. There were 810 responses to the Survey and 563 comments, which the Subcommittee read and considered. The feedback is consistent with feedback provided in other communication forums..

Conclusions

There is no evidence Pickleball play at the Courts has created a safety hazard for students, school leaders, or the police department..

The number of people who would enjoy recreation by playing Pickleball on the Courts would be significantly greater than the number of people who would play tennis or engage in some other recreation on the Courts. There continues to be tennis courts available throughout Piedmont, and residents are able to travel across town to play at the various courts.

The opportunity to play Pickleball in Piedmont has created a community that has enriched the lives of many participants, and especially older adults. Given the growing demand for Pickleball and wide range of court options throughout Piedmont, creating a dedicated space for the sport best serves the needs of the community. The benefit of a dedicated space for playing Pickleball ensures better logistics for managing the space and allows for permanent equipment and clear striping to be installed which would enhance the activity.

Restriping the courts for both Pickleball and tennis would not solve the increase in demand for dedicated Pickleball space. The logistics of Pickleball set-up is challenging. The benefit of four dedicated Pickleball courts far outweighs the benefits of mixed-use space. There has been demonstrated demand for an increased number of Pickleball courts in Piedmont and there is the availability of tennis courts in Piedmont as well.

The primary concern with this recommendation is the noise issue. Some residents have said specifically that they do not have any complaints about the noise. However, others have stated that the noise throughout the day and early evening has been disruptive to their lives. As part of being "good neighbors," this Subcommittee seeks a compromise as a solution for this issue.

Therefore, the primary issue to be addressed in this Subcommittee's recommendations is how Pickleball can continue to be played in Piedmont while minimizing its negative noise effects on some people who live near the Courts.

Recommendations

The Subcommittee recommends the following:

1. The Courts be restriped for permanent Pickleball only play and they be used as Pickleball courts with permanent Pickleball nets. The courts at CRTC, Piedmont Park, and Hampton Park should remain exclusively tennis courts, and the multi-use courts at the Piedmont Middle School ("PMS") should continue to be available for Pickleball when school is not in session, or otherwise being used for student-centered programming and as approved by PUSD.

2. The hours of Pickleball play at the Courts be limited to 9 AM to 6 PM each day of the week.

3. At the conclusion of the Trial on July 31, 2023 from August 1, 2023 until Council considers the Commission's recommendations, the Courts revert back to the pre-Trial dedicated Pickleball hours (i.e., Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10 AM to 1 PM.).

4. To encourage Pickleball play at the PMS courts, Staff should work with the PUSD to maximize the time available for Pickleball play at these courts, especially in the late afternoon and evening.

5. Only low noise balls and paddles be used on the Beach courts. Players will be expected to comply with an approved low noise equipment list posted at the courts. This list should be updated as necessary by PRD. The Subcommitttee recognizes that the cost of low noise equipment could be a barrier to court access therefore the Subcommittee requests that PRD develop a check-out system to provide equipment to those who need it.

6. Continue to leverage the Pickleball community leadership group to help communicate the low-noise equipment rules. PRD should conduct regular audits of the Courts to ensure the rules are being followed.

7. The City should request specific noise reduction strategies from the sound consultant, such as sound barriers, that would further reduce Pickleball noise transfer at the Courts.

8. A future Commission tennis and Pickleball subcommittee should be formed to review the possibility of reservations, court fees, and rules.

9. The appropriate City department reviews passenger loading signage near the Courts at Beach Elementary School.

Attachments

A: Kittelson & Associates Traffic Assessment

B: Pickleball Noise Survey

C: Beach Courts Pickleball Trial Survey

D: Piedmont City Code

E: Court Reservations by Decal

KITTELSON & ASSOCIATES
155 Grand Avenue, Suite 505
Oakland, CA 94612
P 510.839.1742

Technical Memorandum

June 21, 2023 Project# 21900

To: John Wanger, Principal
Coastland Civil Engineering
1400 Neotomas Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

From: Aaron Elias, P.E.

RE: Beach Field Pickleball Courts

The City of Piedmont's recreation department has implemented a trial program at the Beach Tennis Courts to transform the combination tennis/pickleball courts to exclusively pickleball. There has been some concern from the community with this transformation with one of the concerns related to increased traffic volume on Linda Avenue and associated impacts to traffic safety. This technical memorandum documents the findings of an assessment of how the transformation will affect traffic volumes in the vicinity.

Available Data

The city of Piedmont provided data that included both traffic counts on Linda Avenue and information on the use of the pickleball courts during the trial period. Details of the data provided include:

- 24-hour vehicle counts on Linda Avenue:
  - Northbound: 5/22/2023 – 5/25/2023, 5/31/2023, and 6/1/2023.
  - Southbound: 4/28/2023 – 5/14/2023
- Information on pickleball players (3/1/2023 – 6/14/2023) including:
  - Arrival times
  - Number of players
  - Transportation mode of arrival (walk, bike, car, etc.)
  - Estimated time of play

These data were analyzed and summarized to assess how the transformation could affect traffic volumes on Linda Avenue.

Linda Avenue Volume Data

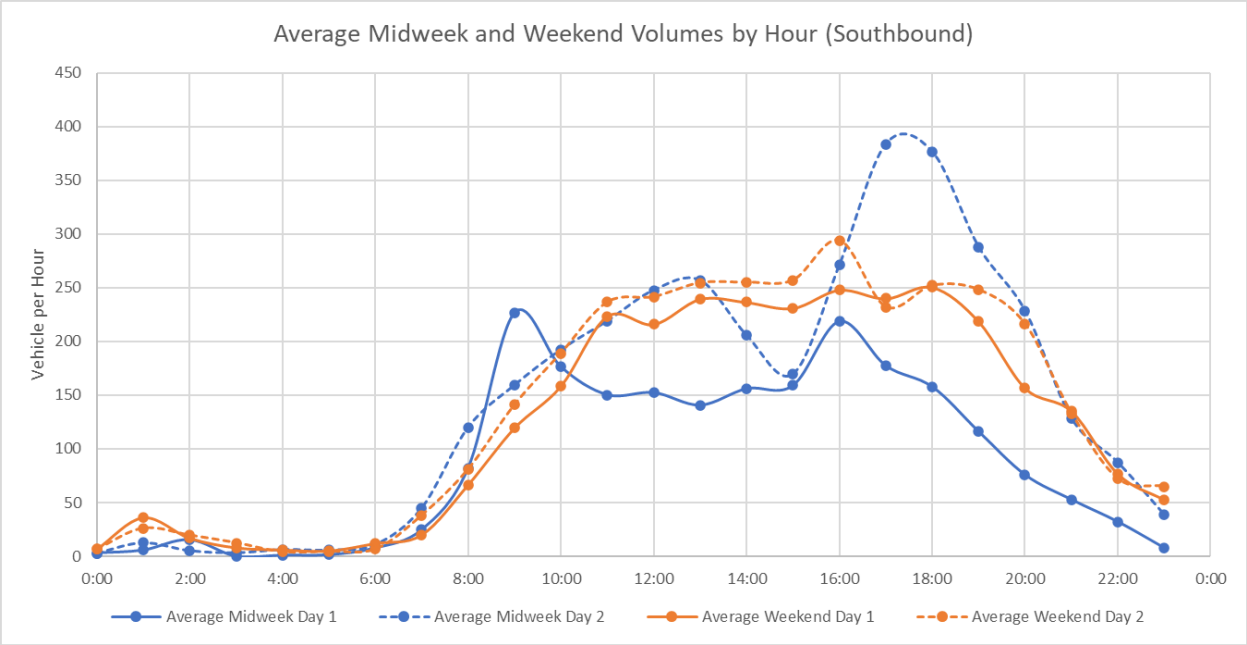
Volume data were collected in both the northbound and southbound directions on Linda Avenue. The dataset provided for southbound Linda Avenue is more robust covering a two week period providing two data days for each day of the week. Therefore, only the southbound data is used for comparison purposes in this memorandum. The fluctuations in northbound vehicles should be similar to what is happening for southbound vehicles.

Detailed comparisons of hourly volumes from one week to another for the same day and hour of the week are provided in Appendix A to illustrate how southbound vehicle volume fluctuates on different days. To

summarize these data, Figure 1 was created which compares the averages for day one and day two of midweek days (Tuesday – Thursday) and weekend days (Saturday & Sunday) for the southbound data collection period. This figure illustrates that volumes by hour can vary significantly from day to day.

Based on these midweek and weekend day averages, the hourly volume variation averages a difference between the two days of about 62 vehicles per hour and up to 219 vehicles per hour on midweek days. Weekend days average an hourly difference of about 15 vehicles per hour and up to a difference of 60 vehicles per hour. This shows that variation in traffic volume is normal, even when comparing similar days of the week at the same time.

Figure 1: Vehicle Variation by Hour for Midweek and Weekend Days



Pickleball Players

Data provided by the City also included detailed information on over 6,000 pickleball players who used the courts between March 1st and June 14th which allowed Kittelson to understand arrival and usage information. Data summarized from this dataset included:

- Duration of play
- Transportation mode choice
- Day of week
- Hour of day
- Patrons per hour

Duration of Play

Table 1 shows the duration of play for the pickleball players using the Beach Field Courts summarized into four time periods. The majority of players usually spend between 1 and 2 hours at the courts with the second most popular time being more than two hours. Only about 17% stay less than an hour indicating the four pickleball courts turn over less frequently than once per hour.

Table 1: Duration of Play for Pickleball Players

Duration	# of Players	Percentage
15 - 30 Minutes	151	2.4%
30 - 60 Minutes	924	14.5%
1 - 2 Hours	3,431	54.0%
2+ Hours	1,845	29.1%

Transportation Mode Choice

Pickleball players were also asked how they arrived at the pickleball courts. Table 2 shows how players responded with about 75% driving to the courts and 25% using an alternative mode such as walking (17%). These findings indicate that the overall vehicle trip generation is about 75% of the number of players arriving at the court.

Table 2: Mode Choice for Pickleball Players

Mode	# of Players	Percentage
Drive	4,721	74.3%
Carpool	62	1.0%
Bike	368	5.8%
Walk	1,088	17.1%
Ride	12	0.2%
Transit	11	0.2%
Unknown	89	1.4%

Day of the Week and Hour of the Day

Time stamps for the pickleball courts show the most popular days of the week (Table 3) and hours of the day (Table 4) for pickleball. Distribution of players by day of the week is relatively consistent across all seven days with Friday and Saturday being a little more popular. Time of day usage usually peaks between about 10 AM and noon and 4 – 6 PM. Since the pickleball courts do not open until 9 AM, they would not conflict with the AM peak hour but the afternoon peak for the courts is during the traditional commute peak period (4 – 6 PM).

Table 3: Day of the Week for Pickleball Play

Day of Week	# of Players	Percentage
Monday	961	15.1%
Tuesday	888	14.0%
Wednesday	730	11.5%
Thursday	943	14.8%
Friday	975	15.4%
Saturday	1005	15.8%
Sunday	849	13.4%

Table 4: Time of Day for Pickleball Play

Hour of Day	# of Players	Percentage
9	502	8.1%
10	766	12.3%
11	663	10.7%
12	468	7.5%
13	500	8.0%
14	478	7.7%
15	480	7.7%
16	596	9.6%
17	680	10.9%
18	461	7.4%
19	484	7.8%
20	138	2.2%

Vehicles Per Hour

Based on the information provided by the city and summarized in Table 1 through Table 4, Kittelson was able to estimate the vehicle trip generation of the pickleball courts by time of day (Table 5) for each day of the week. As shown, the number of vehicles arriving to play pickleball averages about four cars per hour with a maximum of seven cars per hour.

Table 5: Vehicle Trip Generation by Time of Day for Pickleball Courts

	Vehicle Trip Generation						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9	2	4	2	4	3	5	4
10	6	5	3	6	6	7	5
11	4	5	4	5	5	6	5
12	4	2	3	3	5	3	3
13	5	2	3	3	3	4	5
14	3	2	2	3	4	5	4
15	4	2	3	3	4	4	4
16	4	4	2	5	5	5	4
17	5	6	3	4	5	6	4
18	4	3	3	3	4	3	3
19	5	6	4	4	3	1	1
20	1	1	1	2	2	0	0
Total	**47**	**42**	**33**	**45**	**49**	**49**	**42**

Trip Generation Vs. Linda Volume Variation

Kittelson performed a comparison between the vehicle trip generation for the pickleball courts documented in Table 5 and the variation in vehicle volumes observed on southbound Linda Avenue between the same weekday but on different weeks. Appendix B shows the detailed comparison for each day of the week while Figure 2 and Figure 3 show a simplified version comparing the average of the midweek days and the average of the weekend days, respectively. As shown, the variation in traffic on Linda Avenue from one week to another is significantly higher than the trip generation for the pickleball courts. This indicates that the resulting vehicle trip generation from the pickleball courts is indistinguishable from normal variation in traffic on Linda Avenue.

Figure 2: Average Midweek Day Vehicle Variation on Linda Vs. Pickleball Vehicle Trip Generation

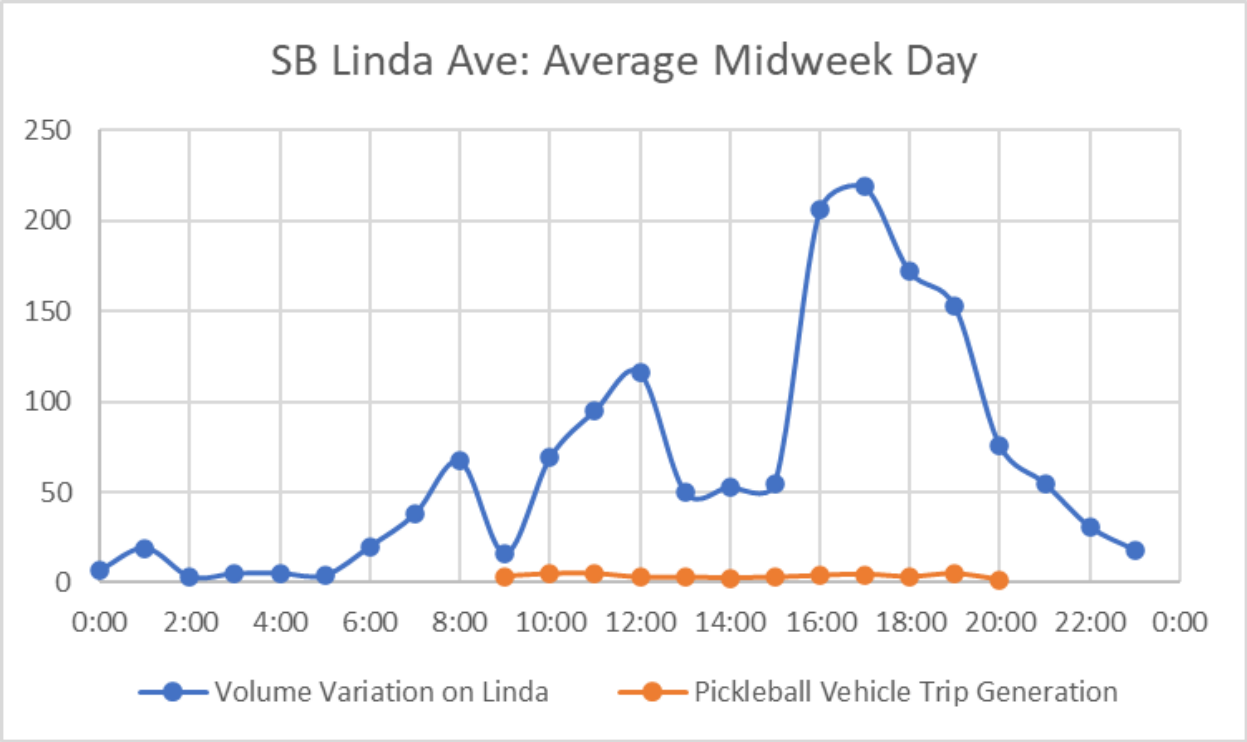
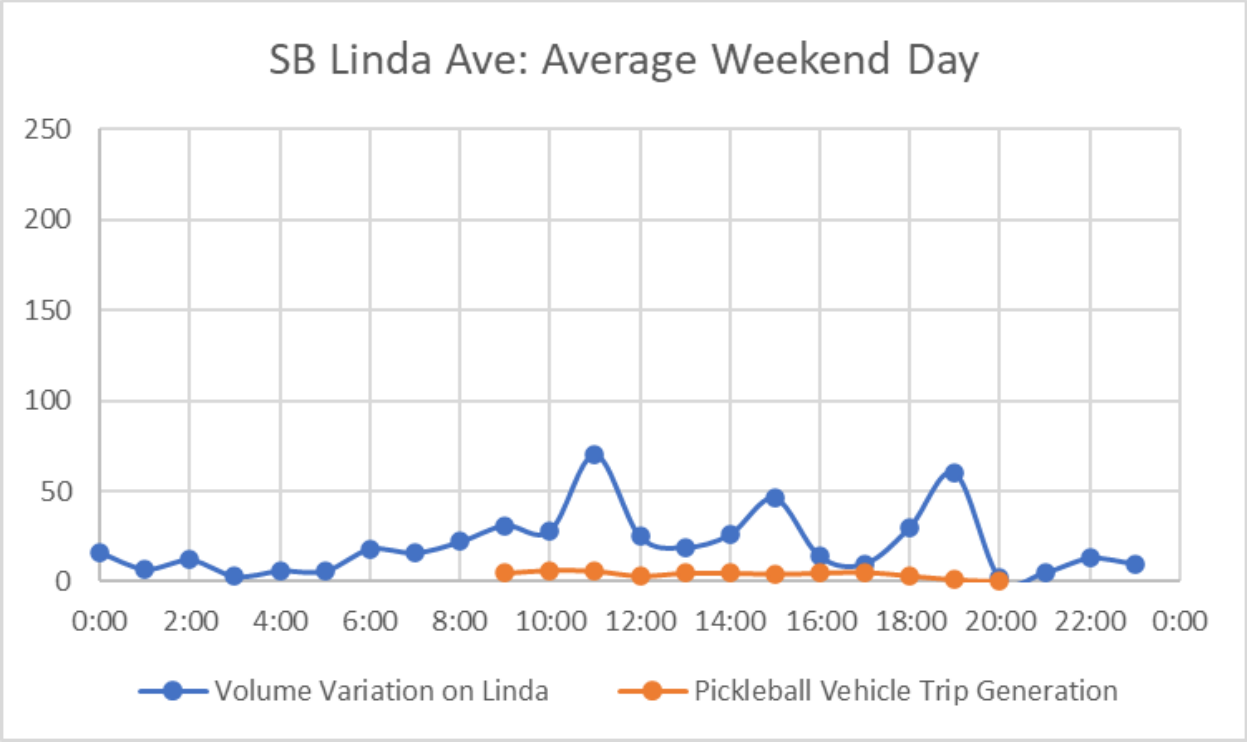


Figure 3: Average Weekend Day Vehicle Variation on Linda Vs. Pickleball Vehicle Trip Generation



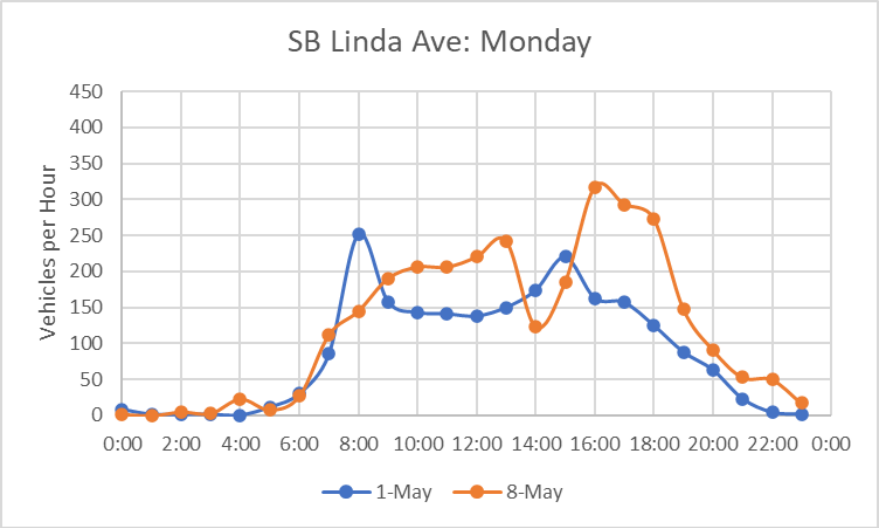
Summary

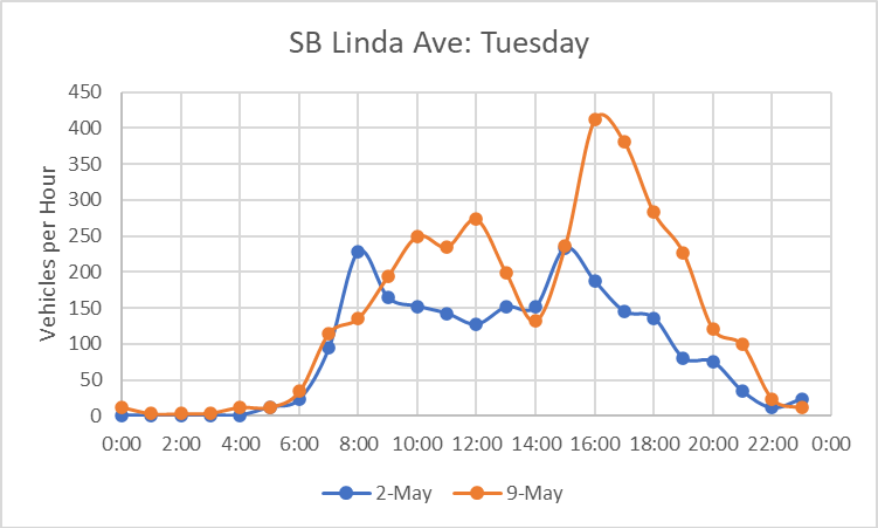
This technical memorandum documented the potential increase in vehicle traffic as a result of the permanent installation of four pickleball courts at Beach Field. Key findings from this analysis include:

- Traffic on Linda Avenue was found to vary for similar midweek days by an average of 62 vehicles per hour and up to 219 vehicles per hour.
- About 83% of pickleball players play for an hour or more and 25% arrive at the courts via a non-auto mode. Based on the provided data, Kittelson estimates the pickleball courts generate about four cars per hour on average with a maximum of seven cars per hour during their hours of operation (9 AM to 9 PM).
- A comparison between the variation in traffic volumes on Linda Avenue and the estimated trip generation for the pickleball courts show the courts generate substantially less vehicle volume than the typical variation in the number of vehicles traveling along Linda Avenue.

Based on our analysis, Kittelson concludes that the conversion of the two tennis courts to four pickleball courts at Beach Field on Linda Avenue generate vehicle traffic that would be indistinguishable from the natural variation in traffic along Linda Avenue. Therefore, no adverse effect on traffic operations is anticipated.

Appendix A: Volume Data


SB Linda Ave: Monday
Vehicles per Hour
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
0:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 0:00
1-May
8-May


SB Linda Ave: Tuesday
Vehicles per Hour
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
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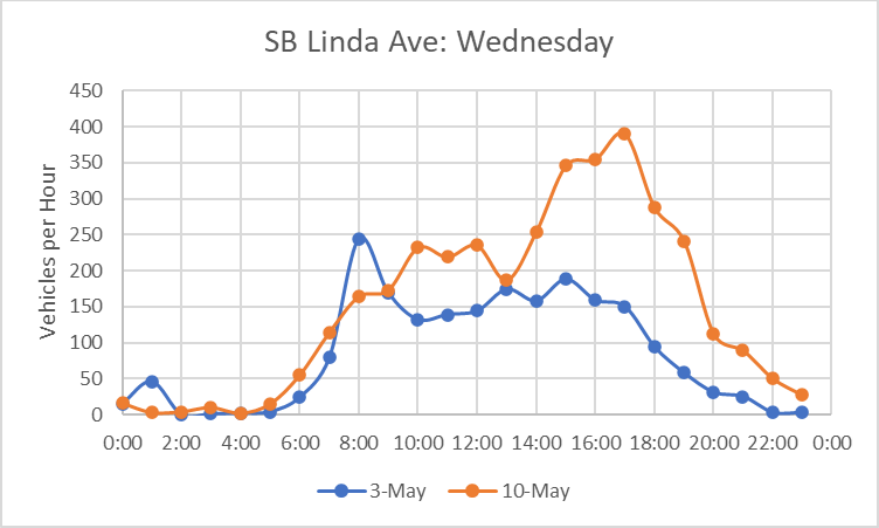
2-May
9-May


SB Linda Ave: Wednesday
Vehicles per Hour
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
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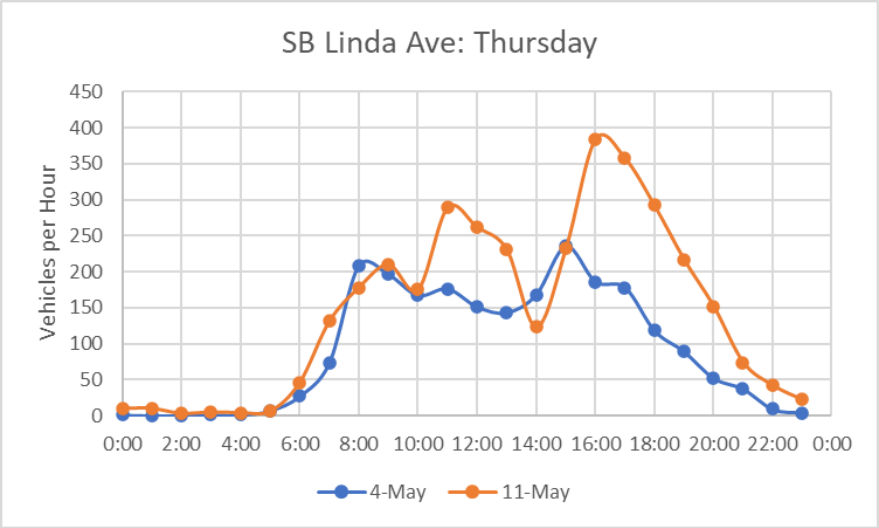
3-May
10-May


SB Linda Ave: Thursday
Vehicles per Hour
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
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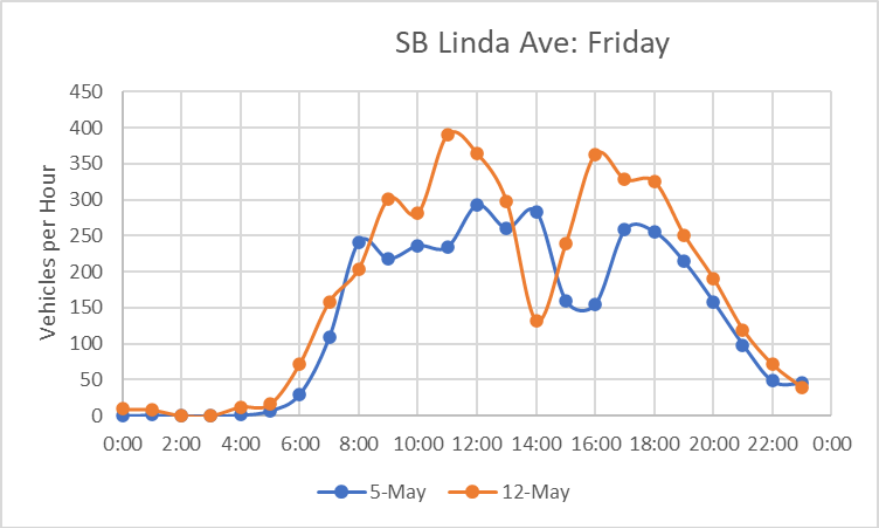
4-May
11-May


SB Linda Ave: Friday
Vehicles per Hour
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
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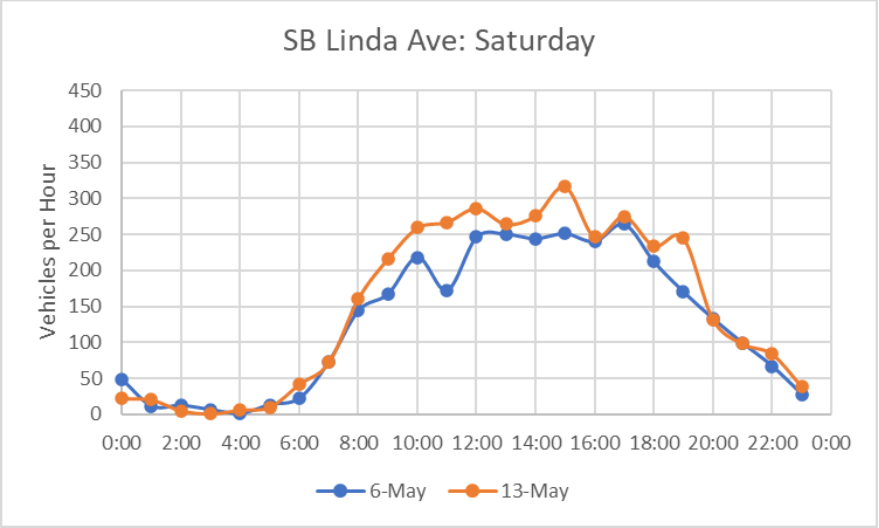
5-May
12-May


SB Linda Ave: Saturday
Vehicles per Hour
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
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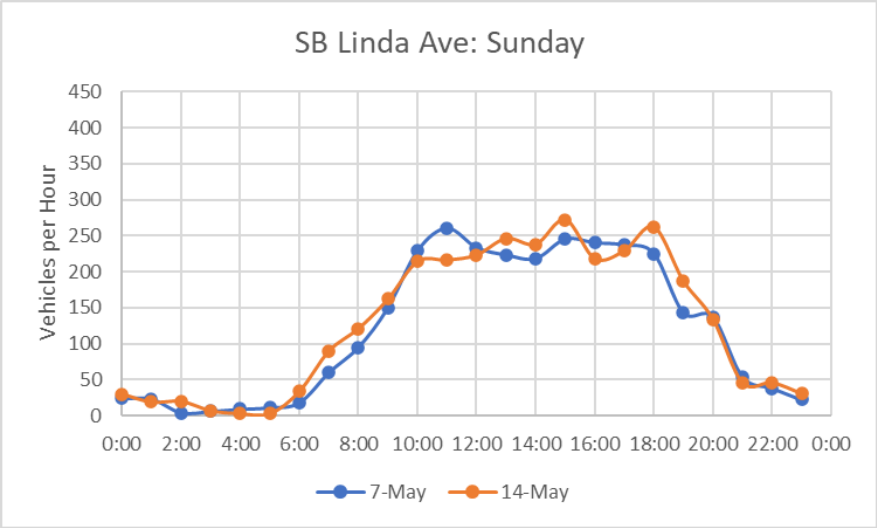
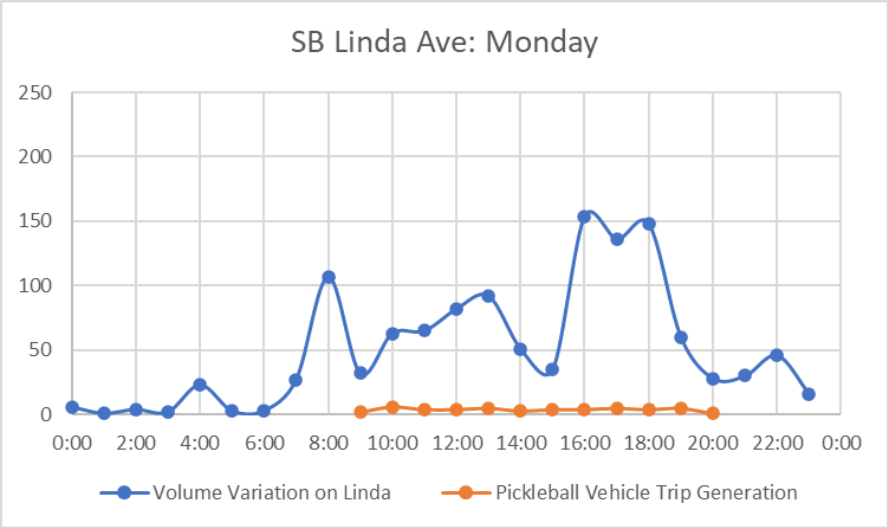
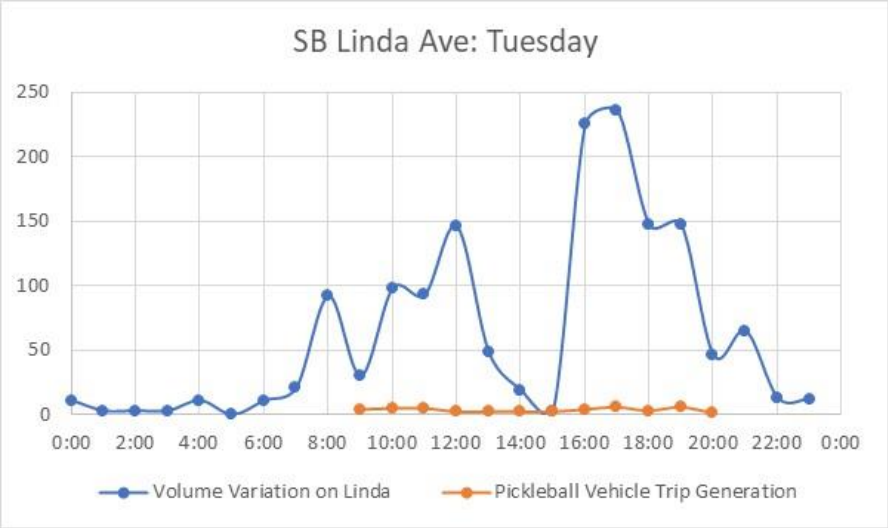
6-May
13-May


SB Linda Ave: Sunday
Vehicles per Hour
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
0:00
2:00
4:00
6:00
8:00
10:00
12:00
14:00
16:00
18:00
20:00
22:00
0:00
7-May
14-May

Appendix B: Volume Variation vs. Pickleball


SB Linda Ave: Monday
250
200
150
100
50
0
0:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 0:00
Volume Variation on Linda
Pickleball Vehicle Trip Generation


SB Linda Ave: Tuesday
250
200
150
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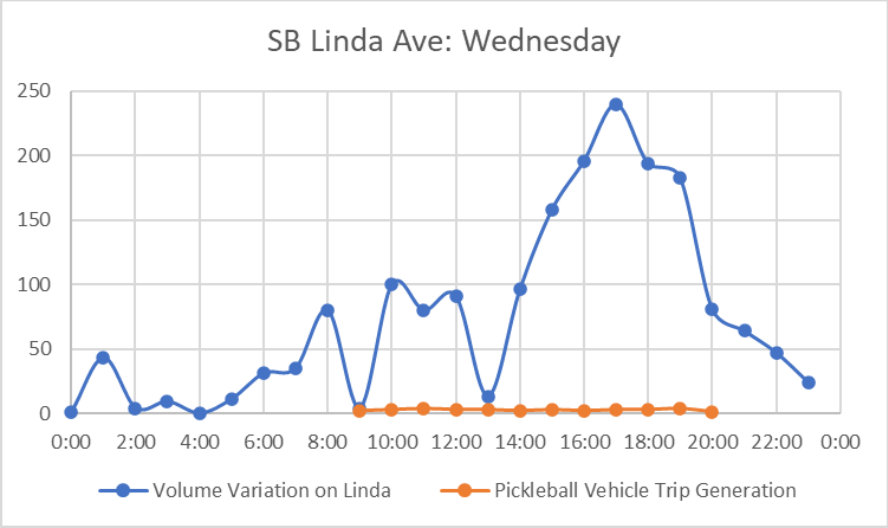
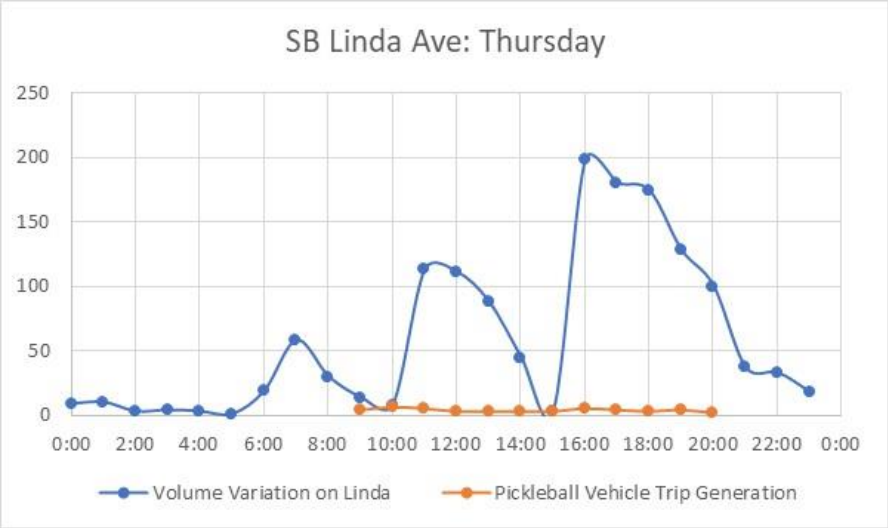
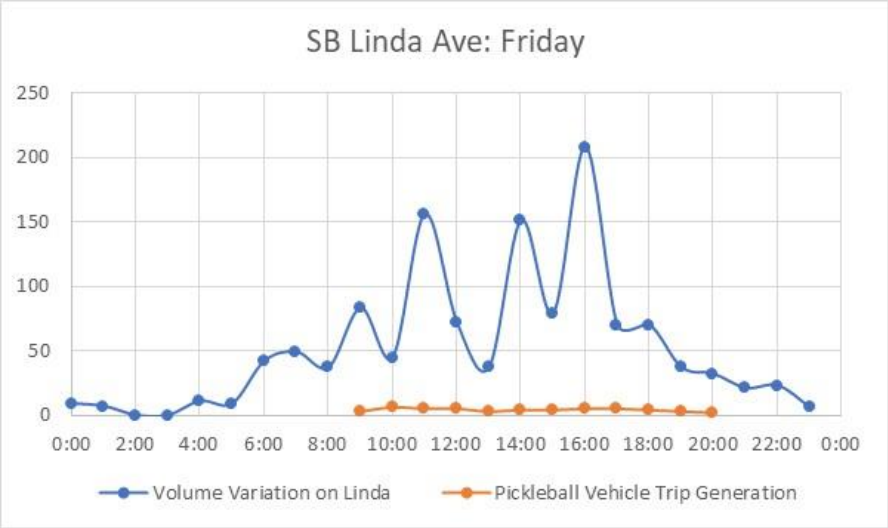
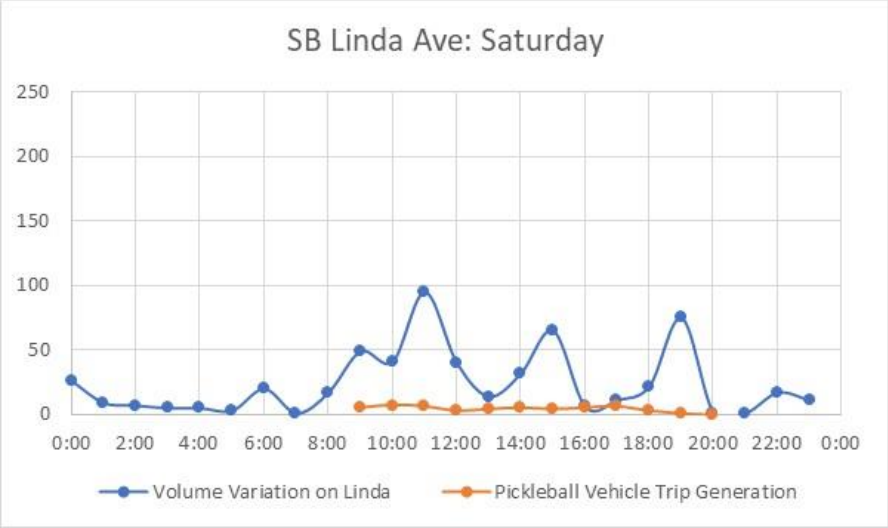
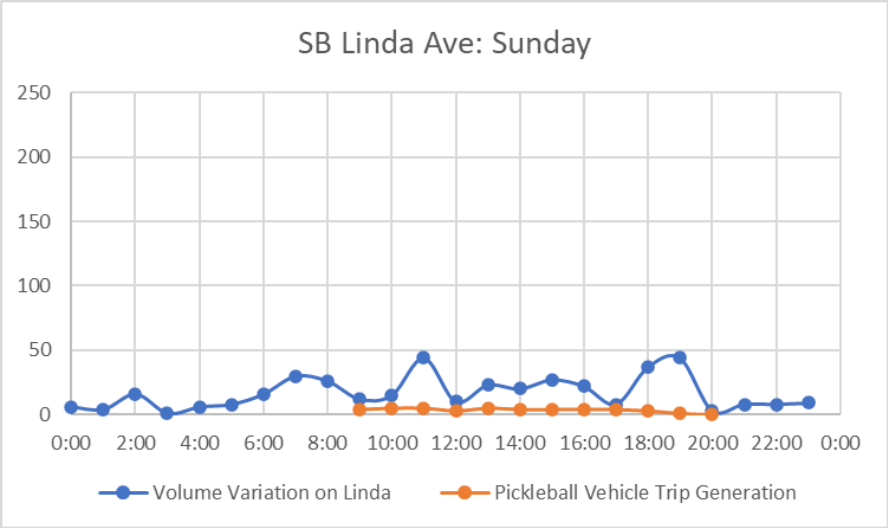
50
0
0:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 0:00
Volume Variation on Linda
Pickleball Vehicle Trip Generation


SB Linda Ave: Wednesday
250
200
150
100
50
0
0:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 0:00
Volume Variation on Linda
Pickleball Vehicle Trip Generation


SB Linda Ave: Thursday
250
200
150
100
50
0
0:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 0:00
Volume Variation on Linda
Pickleball Vehicle Trip Generation


SB Linda Ave: Friday
250
200
150
100
50
0
0:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 0:00
Volume Variation on Linda
Pickleball Vehicle Trip Generation


SB Linda Ave: Saturday
250
200
150
100
50
0
0:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00 14:00 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 0:00
Volume Variation on Linda
Pickleball Vehicle Trip Generation


SB Linda Ave: Sunday
250
200
150
100
50
0
0:00
2:00
4:00
6:00
8:00
10:00
12:00
14:00
16:00
18:00
20:00
22:00
0:00
Volume Variation on Linda
Pickleball Vehicle Trip Generation

Linda Beach Park

Piedmont, CA

PICKLEBALL NOISE SURVEY

6 July 2023

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Salter Project 23-0212

1.0 INTRODUCTION

We have conducted an acoustical survey of Linda Beach Park to investigate noise from the pickleball courts. One of the purposes of our survey was to examine potential impacts generated by increasing court hours of use. We understand the courts are currently in a trial period with hours of use from 9 am to sundown, 7 days per week. Previously, the courts were available for pickleball on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10 am to 1 pm only. This report summarizes our pickleball measurements and compares noise levels to applicable City standards. The report is separated into the following sections:

- Section 1: Introduction
- Section 2: City Standards
- Section 3: Site Description
- Section 4: Noise Measurements
- Section 5: Discussion of Municipal Code Considerations
- Section 6: Conclusion

1.1 Executive Summary

Our measurement data indicates that pickleball does not increase noise levels above those considered "normally acceptable" by the City General Plan. Additionally, because this is a sport activity (that does not involve noise generation from mechanical means) occurring in a recreational zoning, we do not consider this to be a violation of the Municipal Code.

However, we did observe that pickleball noise is audible in the residential zoning adjacent to the courts – such as at homes along Sunnyside Avenue and Howard Avenue. As a "good neighbor" effort, noise reduction strategies could be implemented to reduce pickleball noise transfer. We are available to provide additional input as needed.

2.0 CITY STANDARDS

2.1 Piedmont General Plan

Table 6-4[1] of the Piedmont General Plan (shown on the following page for reference) provides

[1] https://cdnsm5-hosted.civiclive.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_13659739/File/Government/Departments/Planning%20Division/General%20Plan/GP%20EHE%20adopted%202020-2-18.pdf?v=x5eRAZYvQ&v=x5eRAZYvQ

recommended maximum noise levels in terms of L_{dn}[2] for various land uses.

Table 6.4: Recommended Maximum Noise Levels, dB (L_{dn})				
Land Use	**Interior**	**Exterior**		
		Normally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Normally Unacceptable
Low Density Residential	45	<60	60-70	>70
Medium Density Residential	45	<65	65-70	>70
Office	55	<65	65-75	>75
Retail	60	<65	65-75	>75
Schools/ Churches	45	<60	60-70	>70
Parks and Playgrounds	--	<67	67-75	>75

Source: State of California General Plan Guidelines, 2003. Barry Miller, AICP 2008

Regarding noise level increases, the General Plan notes:

> *In general, increases in noise of less than 3 dB L_{dn} are not perceptible. A 5 dB increase can trigger a noticeable change [sic] is sometimes used as [sic] threshold to identify a "significant" noise impact under the California Environmental Quality Act.*

Action 22.B provides guidelines for acoustical study requirements and includes the following:

> ***Action 22.B: Acoustical Study Requirements:*** *On an ongoing basis, require acoustical studies for projects which could potentially elevate noise levels above the "normally acceptable" limits specified in* ***Table 6.4***

Action 22.C provides input for playfields and states the following:

> ***Action 22.C: Playfield Hours of Operation:*** *Define and enforce hours of operation for Piedmont Sports Field, Coaches Playfield, Linda Playfield, Dracena Park, and any other athletic fields that may be developed during future years. Noise levels at city parks should be periodically monitored to ensure that limits on hours of operation are sufficient to maintain neighborhood peace and quiet.*

2.2 Piedmont Municipal Code

The Piedmont City Code[3] contains allowable hours for construction noise (Section 12.8.2(a)), restricts the use of gas-powered blowers (Section 12.8.2(b)), and limits noise generated by mechanical equipment,

---

2 L_{dn} (Day-Night Average Sound Level) – A descriptor for a 24-hour A-weighted average noise level. L_{dn} accounts for the increased acoustical sensitivity of people to noise during the nighttime hours. L_{dn} penalizes sound levels by 10 dB during the hours from 10 PM to 7 AM. L_{dn} is sometimes written as DNL.

3 https://cdnsm5-hosted.civiclive.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_13659739/File/Government/City%20Charter%20&%20Code/Chapter%2012.pdf?v=lH61thGQJ&v=lH61thGQJ

such as HVAC (Appendix AK, Section AK105). The Code does not include quantitative noise criteria for recreational uses, such as pickleball, but states the following in Section 12.8.

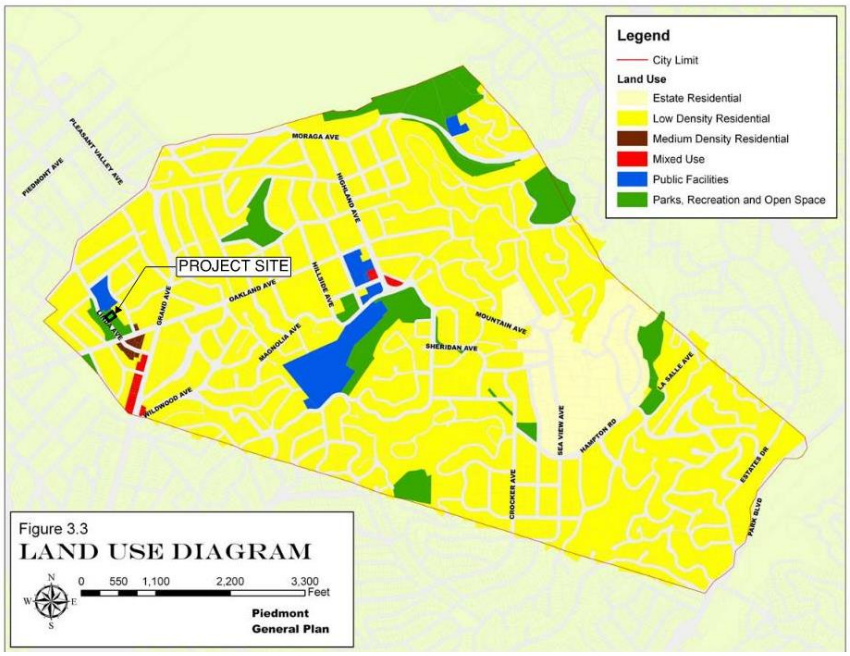
> ***Section 12.8: Noise Declared Nuisance:*** *Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code, and in addition hereto, it is unlawful for any person to willfully make or continue or cause to be made or continued or to allow any animal to make or continue to make any loud, unnecessary, or unusual noise which disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood or which causes discomfort or annoyance to any reasonable person of normal sensitivity residing in the area. Such noise is declared to be a nuisance.*
>
> ***12.8.1: Standards to Be Considered:*** *The standards which shall be considered in determining whether a violation of the provisions of this section exist shall include, but not be limited to, the following:*
>
> *a. The sound level of the objectionable noise;*
> *b. The sound level of the ambient noise;*
> *c. The proximity of the noise to residential sleeping facilities;*
> *d. The nature and zoning of the area from which the noise emanates;*
> *e. The density of the inhabitation of the area from which the noise emanates;*
> *f. The time day or night the noise occurs;*
> *g. The duration of the noise and it's tonal content;*
> *h. Whether the noise is continuous, recurrent, or intermittent;*
> *i. Whether the noise is produced by a commercial or non-commercial activity;*
> *j. The intensity of the noise;*
> *k. Whether the noise is natural or unnatural;*
> *l. Whether the noise is usual or unusual.*

3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The pickleball courts are adjacent to Beach Elementary School and Linda Playground to the north, single-family homes to the east, Beach Play Field to the south, and Linda Avenue to the west. There are currently 4 pickleball courts and they are oriented in the north-south direction – perpendicular to the tennis courts. See Figure 1 for reference.

Figure 1: Site Description

Figure 3.3 from Chapter 3 of the General Plan[4] (shown below for reference) indicates the closest homes to the courts, located to the east and west are zoned as Low-Density Residential. Thus, the "normally acceptable" exterior noise goal is an L_{dn} less than 60 dB.



4 https://cdnsm5-hosted.civiclive.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_13659739/File/Government/Projects/General%20Plan%20and%20Housing%20Element/03-landuse.pdf?v=AZwx1IoIx&v=AZwx1IoIx

4.0 NOISE MEASUREMENTS

To quantify noise levels at the site, we conducted two long-term continuous noise measurements (LT-1 and LT-2) between 18 and 25 May 2023. Our noise monitors were located in a tree (LT-1) and on a utility pole (LT-2) at a height of approximately 12 feet above grade. We also conducted attended short-term measurements on 18, 23, and 29 May 2023 (ST-1 to ST-8). These measurements were taken at an approximate height of 5 feet above grade. Figures 2 and 3 on the following pages show the locations of our noise measurements.

Figure 2: Long-Term (LT) and Short-Term (ST) Noise Measurement Locations

4.1 Long-Term Measurements

Table 1 summarizes the noise levels we measured at Locations LT-1 and LT-2 and gives a description of each day's scheduled activities on the pickleball courts and rec field as provided by the parks department. Noise levels highlighted in green were within the normally acceptable range for low-density residential zoning. Numbers highlighted in yellow were within the conditionally acceptable range.

Table 1: Measured Long-Term Noise Levels

Date	Activity	Location LT-1 Measured L_{dn}	Location LT-2 Measured L_{dn}	Low-Density Residential Criteria
5/18 (Thur)	Pickleball 9:00 to sundown	54 dB	57 dB	<60 dB: Normally Acceptable 60 to 70 dB: Conditionally Acceptable >70 dB: Normally Unacceptable
5/19 (Fri)	Pickleball 9:00 to sundown PE 8:30 to 9:20, 9:50 to 10:30 Special BBQ event 3:30 to 9:00*	57 dB	65 dB	
5/20 (Sat)	Pickleball 9:00 to sundown	53 dB	56 dB	
5/21 (Sun)	Pickleball 9:00 to sundown	52 dB	56 dB	
5/22 (Mon)	Pickleball 9:00 to sundown PE 8:30 to 9:20, 9:50 to 10:30	54 dB	56 dB	
5/23 (Tues)	Pickleball 9:00 to sundown PE 8:30 to 9:20, 9:50 to 10:30	54 dB	57 dB	
5/24 (Wed)	No pickleball (courts closed)	53 dB	56 dB	
5/25 (Thur)	Pickleball 10:00 to 1:00 only	54 dB	57 dB	

* Setup from 3:30 to 5, event from 5 to 8, cleanup from 8 to 9

As indicated in **Table 1**, noise levels were generally in the normally acceptable range. The exception occurred on 19 May when the special event on the Beach Play Field, which featured amplified music, increased noise levels at Location LT-2 to be in the conditionally acceptable range. Noise levels otherwise varied +/- 2 dB when comparing days with pickleball, limited pickleball, and no pickleball. This is because, though pickleball activity is clearly audible at Locations LT-1 and LT-2, other noise sources (e.g., the Local Line 12 bus route on Linda Avenue, dog park noise, school activity, aircraft flyovers) also contribute significantly to the site's ambient acoustical environment.

4.2 Short-Term Measurements

While our long-term noise monitors were collecting data, we conducted simultaneous short-term measurements at locations ST-1 through ST-6. By calculating the offset in measured noise levels we were able to quantify pickleball noise at the additional locations as follows:

ST-1: Southeast of the Courts

Our measurements and calculations indicate that noise levels would be as follows:

- Pickleball 9:00 to sundown: L_{dn} 60 dB
- Pickleball 10:00 to 1:00: L_{dn} 58 dB
- No Pickleball: L_{dn} 56 dB

This location is in the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space zoning. Calculated noise levels are within the normally acceptable range for this use.

ST-2 and ST-3: Linda Avenue south of Oakland Avenue

At Location ST-2, pickleball noise was audible but not measurable above the ambient conditions. Traffic along Linda Avenue, Oakland Avenue, and Grand Avenue were the dominant noise sources. We expect pickleball noise levels to be similar to those measured at LT-2.

At Location ST-3, pickleball was also not measurable above the ambient conditions, and was observed to be only faintly audible (and very occasionally – such as once every few minutes). Traffic along Grand Avenue was the dominant noise source.

Note that these locations are in medium-density residential zoning. Thus, the normally acceptable range is increased to L_{dn} 65 dB.

ST-4: Southwest of Courts

Our measurements and calculations indicate that pickleball noise will be slightly quieter than at LT-1 by approximately 1 dB.

ST-5: Lake Avenue

Pickleball was observed to be inaudible at this location.

ST-6: Courtside west along Linda Avenue

Our measurements and calculations indicate that noise levels would be as follows:

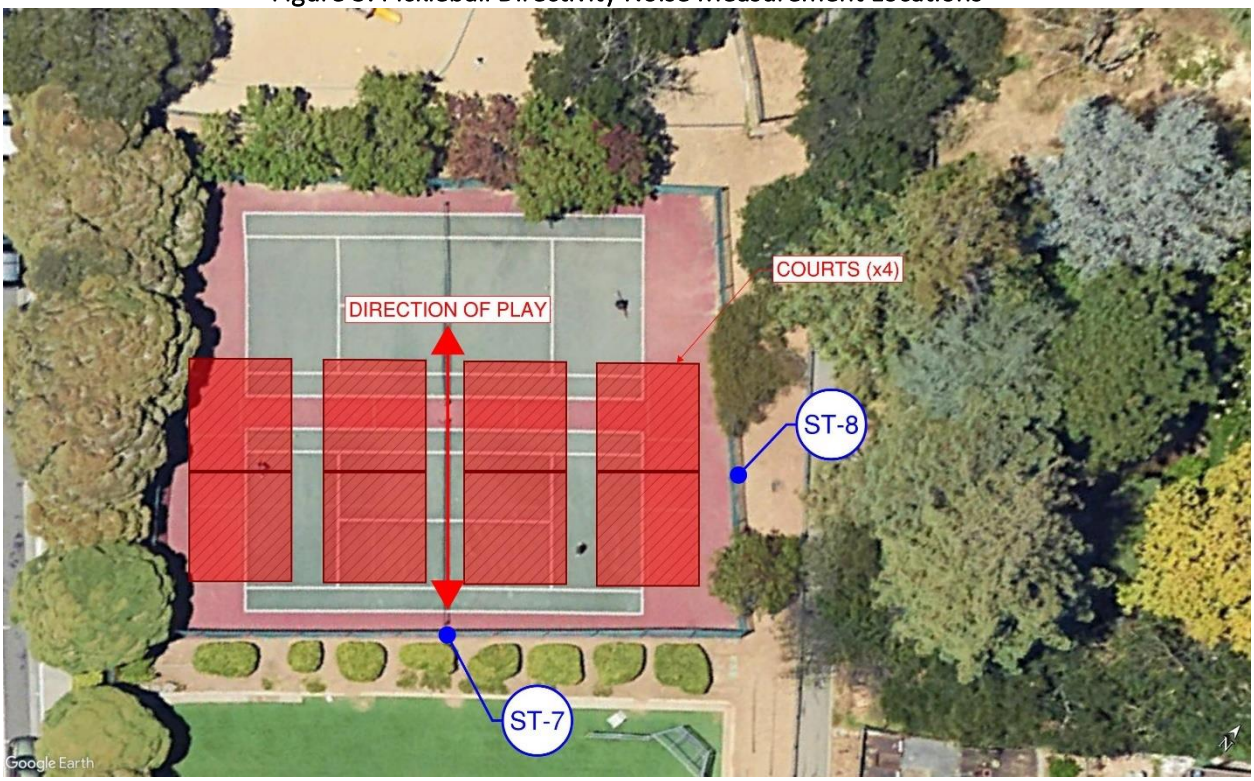
- Pickleball 9:00 to sundown: L_{dn} 59 dB
- Pickleball 10:00 to 1:00: L_{dn} 57 dB
- No Pickleball: L_{dn} 55 dB

This location is also in the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space zoning. Calculated noise levels are within the normally acceptable range for this use.

4.3 Pickleball Noise Directivity

On 29 May 2023, we conducted additional short-term measurements at the eastern and southern boundaries of the court to investigate if noise levels were higher parallel or perpendicular to the direction of play. We measured simultaneously at locations ST-7 and ST-8 from 9:45 to 10:15 am. See **Figure 3** for reference. Noise monitors were mounted on the chain link fence at a height of approximately 5 feet above the court surface. All 4 courts were in use for doubles play (16 players total) during these measurements.

Figure 3: Pickleball Directivity Noise Measurement Locations



Average noise levels measured over the 30-minute interval were as follows:

- ST-7: 69 dBA at approximately 35 feet from the center of the 4 courts
- ST-8: 67 dBA at approximately 55 feet from the center of the 4 courts

Correcting for distance yields the following pickleball noise levels:

- Axis perpendicular to the direction of play (ST-7 side): 65 dBA at 50 feet from the center of the 4 courts
- Axis parallel to the direction of play (ST-8 side): 68 dBA at 50 feet from the center of the 4 courts

This implies some directivity to the noise transfer. This might be due to “shielding” caused by the player’s bodies blocking noise from the balls impacting the paddles and play surface.

4.4 Pickleball Noise Tonality

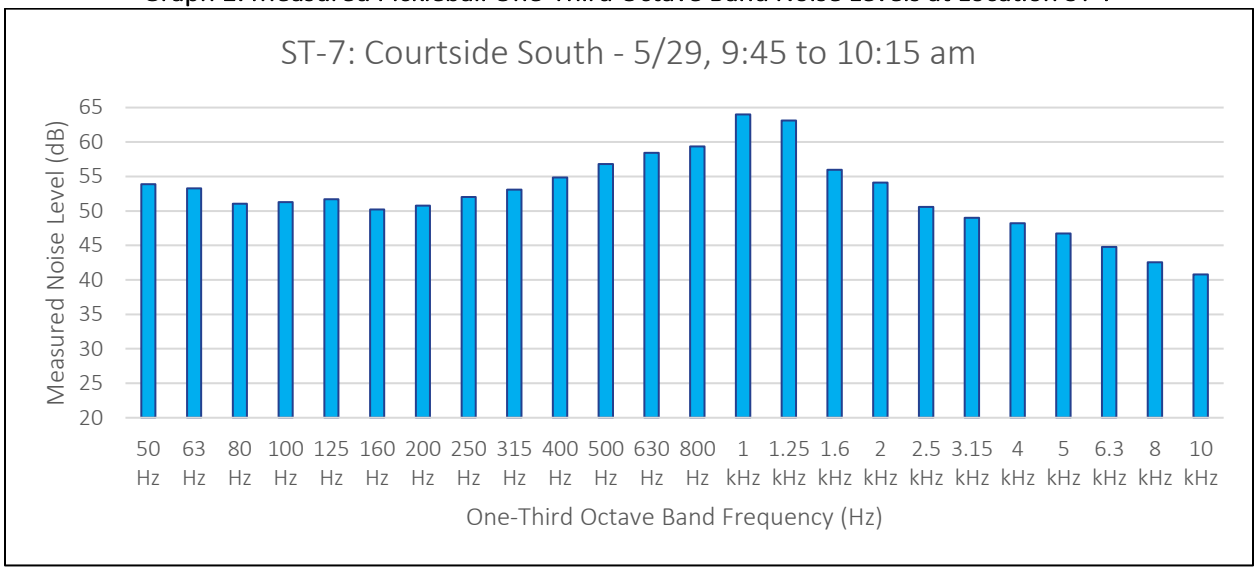
Tonal noise has been defined by the California Department of Health as follows[5]:

[5] California Department of Health Office, Noise Control Model Community Noise Control Ordinance, Section 2.2.28 (April 1977)

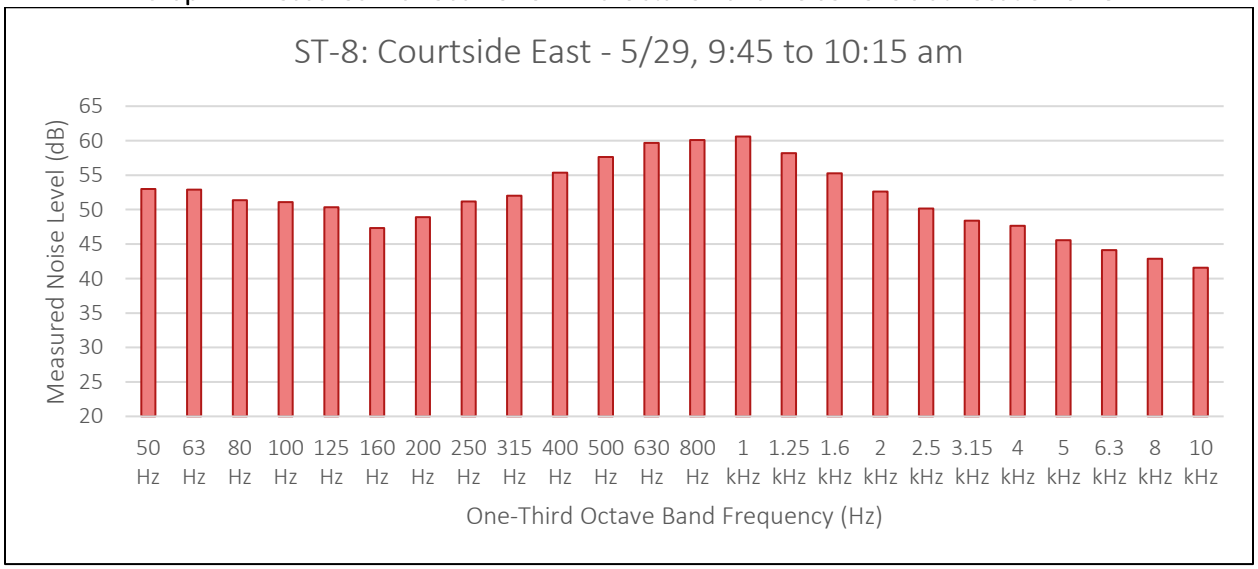
A pure tone shall exist if the one-third octave band sound pressure level in the bandwidth tone exceeds the arithmetic average of the sound pressure levels of the two contiguous one-third octave bands by 5 dB for center frequencies of 500 Hz and above and by 8 dB for center frequencies between 160 and 400 Hz and by 15 dB for center frequencies less than or equal to 125 Hz.

Graphs 1 and 2 show the one-third octave band noise levels measured at locations ST-7 and ST-8 over the 30-minute time interval for pickleball with 16 players total (4 per court with all 4 courts in use).

Graph 1: Measured Pickleball One-Third Octave Band Noise Levels at Location ST-7



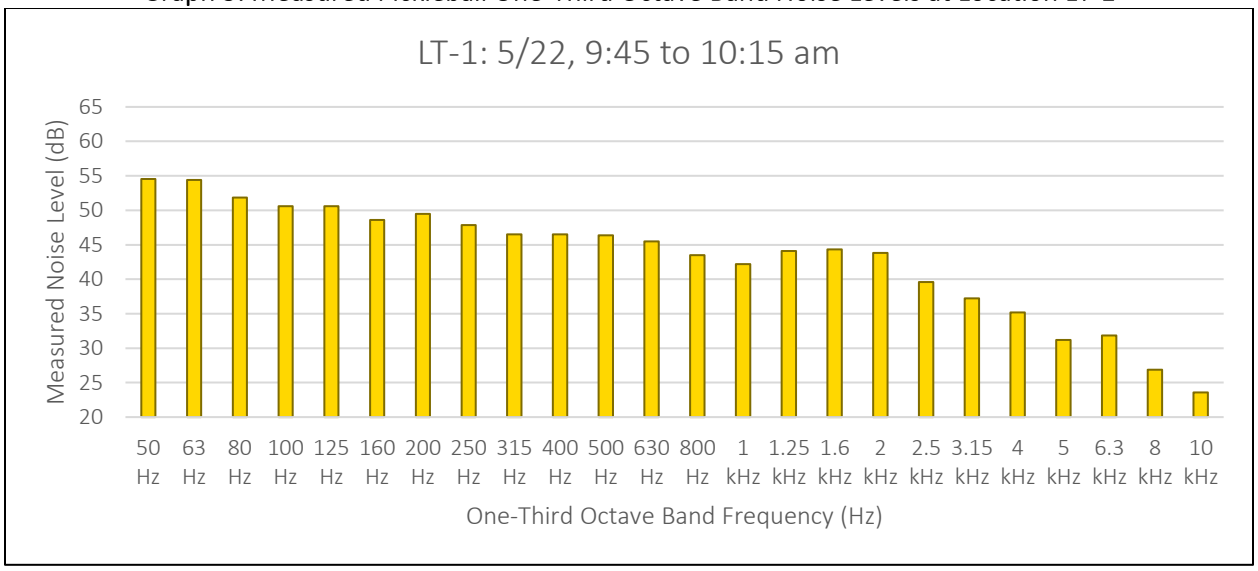
Graph 2: Measured Pickleball One-Third Octave Band Noise Levels at Location ST-8



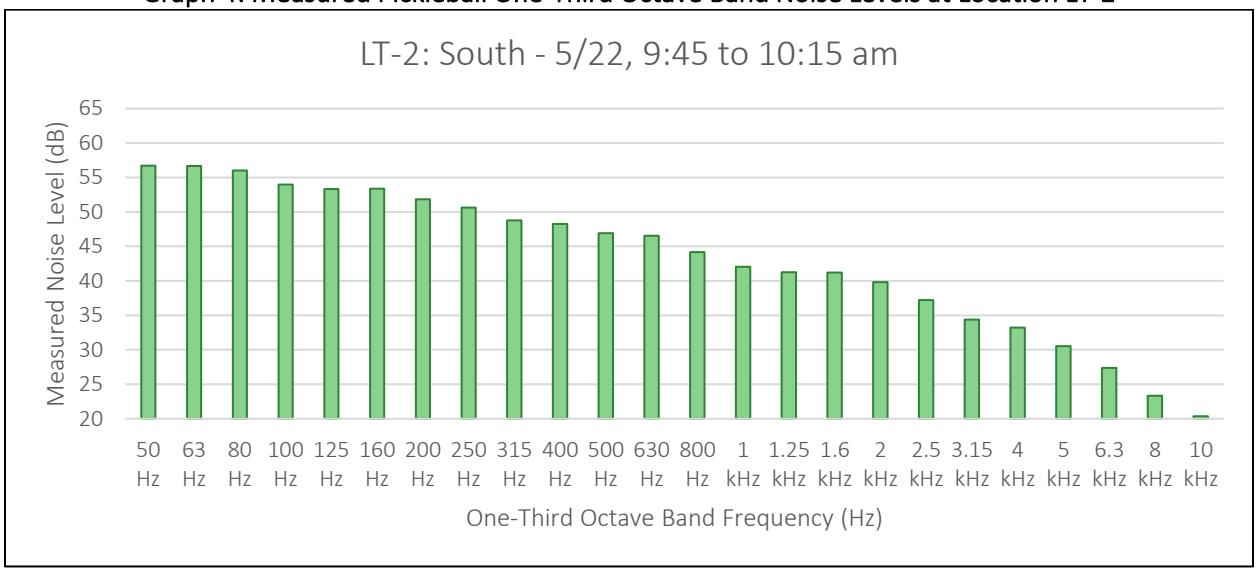
Noise levels were highest in the 1 kHz octave band. However, none of the one-third octave bands exceeded the two contiguous bands by the amounts defined by the Model Community Noise Ordinance. Therefore, pickleball noise is not tonal per this guide.

For reference, Graphs 3 and 4 show measured pickleball noise levels at long-term measurement locations LT-1 and LT-2 the week prior.

Graph 3: Measured Pickleball One-Third Octave Band Noise Levels at Location LT-1



Graph 4: Measured Pickleball One-Third Octave Band Noise Levels at Location LT-2



Graphs 3 and 4 indicate that higher frequency (e.g., 1 KHz) noise associated with pickleball activity dissipates more rapidly with distance. Thus, noise does not seem to become tonal farther from the courts.

5.0 DISCUSSION OF MUNICIPAL CODE CONSIDERATIONS

Though measured noise levels did not exceed those considered normally acceptable by the City General Plan, there are other standards outlined in Municipal Code Section 12.8.1 that are to be considered. This section provides discussion for these standards.

a. The sound level of the objectionable noise;

As noted in the Noise Measurements section of this report (Section 4.0), measured pickleball noise levels are within the range considered normally acceptable for the associated zoning as defined by the General Plan.

b. The sound level of the ambient noise;

Noise levels varied +/- 2 dB when comparing days with pickleball, limited pickleball, and ambient (no pickleball). As noted in the General Plan, changes of less than 3 dB are generally considered not perceptible and a “less than significant” impact under CEQA.

c. The proximity of the noise to residential sleeping facilities;

The pickleball courts do not have outdoor lighting and are not open after sundown. Therefore, pickleball noise is not expected to cause nighttime sleep interference.

d. The nature and zoning of the area from which the noise emanates;

Pickleball is a recreational use occurring in a Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Zoning.

e. The density of the inhabitation of the area from which the noise emanates;

We assume that court occupancy is limited by applicable fire codes. There are 4 courts with up to 16 players at a time. Based on our observations, there are typically some non-players in the court area as well (i.e., watching or waiting for court availability) – perhaps up to around 25 to 30 people total.

f. The time day or night the noise occurs;

Pickleball noise occurs during daytime hours only; either from 9 am to sundown (extended hours) or from 10 am to 1 pm (pre-trial hours).

g. The duration of the noise and its tonal content;

Pickleball noise seems to occur throughout the hours of court availability. As shown in Graphs 1 to 4, pickleball noise does not appear to be tonal.

h. Whether the noise is continuous, recurrent, or intermittent;

Pickleball noise is recurrent (i.e., it occurs often and repeatedly) during the hours of court use.

i. Whether the noise is produced by a commercial or non-commercial activity;

The noise is produced by a non-commercial activity.

j. The intensity of the noise;

For noise, intensity is typically associated with directivity and overall noise levels. Pickleball noise does appear to have some directivity. However overall noise levels do not exceed those considered normally acceptable for the associated zoning as defined by the General Plan.

k. Whether the noise is natural or unnatural;

Pickleball noise is primarily unnatural – caused by the ball striking the paddles and the playing surface. There is also some natural noise generated by players speaking/cheering.

l. Whether the noise is usual or unusual.

Pickleball noise is usual for a recreational sport court. We understand that use of these courts has included pickleball since April 2019[6].

6.0 CONCLUSION

We do not find pickleball noise to exceed standards set forth by the City General Plan or Municipal Code.

* * *

This concludes our noise survey report for the Linda Beach Pickleball courts. Please let us know if you have any questions.

[6] This was the start of an initial 8-month trial. The Council approved dedicated times for pickleball play at these courts beginning in January 2020.

Beach courts pickleball trial survey

Responses through close of survey July 2, 2023.

Responses 2

Usage of Beach courts before trial 2

Did you use Beach courts before the full-time pickleball trial began on March 1, 2023? 2

How often did you play at Beach courts before the trial began? 3

How often do you play tennis in Piedmont now compared to before the trial began? 4

Since the trial began, how easy has it been to find space to play tennis in Piedmont? 5

Where do you most often play tennis since the trial began? 6

Resident responses 6

During the pickleball trial 7

Have you played pickleball at Beach courts since the trial began on March 1, 2023? 7

Did you play pickleball in Piedmont before the trial began on March 1, 2023? 8

What best describes the reason why you didn't play pickleball in Piedmont before the trial? 9

How often do you play pickleball now compared to before the trial began? 10

Future use of Beach courts 11

Resident comments 11

Non-resident comments 61

About you 88

Do you live in Piedmont? 88

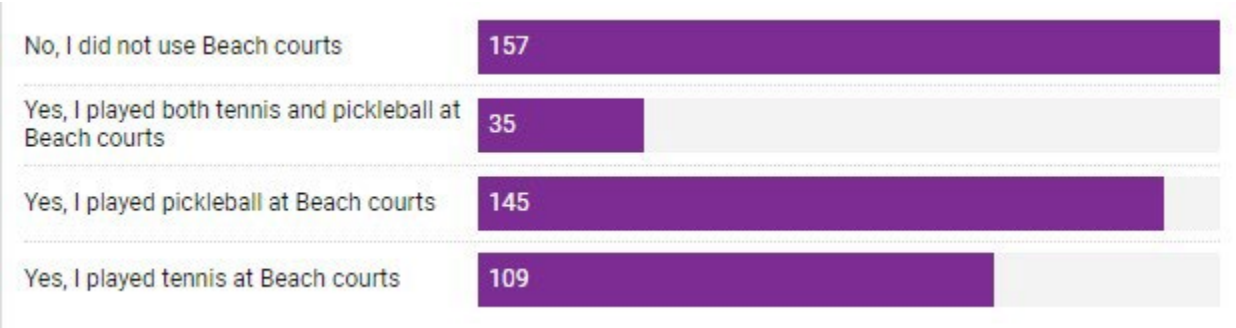
What best describes your age? 88

Responses

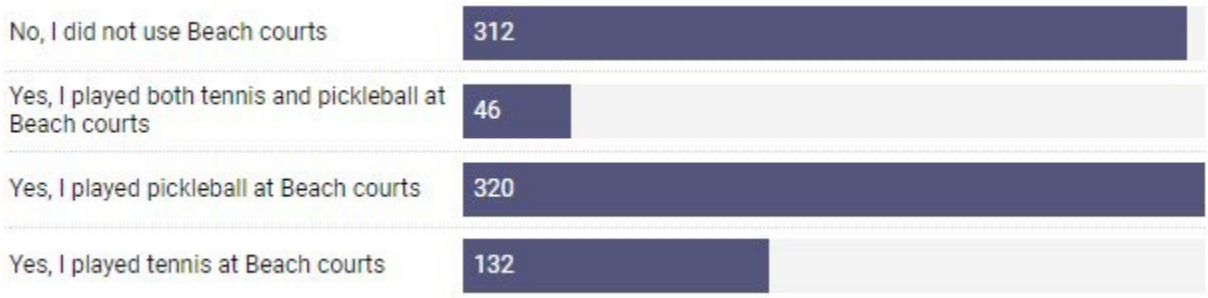
Usage of Beach courts before trial

Did you use Beach courts before the full-time pickleball trial began on March 1, 2023?

Resident responses



All responses



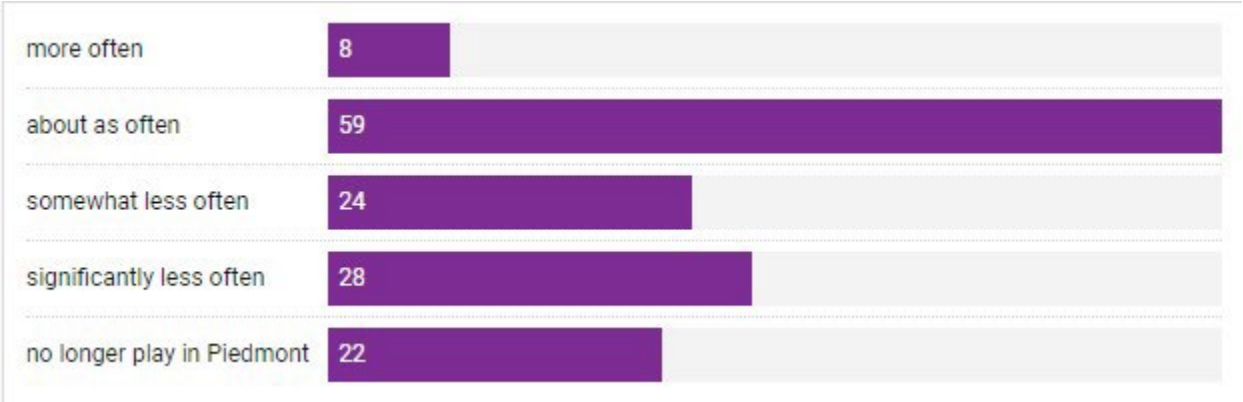
How often did you play at Beach courts before the trial began?

Resident responses

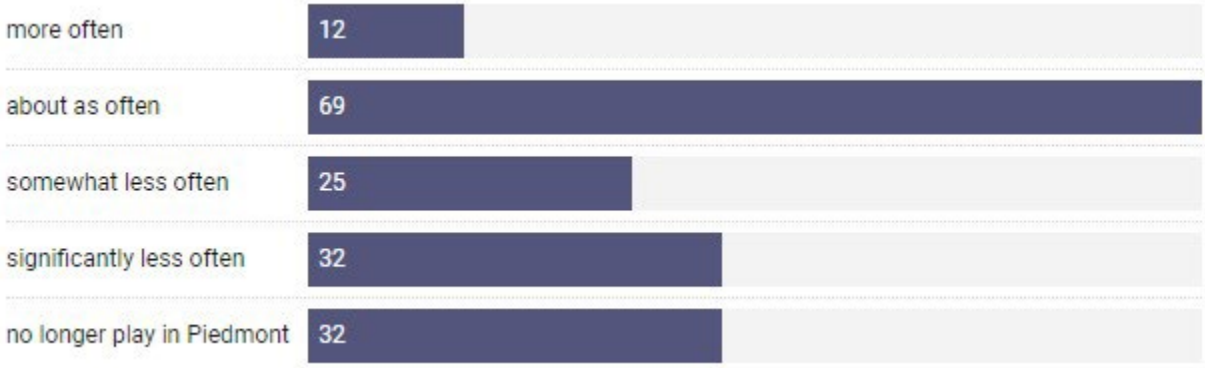
All responses

How often do you play tennis in Piedmont now compared to before the trial began?

Resident responses

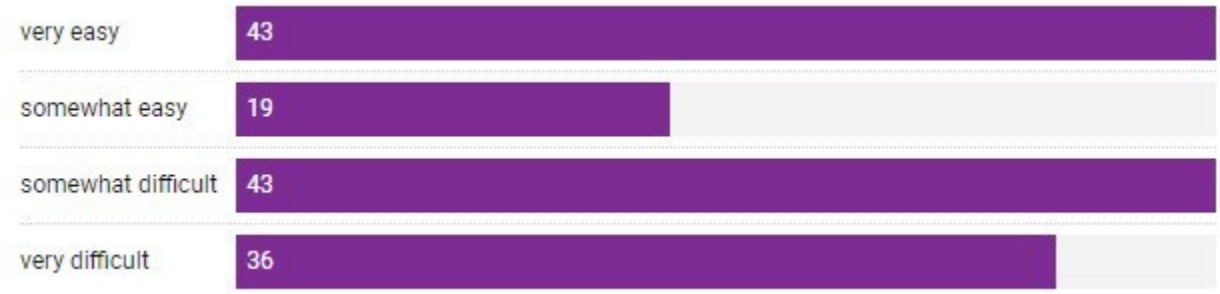


All responses

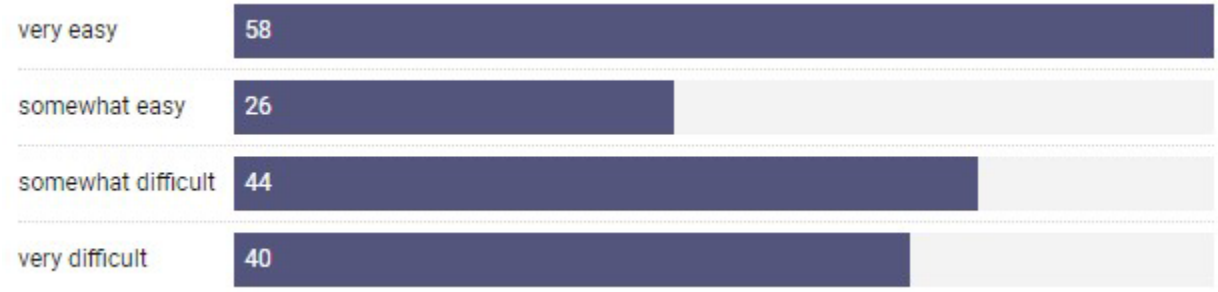


Since the trial began, how easy has it been to find space to play tennis in Piedmont?

Resident responses

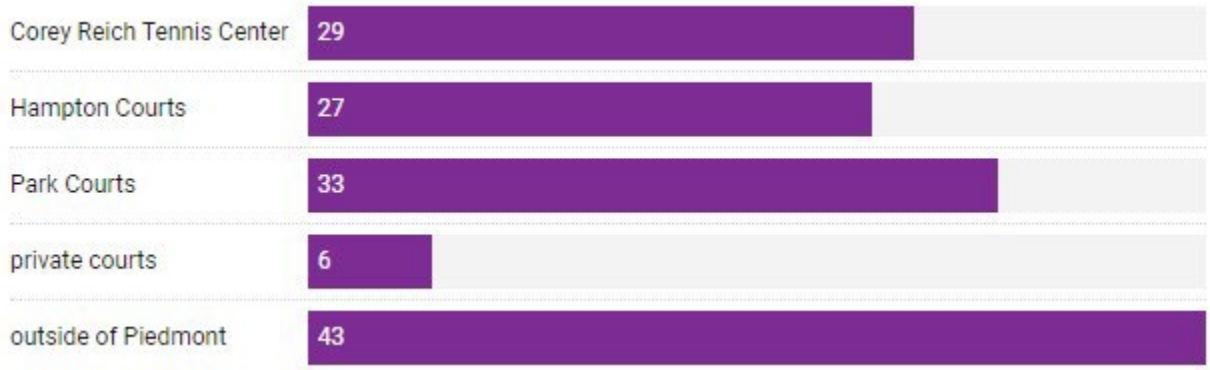


All responses



Where do you most often play tennis since the trial began?

Resident responses

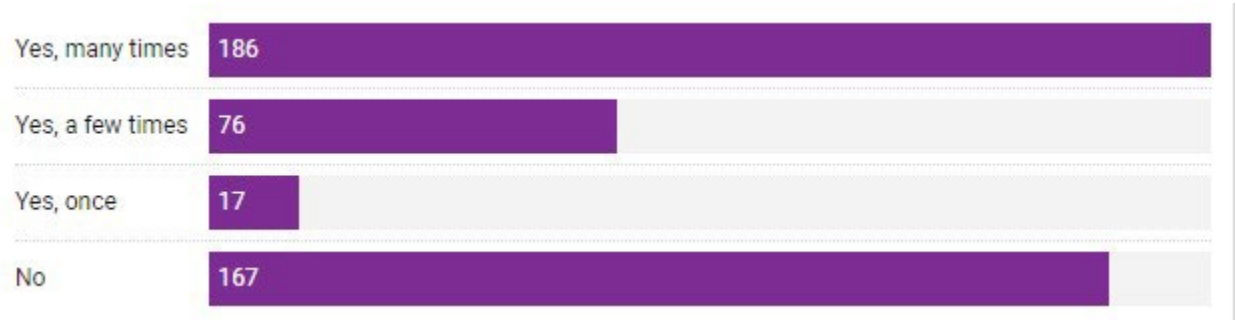


All responses

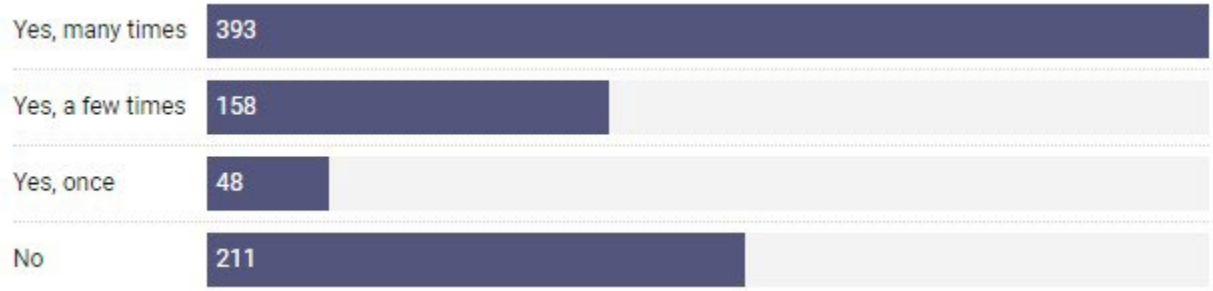
During the pickleball trial

Have you played pickleball at Beach courts since the trial began on March 1, 2023?

Resident responses

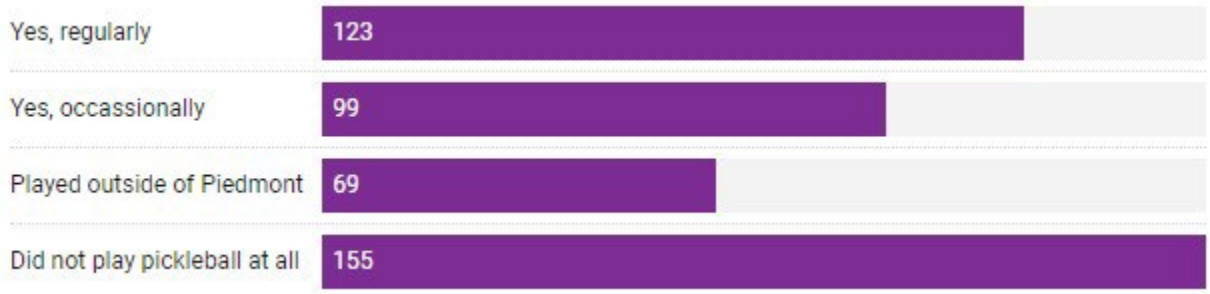


All responses



Did you play pickleball in Piedmont before the trial began on March 1, 2023?

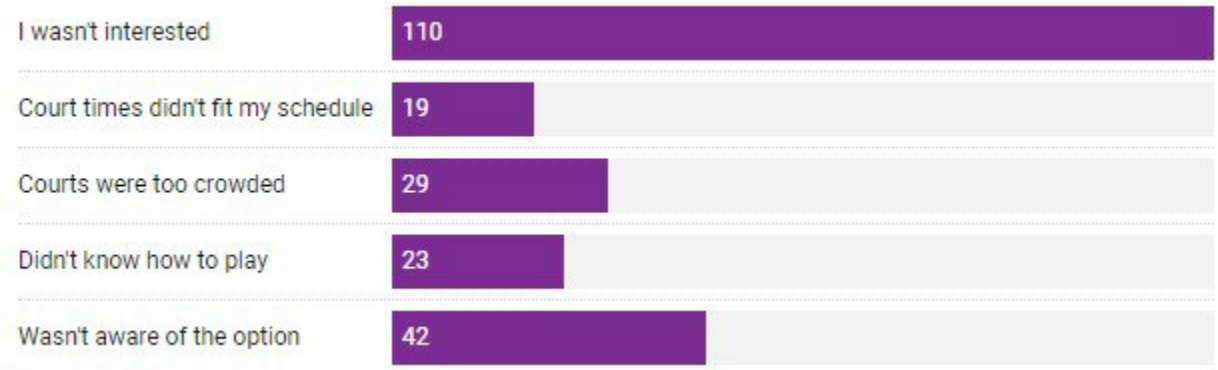
Resident responses



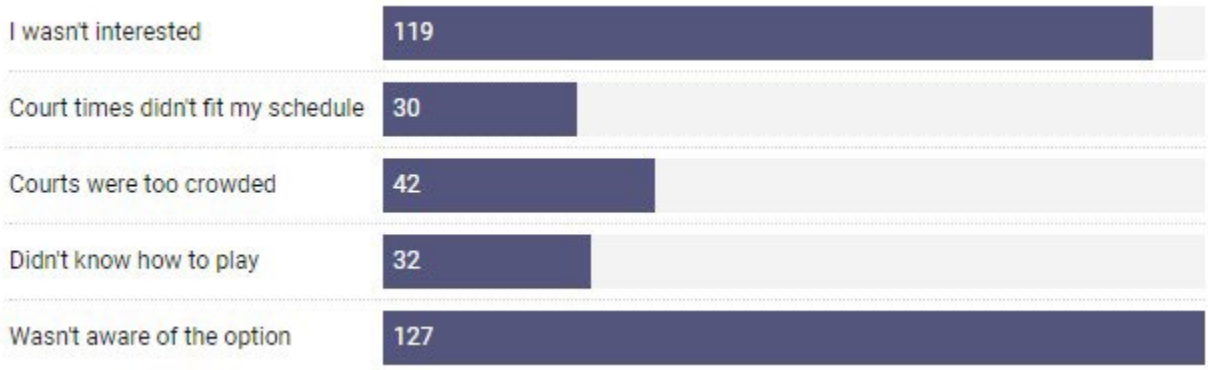
All responses

What best describes the reason why you didn't play pickleball in Piedmont before the trial?

Resident responses

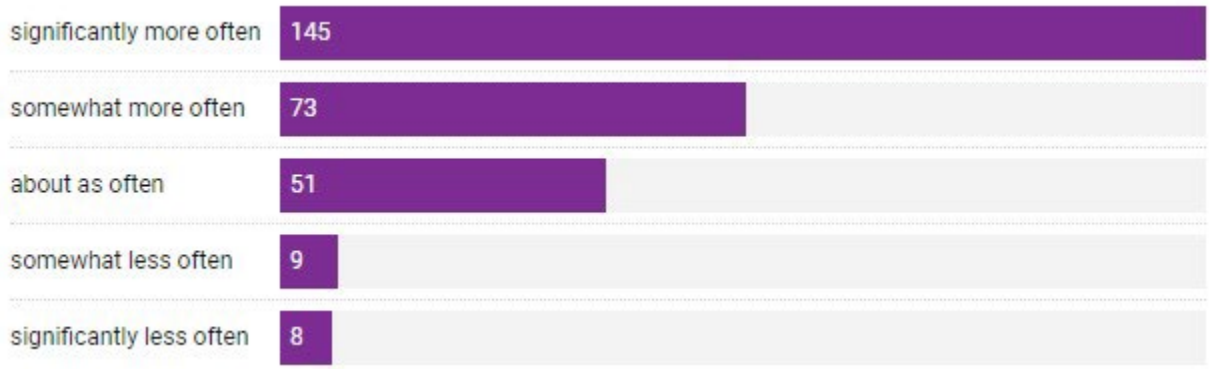


All responses

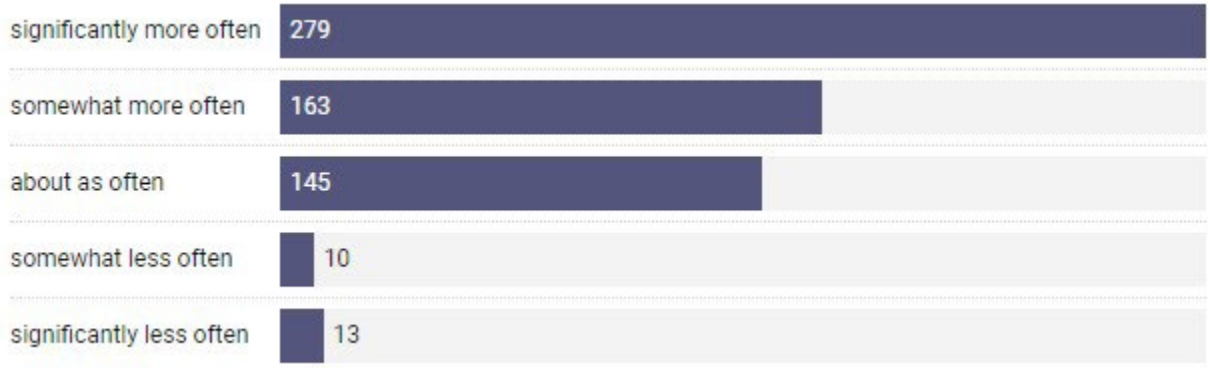


How often do you play pickleball now compared to before the trial began?

Resident responses



All responses



Future use of Beach courts

Please share any comments you would like the Commission to consider when making their recommendation.

Resident comments

of pb players using courts vs. tennis; social and community benefits to pb as folks of all ages, backgrounds mix; can just show up and get a game going versus needing to organize others you know to play; fact that space isn't large enough for USTA sanctioned courts; access to eight other tennis courts in Piedmont versus zero pb courts; growing sport
1. I have lived on Howard Avenue for 20+ years. I never heard tennis games but can hear pickleball from my front yard. I can only imagine what it is like for residents who live closer to the courts and strongly encourage the Recreation Commission to directly solicit their input and to consider their comments and concerns very seriously. 2. Relatedly, I think the City and the Recreation Commission should have provided more notice to the surrounding neighborhood about the opportunity to provide input. I have often received mailings from the City about various projects and actions that might impact residents, but have received virtually nothing from teh City about pickleball. I was surprised to receive an email from the Recreation Department about this survey only a few days before the July 2 deadline to submit it and I'm not sure why the City has not directly notified the surrounding neighborhood about the opportunity for input. 3. As I'm sure the Recreation Commission is aware, pickleball involves more players than tennis — at the Beach courts, tennis involves no more than eight players (two courts with at most four players each), whereas pickleball can involve as many as 16 players (four courts with four players each). The primary impact of pickleball is the sound of the balls when they are hit with the paddles — so, the Recreation Commission needs to consider the fact that pickleball involves twice as many balls and twice as many players compared to tennis. 3. I encourage the Recreation Commission to read a front page article in today's (July 2, 2023) NY Times about the noise impacts of pickleball on neighbors: "the most grating and disruptive sound in the entire athletic ecosystem right now may be the staccato pop-pop-pop emanating from America's rapidly multiplying pickleball courts." 4. This neighborhood is already heavily impacted by daily activity on the Linda Beach playfield — both organized soccer and softball games with cheering (screaming?) parents and adult soccer games with competitive shouting between players. During soccer and softball season, the kids' games can start at 9 a.m. on weekends, and kids' weekday practices continue until 9 p.m. 5. Piedmont has other options for pickleball: there are courts near Piedmont Middle School and also in Piedmont Park and Hampton Park. 6. The City has stated that the Beach courts are "non-regulation" for tennis competition to justify the use of Beach courts for pickleball — I'm not sure why this point carries any weight since the Beach courts are acceptable for recreational tennis. Also, I have not heard the City

state clearly the Beach courts the only non-regulation courts — are the courts in Piedmont Park and Hampton Park regulation? If not, they should also be available for pickleball to alleviate impacts on the Linda Beach neighborhood.
7. I am opposed to any pickleball at the Beach courts for the following reasons: 9i) the noise impacts are significant; (ii) it's not clear that the City has adequately sought and considered input from the surrounding residents; (iii) the Linda Beach neighborhood is already significantly impacted by daily use of the Linda Beach field for soccer and softball; and (iv) it's not clear that the City has considered alternatives to the Beach courts as the sole option for pickleball in a community with multiple tennis courts and significant resources to develop those locations for pickleball to alleviate impacts on the Linda Beach neighborhood.

Kara Christenson
340 Howard Avenue
415 519 0450

1.During the summer months, a substantial portion of playing time on ALL Rec, Park and Hampton courts is Not Aavailable to residents due to the summer camps that are in session. For example, during week of July 10 and in following weeks, both Park courts are unavailable from 845 to 1230; all 4 REC courts are generally unavailable from 2pm to 5pm; and the Hampton courts are unavailable from 830 to 11am or 1 pm. Those camps are important to the community . But when the Beach courts were available for tennis, residents could use the Beach courts during summer camp sessions. They can't now. Much harder to find convenient tennis court time now. 2. Pickle ball players sometimes use the Hampton Park backboard to practice. This is very disruptive to anyone playing tennis and should clearly be prohibited 3. The pickle ball noise at the Beach courts is very irritating to those of us who walk by, with dogs or friends. 4. If you decide to extend the pickleball play on Beach courts beyond the trial period, please find some way to erect pickle ball nets which can easily be removed during summer camp season or in other situations.
A dedicated court will go a long way towards fulfilling the needs of Piedmont community
A lot of people seem to be using the courts and having a lot of fun. It’s a good thing!
After 20 years of living in the neighborhood and using the courts, at this point, sadly I don't use the Beach Courts at all. Even if there is one the of courts seemingly available (the one in poor condition--uneven surface due to roots), the feeling of the place has completely changed. Pickleball players take over both courts even if they're using only one by stepping into the other one. There is absolutely no way one can use the other court at the same time. Also the noice the players and not to mention the ball makes is too loud and uncomfortable. I can't imagine living near as it echos all over the neighborhood. Simply walking by, I just want to rush and get this part over with when there is pickleball going on. It has become a very unpleasant experience. I believe shared use is simply not doable--not enough space for both. I'd like to see it return to tennis only as a player.
Allowing pickleball only courts at Beach courts would be the best use of the space for the community and pickleball players. Wonderful community of players!
Appreciate and enjoy the welcoming and helpful attitude of fellow players towards newcomers and regulars

As a long term resident of Sunnyside ave. I am very affected by the noise of Pickle ball. It is being played 12-13 hours a day 7 days a week. Not only the actual game being played but all that goes along with it. The yelling, shouting and cheering. This includes the parking issues on Linda which affect the school and the lower playground. I'm all for having fun and playing a sport you love but when it impacts the entire neighborhood it needs to be reimagined. Being a 40yr plus resident of Baja Piedmont, we always seem to absorb the projects and activities that no one else in the community wants in their backyard. There is to my knowledge at least 3 other locations where Pickle ball could be played within Piedmont. I suggest you spread the games throughout the community and share the responsibility. There are 5 courts at Davies make 2 of them designated Pickle ball courts. It's my understanding that the Middle School courts can't be utilized because of school being in session. So I ask you if you can't play during school there, why can you at Beach? It feels like this project needs to be expanded and reworked for everyone's benefit.
As a novice pickleball players, the pickleball community at Beach is very open to all levels of players and a great way to meet people.
As a Piedmont resident, I really appreciate being able to play pickleball at Beach. I enjoy both the camaraderie and exercise! I can't understand the complaints about noise. I played yesterday and the noise from the many summer camps on the playfield drowned out any pickleball sounds. If you live near a school or public park you will hear the sounds of people enjoying the facilities.
As a tax-paying resident of Piedmont, I object to the inequitable treatment between pickleball and tennis. I have no interest in one sport being favored over another, even though I am a tennis player. But I don't want my tax dollars to subsidize courts that are open to use without a reservation from people outside the community, and I don't agree with a system where tennis players must have decals to make reservations, and pickle-ball players get free use of the courts at any time. As far as I am concerned, the Rec Commission should make every court usable by both sports, and make everyone pay to reserve a time slot. That would be fair.
As a tennis and pickleball player, I did not like playing tennis on the Linda Beach courts since they are not regulation size. The other Piedmont courts are regulation and seem to be available when I wanted to play
As a tennis player also, I never choose Beach as a playing venue because of it's inadequate spacing. It also makes sense to convert Beach to only pickleball and leaving all the other tennis courts in Piedmont striped ONLY for tennis. Additional lines make it confusing for players of both sports.

As an avid tennis player, I'm a fan of pickleball. It's much easier to learn and play than tennis and I suspect some pickleball fans will graduate to tennis sort of like how people graduate from uke to guitar.
As both a tennis and pickleball player, I can find tennis courts dedicated to tennis but never been able to find courts dedicated to pickleball until Linda Beach, except in Montclair, but very difficult to reserve as so in demand. Open drop-in play is one of the most beautiful things about pickleball- for those who work and/or go to school (like me), drop-in PB is essential. Also that practical reason led to meeting an incredible community of people. The other thing I see of others and now for myself, as we get older, the body is breaking down, and it becomes harder to play tennis but pickleball is possible. I can't tell you how important that is for someone like myself who's been a lifelong athlete, and has been terrified of losing athleticism. Let's face it, our population is aging and pickleball will continue to grow by leaps and bounds, and that's a wonderful thing! Thanks for the trial of Linda Beach. I'm in favor of it becoming permanent.
As someone who lives near the courts (Sunnyside Ave), there is rarely a time of day when I don't hear the sound of the ball being struck over and over and over again, even with my windows closed. I can only imagine what the poor residents of the homes right behind Beach are going through. This activity should be played indoors, or at the very least, a *long* distance from private residences.
At the June Commission meeting, which I was unable to attend, apparently a number of homeowners spoke about the PB noise reaching their homes. Although there are also people around the courts who do not hear or do not care about the noise, I think we need to address the complaints of those residents who are impacted. For that reason I believe you (the Commissioners) and we (the players) need to put our heads together with the sound engineers to select a mitigation method that will reduce the sound to an acceptable level. We will never have dedicated courts if we don't make this Trial work. There is simply no place else courts can be built in our City. Hundred of units of playing time demonstrate how frequently/densely the courts are being used. I am a senior senior and I can't tell you how much being able to play when you feel like it helps me mentally, emotionally and physically. I don't know how many playing years I have left but playing at Beach during this Trial has been wonderful. Let us work together to make this Trial a success. Thanks.
Beach Courts aren't safe for tennis. Perfect for pickleball!

Beach courts for pickleball only make good sense in view of the high demand for this fast growing sport. Seniors in Piedmont do not receive the athletic support accorded other age groups, and a permanent pickleball home at Beach would go a long way toward addressing that need. Sound issues should be addressed with quieter balls and paddles (already in use) and perhaps reasonable limits on time of day playing.
Beach courts should be striped for tennis only at this time until PRD is able to determine the best site for pickleball. A pickleball trial should be held at Hampton with equal publication and encouragement to determine if site changes use. Once this trial is complete, PRD can appropriately determine how to expand pickleball. This should not happen until the Beach courts are striped to prevent further negative impact on tennis access. Inquires with expanding hours at PMS should be taken. What is the status of the Davie Tennis Stadium. As PRD and PUSD has expanding sports needs, and very limited sports space and Oakland clearly is not going to reopen Davie's, is this space that the City should look at repurchasing for a long term solution with creation of a multisport facility (volleyball, pickleball, other turf courts). What are the finances behind pickleball within Piedmont - how much money was gifted to PMS for court surfacing and striping? How much money has been spent on nets, striping at Hampton (would these stripes now be removed and how much additional would that cost). What would be the cost of nets on wheels so pickleball players did not need to setup take down, but could just push the nets to the side or back of the tennis court? What is the distance for houses from court at Hampton? What noise abatements would need to be taken at either site? Is complete elimination of the noise nuisance possible at Beach? at Hampton? How much does noise abatement cost. How much is court maintenance for tennis only, pickleball only and dual use courts? What is the financial plan for maintenance of courts? Is PRD willing to put in parameters to completely shut down courts for 1 week or 1 month if non-noise dampening paddles are used (see Berkeley Rose Court rules). How would this be enforced? What if it is consistently shut down due to this; at what point would other uses of space be readdressed? How does PRD plan to monetize pickleball? Will PRD change pickleball to reservation system at least during high traffic times to avoid traffic congestion (regardless of site)? How does PRD plan to support tennis? Will tennis decal remain Piedmont resident only? How will PRD handle other trials for other sports in the future? This has resulted in significant division of neighborhood and negative view of PRD's ability, willingness and desires to listen to residents, especially in Baja. This survey is created only 8 days prior to you making a decision. Is that really the appropriate and adequate amount of time? What operational parameters can be put in place to avoid this in the future?
Beach would be the first dedicated PB in Piedmont and would enhance the quality of PB play!

Being able to come to the Linda Beach courts far more frequently than before the trial has improved my fitness and mental health. The pickleball community that has developed at the Linda Beach courts is the most welcoming and supportive of any of the many bay areas I have played at. It seems that noise is a limiting factor in the acceptance of pickleball but ball and paddle manufacturers realize this issue and are continuing to design quieter paddles and balls. I think you will miss a great opportunity to provide a wonderful recreational activity for Piedmont players of all ages if you fail to recommend permanent pickleball lines at Linda Beach. Thank you for the time, consideration and effort you have put into this issue.
Besides Walking on Wednesdays, pickleball is the one of the best active activity for seniors in Piedmont. This has been a great opportunity for more seniors to get together to meet one another in our own community.
Courts at PMS are crowded and it’s a a long walk up a big hill!
Davie Tennis Stadium, which is located in Piedmont, has been shut completely for months because Oakland has been unable to direct resources to the property to remove a single fallen tree that is obstructing one court. Would Piedmont consider re-claiming operations of Davie, thereby adding more tennis courts and possibly space to develop additional pickleball courts as well? That would be fantastic.
Don't like pickleball at all. It's just a new shiny thing. Don't waste my tax money.
friends of mine having mentioned noise complaints
Getting access for tennis has been much more difficult because of this. I have often played at courts in Oakland particularly when summer started. I also pay for a tennis decal every year and pay to reserve courts frequently. I have been dismayed the Beach Courts were never resurfaced due to lack of money and am not happy to have become aware from an editorial that pickleball plays for free. And I am hearing apparently almost half the usage right now at Beach are not even Piedmont residents. We could have been collecting decal money all this time from pickleball. I also pay facilities fees for my kids sports. This seems so obviously unfair. And now the pickleball community believes they deserve dedicated courts that the rest of us are paying for??!. Why have they gotten a pass all this time by PRD?

Given the communities' interest in both tennis and pickleball, it seems reasonable and fair to design a program that both sports share the Beach courts. Additionally, although my house is not within earshot of the Beach courts, pickleball does create a constant noise for surrounding residences, and therefore sound mitigation efforts should be fully pursued to address this issue.
Good for our seniors.
Having a dedicated courts for Pickle Ball means that the game is accessible to many more players. Many of us are retired and beginner players and we can access the courts now during the day and find courts to practice on without having to compete against the more competitive, advanced players. I have seen very competitive play during the late afternoon hours where every court is being used. It seems fair to have courts dedicated to pickle ball since Piedmont still has quite a few options for tennis courts.
Having dedicated pickleball courts all day (and not just 10am-1pm) allows me to be flexible with my play time and -As a working adult- not being restricted to the morning time is a great improvement.
Having dedicated pickleball courts at Linda/beach is paramount. During the trial it has built community, introduced young and old alike to the game and provided a place for the community to come together.
Having dedicated pickleball courts in Piedmont has made it very easy and convenient for me and my friends to learn pickleball. It makes it much easier to meet fellow experienced players when there is one dedicated location.
Having dedicated space for pickeballers rater than shared court use makes a lot of sense so the community has a reliable place to go and play reguarly rather than moving throughout the city and sharing space with tennis. I believe tennis would prefer not having added stripes on their courts as well and that space has never been a particularly desirable tennis location. Pickleball contributes to connection and vibrance in the community and is quickly becoming a more and more popular way for adults and children to spend leisure time that promotes health. Help support this healthy pastime for our community! Thank you!
Having open courts for extended hours and 7 days a week is far superior to the 3 locations and broken hours we had previously. Now a player can go to the courts w/o prior preparation and almost certainly will find one or maybe many players ready to play singles or doubles. I no longer play tennis so I ignored those questions.

Having pickleball easily available in Piedmont makes a much stronger and safer community. The players tend to be very welcoming and get to know each other and look out for each other. This makes for the kind of town I want to live in and grow old in.
Having recently moved to Piedmont, this has been my primary connection to the community. Friendly, welcoming folks at the courts taught me to play pickleball, and it has now become my primary recreational activity. I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity the volunteers have provided me, and I hope to be able to play here in the future.
Having the courts 2 blocks from my house had made it much easier to play regularly without having to drive in my car to PMS or across town to Bushrod. I have met many neighbors and feel much more connected to my community. This has become more important to me since the pandemic.
Hello. I LOVE having courts at Linda to play pickleball anytime before dusk. The vast majority of the time, others are playing and welcome me/us to join them. My husband and I played five or six times weekly until different injuries temporarily sidelined both of us. These courts are convenient to walk over, and having daily access makes us happy. This is a true, organic community that includes everyone who comes to play. You can't find that often. Look at the hundreds of people who play at Linda to see how well-used this facility is. It certainly is appreciated and enjoyed by many!
How many people are you serving? There is no comparison. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport
I am 77 and very appreciative that Piedmont has made pickelball courts available. At my age there are few vigorous physical sport activities available. Pickelball has provided me with that opportunity. I also appreciate that Piedmont has made pickelball available on a drop-in basis, seven days a week. This means I can play pickelball when I have energy and physically able to do so. A large number of people have told you about the many social benefits that are provided by the sport, as made available by the way Piedmont has and I can confirm that what they have told you about those benefits is accurate.
I am a Piedmont resident that plays pickle ball and would like as much access as possible.

I am deeply troubled by the seeming lack of concern shown towards my Beach court neighbors who are significantly impacted by the pickleball trial and 100% use of the Beach courts for pickleball. It seems clear that pickleball is very popular, and has a huge network of advocates in and out of Piedmont. I see the many letters to the editor, Facebook posts, and other correspondence urging pickleball players and community members to support pickleball at the Beach courts and in Piedmont generally. That's fine, and I have no problem with use of the Beach courts for pickleball. However, use of tennis courts for pickleball must be thoughtful, equitable, and take into consideration what is fair and appropriate for the community immediately adjacent to the Beach courts. Among other things: - Tennis courts in other areas of Piedmont must be used for pickleball along the same schedules as use of the Beach courts for pickleball - it is not equitable to put all the pickleball in Piedmont at the Beach courts. Pickelball is loud, increases traffic (seemingly significantly), and reduces opportunities to the courts for non-pickleball uses. These effects should be sprinkled throughout Piedmont - not just around Beach. - Use of the Beach courts should be shared between tennis at times and pickleball at times. - While the noise of pickleball only impacts my family when we're recreating at the grassy or on the Beach school blacktop (which is often), it's quite loud and constant when we're recreating in these locations. I can only imagine what it's like for my neighbors on Howard and Sunnyside. It only seems fair to ensure that everything to control this noise has been done - I don't see evidence that such has happened. Has a sound study been conducted? What are the results? - How is PRD dealing with the increased car traffic on Linda resulting from the constant use of the Beach courts for Pickleball? - If tennis players have to register and pay a fee to use the courts for tennis, pickleball players should have to do the same.
I am in favor of pickle ball at the Beach courts. I sometimes played tennis at the Beach courts, and the space around the courts is very tight for tennis. I am not opposed to either pickle ball only or shared use between pickle ball and tennis.
I am interested in learning pickle ball and what options are available on the Linda Courts. Is there an instructor? Is there a group that I could join? Kathy Longwell
I am OK with Beach being a PickleBall Cout exclusively. I am hoping to continue to play tennis 5 more years. Perhaps some Pickleball, but tennis is my game of choice.
i am really enjoying the pickleball courts at linda and really hope they will become permanent

I am unable to play Pickleball for health reasons at the moment (during the trial) Piedmont Pickleball is great. The City needs to support it. The City can convert this 1 court and then should build more dedicated Pickleball Courts. Pickleball has no dedicated space at all when many in Piedmont wish to play. Not everyone can play tennis as they age. The City needs to support Pickleball for the health of all its residents.
I am very concerned about the noise from the courts. I want to play pickle ball. I live near the courts, but do not hear the noise. However, I empathize with those who do, esp those who work from home. I believe pickle ball should not be permitted.
I attend PHS and since beginning to go play pickleball at beach have met so many other residents and community members from all ages, genders and backgrounds. It is so cool to see the community that has been built through pickleball. My friend and I are obsessed and love to go for hours at a time, multiple days a week.
I believe that dedicating the Beach courts to Pickleball is the right thing to do despite the loss of 2 playable (but not ideal) tennis courts. As a tennis player, I find the pickleball sound distracting and prefer not to play in the same vicinity. I also believe that having a dedicated area for pickleball encourages the popularity of the sport and is a positive one for the community, especially for those who want to learn the sport. Both of my adult children have played pickleball at Beach with their friends and have enjoyed their experience.
I believe that the constant loud noise coming from the pickle ball courts during the school day have impacted the students at Beach school. I would like a qualified psychologist to see if aggressive and disruptive behavior has in fact increased since the conversion of the tennis courts to pickle ball courts. There are many noise studies that state constant loud noise does in fact create stress and other undesirable behaviors. I ask you, does this community really want to run the risk of damaging our children?

I didn't previously use the courts because I didn't play tennis. I used them a few times once pickleball became available but infrequently b/c I generally was unavailable 10-1 weekdays. Now I can play there b/c PB is an option in the early evening and on weekends.

I've enjoyed playing at this site as it's close to my house so I can walk there. It also seems to attract a wide age range of players. For example, a father and his son stopped by on a recent weekend to learn to play. Two experienced players lined them up with loaner paddles and spent the next :15 teaching them the game. That collegial spirit is one of the many aspects that makes PB unique.

The sport is incredibly low cost, easy-to-learn, accessible to all ages and abilities. The sport makes very efficient use of of our limited recreation space. This is exactly the kind of endeavor our rec dept (with its limited staffing, funds and space) should be investing in and optimizing for our community.

Most importantly, pickleball, especially with the open play structure, tournament play, lessons, loaner equipment, and volunteer sponsored pot lucks (seriously?! just incredible) that is unique to Piedmont, offers something that every city woks hard to create: Community. Playing pickleball offers many cognitive and physical health benefits that we all need at every age. But the social aspects of pickleball help combat loneliness and social isolation that many people experience especially after the pandemic. The benefits to our personal and collective mental health are immeasurable.

Lastly, I understand there was a noise study underway and I'm not sure what the results will tell us. But when I've visited the loudest noises I've heard were peals of laughter from groups enjoying each others' company, raucous razzing over poor playing, trash talking over unwarranted competitiveness and other sounds of community members having fun enjoying a sport they love. If that's not what the city and our rec dept are designed to create, encourage and support, then our priorities are out of alignment with what Piedmonters value.

Please do everything you can to support this sport and provide the facilities, equipment, and lessons needed to meet the needs of a growing community of players, young in age and young at heart.

I find Pickleball to be far more enjoyable than tennis for older residents, like myself, and for younger residents, like my son.
I encourage you to continue the Pickleball schedule as is.
Thank you

I find the noise very disruptive and distracting when I'm playing soccer at the grassy, and even doing my homework in my house before the school year was over. Pickleball at the Beach courts is having a very negative impact on me and is disrupting my daily life. It has also negatively impacted how frequently I play tennis. It is much, much harder to find a place to play tennis without the Beach courts open. I miss having tennis courts so close because I could just grab my racket and head down there to play. But now I have to ask one of my parents to drive me up Oakland Ave just to play tennis. And sometimes, I just can't play at all because all of the other courts in Piedmont are booked up and used. I strongly believe that the Beach courts should not only be for pickleball, but for tennis, too.
I fully support converting the tennis courts to pickle ball courts to provide opportunities for recreation for more piedmonters.
I fully support pickleball at Beach. It is not exceptionally noisy or disruptive and fully within the envelope of traditional uses at Beach. Beach provides an important location for pickleball, especially for older residents
I grew up in Piedmont and I am in my twenties now. The Pickleball sport is amazing. The sport is a fun, engaging sport that provides great exercise and a way to connect with those that live in and out of our community. I look forward to playing Pickleball everyday after work. It helps relieve stress and keeps me physically fit. The trial at Beach has been great! I've gotten to know so many people in and out of our community and have a whole new network of friends. Piedmont definitely needs full time courts and I hope the city votes to convert the courts for full time Pickleball.
I have a child at Beach & found parking extremely difficult with the extra cars parking in the area.
I have a hard time finding open tennis courts now that the Beach courts are slated for pickle ball. Especially this summer since ether camps take up the majority of the tennis courts.
I have lived in Piedmont for 41 years. My 3 kids were born and raised in Piedmont. Our whole family loves playing Pickleball and it has become a family sport that we can all play together. We look forward to playing together as a family. This is the sport where people of all ages can play together. We are so grateful that the city has provided the Beach courts for us to play. We play everyday after we all get off work. The sport keeps us active, healthy, fit, and it's a great way for us to exercise. Definitely a stress reliever. We hope the city votes to convert the courts to full time Pickleball.

I have loved the dedicated courts. Having a larger potential timeframe to play, significantly increases the number of days/week I can play. Before the trial, I tried playing tennis at beach - the cracks and tight sidelines prompted me to never book tennis there again. I would love to see beach courts be permanent pickleball - with fixed nets and proper sidelines. It would be amazing!!
I have not taken advantage of the trial as much as I expected to because every time I plan to play there is a long line of people waiting to play and I don't have time to wait more than 10 minutes for a spot. Pickleball is clearly a popular sport among young and older in Piedmont. There should at least be a few pickleball courts available for residents and the broader community to play.
I have noticed it is difficult to get a spot to play tennis. I also have two kids at Beach and the traffic and noise along Linda has increased dramatically. I have seen people take dangerous U turns in front of the school to go play pickle ball.
I have recently learned to play pickleball and am looking for places to play closer to home. Piedmont would be a great option.
I have the option of playing PB at a private club, but enjoy the play in Piedmont far more (less competitive, more camaraderie, closer). However, if we have to go back to setting up and taking down nets, and continue to struggle to see the lines, I am sure I will use the courts much less. Please support permanent PB courts!
I highly recommend that the Linda Beach courts are striped for Pickleball only. There are many, many dedicated tennis courts in Piedmont and NO dedicated pickleball courts. Look at the usage and make your decision based on the numbers.
I hope Beach courts become dedicated to PB
I hope the courts are designated PB courts with PB lines only
I hope they become dedicated pickleball courts
I hope they're dedicated pickleball courts from now on
I live a block away from these courts, and it was very convenient for me to play tennis when that was an option. I do see the utility as pickle ball courts, but definitely do not like the loud noise created from that use. I really feel for the people who live immediately around these courts, as it is quite a loud sport. If you ultimately do decide to use the courts exclusively for pickle ball please please set reasonable hours for play. Most of the people I see playing are older and likely retired, so very early and late use do not seem necessary. Maybe 9-7 hours would work and give the immediate neighbors some reprieve? Thanks

I live at 104 Sunnyside Ave in Piedmont, just above the Beach tennis courts. We purchased our home in 2021 and selected this location in Piedmont in part because of the proximity to the tennis courts, toddler sand lot, and beach school. I would much prefer that the tennis courts behind my home remain a tennis court because: a) I have a toddler who now has to listen to pickelball noise, adults shouting etc. whenever we go to the tot lot to play b) now I hear pickle ball noise in my backyard for 12 to 14 hours a day every day in my background c) the amenities I moved here to access, and pay exorbitant taxes for, have been changed without my consent
I live close to these courts and the negative impact on neighborhood parking and noise is undeniable. I recognize that people want to play pickle ball but this site is a bad option. Or if anything make the courts shared use so we don't lose our already limited tennis courts in the neighborhood. If there's going to be dedicated pickle ball, do it when parking is less impacted mid day during the weekdays. Before and after school and weekend field activity Linda Ave is madness now. Residents throughout the neighborhood are going to need dedicated parking permits at this rate. Thanks
I live in Piedmont and grew up attending the preschool, elementary, middle, and high school. I moved back home after graduating from college and I love playing Pickleball with my family and friends. It's been extremely fun to reconnect with my high school friends and we play Pickleball together. It's a very inclusive sport that involves the community, very easy to meet up with new people to play games, and a great way to exercise. I play on the weekends and after work. I look forward to playing after work. It's a great stress reliever and helps energize me to stay fit. I hope Piedmont continues to offer these courts full time as I love to play.
I live near Each field. I think it is unfair that the burden of the noise of Pickleball court is all to the beach neighbors. I think Pickleball courts should also be available in other Piedmont sites during the week, so the beach neighbors are not the only ones burdened with the noise. Refer to 6/30 NYT article on this noise issue

I live near the courts and it has been obvious that there is much more demand for pickleball courts then there was for tennis courts. The courts were frequently empty when dedicated to tennis, prior to pickleball use. There are other dedicated tennis courts in Piedmont (Community Tennis courts and Park courts) and I think there should also be dedicated pickleball courts, particularly since the interest in pickleball, accessibility of the sport, and demand for courts is much higher than for tennis. I encourage you to recommend restriping the courts for pickleball only.
I live near the courts. Constant noise 7 days a week. Recs dept. needs to close courts at least 2 days a week. Play somewhere else in Piedmont.
I live nearby — love it! It's packed which is great. Awesome to see so many people out there being healthy and having fun.
I live on Howard Street above the courts. The noise is very intense. The length of time the courts are open is too long. It would be nice to have the evening quiet after 7 to enjoy our deck. Sunday morning would also be nice to be quiet. 9 to 9 is unfair.
I lived near the Beach Courts for about 40 years. I rarely saw them used for tennis. Pickleball at Beach is involving hundreds of players. Pickleball is by far the highest and best use of this very limited recreational space in Piedmont. It is entirely consistent with the multiple other recreational uses of this long term dedicated recreational area.
I love being able to go to Beach and pick up a friendly game with friendly people!
I love seeing so many people come to enjoy the pickelball court. But who will pay for wear and tear? The pickelball users should! Even if it's a small fee - they should pay for using the court.

I love seeing young kids and teens playing on Linda Beach this summer, with and without parents as partners. I am an avid tennis player, and Linda Beach was just awful. There is no point in returning non-regulation courts to Linda Beach. Safety is the issue! No excuse for putting an unsafe tennis court at Linda Beach. Pickleball serves more residents of the community than tennis. It is impressive to see the joy it brings many more young and old residents (seniors) together. I am a tennis player, but It would be a shame if Piedmont favored tennis with eight pristine courts available. If Piedmont does not allow pickleball, I fear our reputation as a community would look worse than it already does. Five hundred eighty-seven units are coming to Piedmont; it is time Piedmont has ONE sport that is essentially free of cost and integrates all residents. If Piedmont has concerns about diversity and integration, make pickleball happen. Pickleball is a fun, social sport everyone, young and old, enjoys together. Watch the movie Invictus to see how a sport brings a nation together.
I love the community of pickleball players at Linda beach. It is such a diverse group of players. Not that school is out - I love that school age kids are now joining us. It is the only place and game that an 80 year old can play with a middle schooler!
I noticed it was significantly harder to park for Beach school drop off and pick up after March. Looks like a fun sport and I enjoy seeing the courts used but limited hours to accommodate school would be helpful. It's also a loud sport, so starting later and ending earlier would probably help with the neighbors. Not sure if you saw the recent NY Times article on constant noise pollution but it's been linked to health problems.
I play both tennis and pickleball and enjoy both. I like that pickleball allows more people to play.
I play pickleball often and these courts are near my house. East Bay needs more courts and these would be a welcome addition. The courts need work to be my favorite but I like the reduced noise balls. I often play at Montclair, Oakland. I like the ability to reserve courts. Would this be a possibility here?
I play tennis at Hampton courts. The additional lines drawn for Pickleball was confusing, so I prefer that we keep separate courts for tennis and pickleball.

I presently only play at Montclair because they have the nicest courts: best surface, dedicated lines and nets, etc. everyone is looking for more areas willing to do the same- I hope Linda beach considers making their spaces fully dedicated pickleball courts! Thanks kindly
I really enjoy the pick up nature of pickleball and how you can show up anytime to play a game. I think having exclusive courts is important to maintain this type of use. It's clear that the courts are being utilized far more since the trial began. This is a great use for these courts and I hope they will be used exclusively for pickle ball going forward.
I really want to take pickleball lessons and play in our town. Please give us a chance to try it and enjoy playing pickle ball in our neighborhood. Thank you.
I recommend making Beach courts dedicated pickleball courts as there are other courts dedicated to tennis.
I recommend that the Beach courts be restriped for pickleball play. As a tennis player, my view is that the court surface is no longer suitable for tennis because of pavement defects. In addition, the areas on the side and back of the courts do not provide adequate space. The current pickleball lines are not very clear, so making them permanent and removing the tennis lines will improve the pickleball experience.
I see you are only interested in players NOT neighbors. This is very high handed behavior!!! I am a neighbor I think you should call me. Constance Whitting 510 541 3690.
I strongly believe the Beach courts should be turned back into tennis full time. There is enough pickleball availability at Hampton without the need to add Beach. Further the traffic and parking has been an issue on Linda and surrounding streets.
I strongly support the striping to be made for pickleball use only. The trial has shown that the community is very strong, the players are doing their best to respect the sound and safety concerns surrounding the courts, and the courts, not standard for tennis, are just better used for pickleball, which is a popular, inclusive, fun and low-barrier-to-entry sport.
I support pickleball at Beach. Drop-in pickleball is a wonderful thing and brings the community together. I play more tennis than pickleball (although I enjoy both) and having a designated Court at Beach be just pickleball makes the most sense.
I think Beach should be for pickleball only. It has very high use and serves more recreation to more people than tennis. There are enough tennis courts near by to satisfy tennis needs.

I think dedicated pickleball would be excellent. Other towns like Palo Alto and Lafayette have dedicated pickleball which the community enjoys. I would prefer not to have to drive there for quality courts.
I think dedicating Beach to pickle ball is a fabulous idea. There is great demand and it provides the opportunity for people of all ages to play a fun sport. I play tennis and pickle ball and never have a problem finding a tennis court. Our town can handle demand for both.
I think it is fine to share the courts. If they become only pickle ball, then the more middle class folks will always have to go to the wealthier sections of Piedmont to access courts or go outside to Oakland to get court time. These wealthier people often have country club memberships so they are doubly served. This seems foisted on Baja Piedmont by representatives who live in the wealthier neighborhoods. It would also preclude Beach students taking after school tennis classes if they have working parents. Many people in Piedmont have au pairs or Nannie's or hired help, but if you can't afford that and you and your spouse both work or you are a working single parent, you can't take your kids to tennis classes after school before 5:30 or 6 and need them to walk to after school activities. one way they can get a break from Schoolmates is thru rec activities. There used to be a van that took kids from school to activities but that was cut from the dev budget a king time ago. It isn't realistic that a child would walk up to the Park courts or Hampton for a class and then wait around unsupervised until pick up or walk all the way home. I know a number of kids from Beach who will play on the high school tennis team and got their start at Beach courts and then continued with private lessons and camps in middle school. This pipeline to tennis may dry up if the courts are entirely given over to older adults. Again, it seems classist as the kids who go to school at Havens and Wildwood and are from wealthier areas, definitely the Havens kids are, would continue to be able to take rec lessons while the Beach kids with working parents who have no after school care could not. Lastly, I don't understand why I should have to pay to reserve a tennis court, but people who don't even live in this city can use my local courts for free.
I think it is so great to have dedicated pickleball courts in Piedmont. It does not require extra resources to take time to switch out nets etc. One of the reasons we moved to Piedmont was to have a small community where we could find everything we need within walking or a short distance. It just makes to keep the Beach courts dedicated to Pickleball.

I think it's great that pickleball is available at Beach. Whenever I walk by (I live on Olive Ave.) I see that the courts are well used. Although I am currently not a pickleball player, I hope to join the craze soon and would love to have courts available within a few minute walk of my home.
I think pickleball is an amazing community sport! The sport is super fun - many people smiling and laughing while playing. Lately, I've seen more families come to play with some kids as young as 8 or 9. It is also really nice to meet our Oakland neighbors who also enjoy playing at Beach.
I think the community would benefit from shared use for tennis and pickleball. It would give our neighbors relief for the noise while also providing the space for the community to enjoy both sports.
I think the courts are great! I live on Lake Ave just up from Linda and the noise is not bad. Thr parking has not been affected. I hope to continue using this location and it remains easy to get access to.
I think the courts should be dedicated to pickleball only
I think the courts should be shared between tennis and pickleball, or brought back to its original use as a tennis court.
I think the dedicated pickleball courts at beach have been great.
I think the LB (pickleball) courts can serve and enhance the lives of many more people than the two under used tennis courts to date. Those (or other under used tennis courts) can easily be found around the area without much trouble or demand. Pickleball court numbers and access is not commensurate to current or future demand Thanks to taking the time to investigate this important trial.
I think these courts should be for pickle ball only. There are many other tennis courts available in the area, even within walking distance. There are no other pickle ball court options.
I understand the concerns about the noise but I don't like the quiet balls we have to use at beach.
I used to play tennis when I was younger. Really enjoy pickleball and even sometimes play with my grandchildren. The Beach courts are perfect for multi generational play. We can play whenever the kids are free, at the last minute and can just play with our family if we choose off hours…..something we could never do at PMS.
I vote for pickle ball only. Thanks.

I walk by the Linda Beach Field, Tennis Courts, and sand play Tot Lot almost every day. I observe heavy use of the pickle ball courts, impact on parking on Linda. Many cars. Are these pickleball courts providing a service for Piedmont Residents? Pickleball is impacting the neighborhood. Noise for the homes on Howard and Sunnyside that have the yards/ decks facing Linda. People moved to those homes with tennis courts, playfield, TotLot and School playground in the area. NOT THE NOISE associated with constant pickle ball play, conversations on the courts and cars coming and going. The Piedmont Recreation Department budget is significantly funded by the taxpayer residents of Piedmont. Do you know for a fact how many pickleball players are coming from other communities to use these facilities? How can pickleball players pay for their impact on the Piedmont Community.
I was never a racket player prior to pickleball but the ease, convenience, fun and camaraderie of the sport has gotten me to be more outdoors and more active. It's a wonderful activity that should be supported by the city of Piedmont
I wholeheartedly support striping for pickleball only. So many more people are able to enjoy the courts and it provides a wonderful, generation-mixing socializing opportunity in these days of everything-on-a-screen. It's would be a huge boon to Piedmont to have proper, permanent pickleball courts!
I would also be curious if you did the same trial at hampton how those residents would respond. That would make for a more equitable trial. I think the courts should be multi-use and not just devoted to pickle ball. I used to play at beach early mornings (all year round) and now that option is no longer available to me. The picjke ball courts have made parking harder on Linda and I believe many of the residents are upset by the noise. Perhaps you can build some courts in the witter renovation? Thank you for the survey
I would have used the Beach courts more often, but the courts at the middle school were nicer so I mostly stuck with those
I would like the beach courtsto be permanently for pickleball. There are plently of tennis courts (i have no problem finding a court). There are more pickleball players and very few options. Even with Beach its hard to find an open pickleball court
i would like the city to keep pickle ball because i think it creates a feeling of community

I would like the courts to be back to shared use. It's great to have an option for tennis in lower piedmont. Seems like the people up the hill might want an opportunity to play pickleball up there as well.
I would like to shared use.
I would like to try pickle ball and having an option of where to play would be great
I would prefer shared use or tennis only.
I would really like these chords to become permanent. They have added to the joy and pleasure of so many Piedmont residents and are very welcoming to non-residents as well. they are easy access, ample parking. Please make these courts a full-time option
I would stripe beach for pickleball only. But I would like to be able to have a reservation system like the tennis system. As a beginner pickleball player, the only round robin system currently in place creates no where to learn and practice, as the round Robin players are quite competitive and are not enthusiastic about playing with a beginner. Although it may be somewhat difficult to find a tennis court at a specific time in Piedmont, this is impacted mostly by school/camp/group usage. Sometimes it is no problem to find a court. It just depends on what is happening in Piedmont.
I would strongly advocate maximizing the Linda Beach space for Pickleball courts. It is a small space, but optimized for Pickle Ball, it allows for a large number of Piedmont residents to come together in a social environment and exercise. Two tennis courts would not come close to achieving such wonderful goals.
I'd love to see pickleball at beach on a permanent basis. Thanks!
I'm a homeowner on Linda Ave within earshot of the courts. The increase in noise is very noticeable, though not unreasonable. The trial also significantly increased parking congestion on Linda. I would like to hear Rec Dept. data on this increased parking load and proposes solutions to mitigate it for the neighbors who live on Linda Ave (or Lake, etc)
I'm a new Pickleball player, and I've felt so welcome at the Beach courts! I love the mix of ages and the pickup structure. It's been a great place to learn the game, and the fact that I can walk 10" from my house makes it that much more fun — reminds me of playing in my neighborhood as a kid. Hope we can keep the games going!

I'm a Piedmont resident and since the Linda Beach trial began my life has changed for the better as I socialise and exercise. Access to these courts is easy with few steps to negotiate for older residents like myself. Please dedicate these courts with the necessary strippings and color to Pickleball only.
I'm a tennis player primarily, but I'm content with the arrangement of Beach court for pickleball and the other 3 courts for tennis. (Beach court has never been a very good tennis court.)
I'm an avid tennis player in Piedmont. I play 4.5 and up in doubles. There has been no change in access to courts. In fact we only Beach as a last resort when the HS teams were playing or camps made it more difficult. We would never choose to play tennis at Beach. However, I am now playing pickleball with a ton of friends who I would never play tennis with. We are having a blast at Beach and a nice community is forming. Way more laughter too!
I'm deeply concerned about the noise impact of 12 hours 7 days a week usage. I have friends who no longer enjoy their decks and gardens in the neighborhood surrounding the courts. Yes it's a fun popular sport. But let us also exercise some basic common sense.
I'm not a pickle ball player but when I walk by, the noise is pretty loud. The players are very vocal and the ball being hit is pretty loud itself.
I'm playing pickleball more often now because it is so much more convenient for me to play just a few blocks from my house anytime
I'd love to try pickleball and hope it'll have flexible hours.
Ideally half split with one tennis court
If it wasn't for the Pickleball in Piedmont, I wouldn't get "any" exercise in at all. I've quit the gym during the pandemic and I only walk once a week. But with Pickleball in Piedmont, I try to play almost everyday and I will walk to LB to add to my exercise routine. Please have dedicated Pickleball in Piedmont so I can continue doing regular exercises almost daily. I have lived in Piedmont for over 30 years and am excited for Piedmont to have dedicated Pickleball courts.
If noise is a problem (and I keep reading that it is) maybe the best way is to limit use to a small time window, such as 12 to 4.

If pickleball is a sport (which proponents claim it is), they should have to register and pay a fee equal to tennis. That's only fair. If pickleball is not a sport and simply a beautiful amorphous community phenomenon (which proponents also claim, depending on whatever argument best suits their interests), then it should not be allocated any use of the limited recreation facilities. Please do make the noise study public when available. I'm concerned that the courts are so close to the Beach kindergarten classroom and in my experience, the constant noise from pickleball is highly annoying.
I'm a neighbor on Howard, behind Beach! We had been mostly going to Montclair to play, but the Beach scene is so much more fun, and closer! We love it. Thanks for the trial, we hope it will continue.
I'm a Piedmont resident and support permanent courts at Linda. Prior to the trial we had to recruit dozens of volunteers to open, set up, break down and lock up the nets every day we wanted to play. We made it work, but it took a lot of time and energy. Having dedicated courts has vastly improved the experience and has expanded playing time for all. Dual striping is unfair to pickleball players, as we have to do all the setting up and breaking down and still get sub-standard courts with faint lines. We've been told there is no other place to put dedicated courts, so I hope the Rec Commission does the right thing and makes the dedicated courts permanent. Thank you.
I'm an outdoorsy athlete and I believe in offering other means of getting community members to socialize and get outside. When I bought my house near Witter Field, I was aware that the would noise from the environs I knew that there would be others who would park on my street. But this reflects the active community in which I live.
I'm concerned about the increased impacts to street parking at the Beach courts.
I'm glad that the tennis courts are finally being used for pickle ball more than before when it was exclusively for tennis use only. It was definitely a waste of space for tennis since they are not ideal tennis courts but perfect for pickle ball.

In response to your survey, I have not played at Beach since the trial began because of a foot injury. I haven't played since the end of February. I would have continued to play regularly (1-2 a week) if I wasn't injured. My hours would have been different, sometimes, playing after organized playing. I would have invited friends to play at my level. I am planning to return in the next week. I am an older adult and if I were younger, I would play a lot more. I used to be a tennis player and I never liked Beach because the spacing between courts. I preferred the other locations. Today, I took my dog to the dog park and wandered to Beach Courts because I saw a friend playing, I was stunned to see the new people, especially, the young players. They were playing after open play and two to three courts were occupied. One player was 10, playing with his dad. Eventually, they played against two teenagers. It was wonderful. Because I played regularly before my injury I often recognized players on the court. Today, I didn't know anyone except one player. In the summer, very few young players drop in at PMS, but they were playing at Beach. To me, this was a testament to how the Beach courts are bringing in Piedmont kids. Since the property space is not fit for regulation tennis courts, I think that this is the time to put in permanent pickle ball courts. I don't want to drive to courts outside of Piedmont to play and be restricted to certain hours. I also think that our kids should be able to access courts in their community.
It has been great to have dedicated pickleball courts. I have enjoyed family time with my wife and son and have also met many friendly community members. Thank you for running the trial!
It is a waste to use the tennis courts for pickle ball.
It is important to have easy and ongoing access to Pickleball courts for the increasing population of people who enjoy playing Pickleball regularly. This taps into a population that can no longer play tennis or was not interested in tennis previously. It provides exercise as well as social opportunities both of which are so important to positive mental health. I hope this becomes a permanent part of our community, using this real estate to maximize usage to the most number of people who can benefit!
It is truly incredible to see the crowd that gathers to play pickle ball at the Beach courts. This sport is getting the community out together and helping people connect and stay fit. I hope the Recreation Commission helps this to continue by turning the courts into full-time pickle ball.
It seems as though these courts are getting much better use as pickleball courts, and the community on the courts is awesome -- friendly and welcoming.

It seems quite busy every time we come! I think it would be great to keep the pickleball courts
It would be great to have dedicated pickle ball courts that are on the right surface (as opposed to the middle school) and to have some times when courts can be reserved and some times when they're open for drop it. Would also love to have instruction available for different levels that meets weekly.
It’s an important quality of life activity for the community, especially its seniors, both physically and emotionally.
It’s great to have a dedicated space for pickleball and I really enjoy meeting new people.
It’s not easy to make a tennis court reservation in Piedmont , especially in summer . It would be sad to loose those courts.
It’s not lost on the community that the Beach courts were chosen to become 100% pickleball during the trial of. After all, we can’t inconvenience are wealthiest, residence in upper Piedmont.. I see no reason why all of the piedmont courts shouldn’t be mixed use. This would make for more equitable access to tennis (and pickle ball) in one’s neighborhood, as well as distribute the admittedly annoying/noisy play of pickle ball
I've been playing for only 6 months, and it's been such a great activity to meet new people, learn new things, and feel both supported and encouraged. The people I've met there provide that without hesitation.
I've lived in piedmont for over 60 yrs. I learned pickleball in piedmont in 2019 and since then, have played every week in Piedmont. I've met so many neighbors that I would have never met if it wasn't for pickleball. Although our kids have graduated from the Piedmont schools, my husband and I do not want to move out of Piedmont, for the pickleball community we've become a part of. The sport has become so popular, that the need for dedicated courts is great. Having to share pickleball courts with tennis is not fair as, the growth of pickleball is greater than tennis. Having dual lines is not easy, as we often confuse which lines are what. Pickleball is a sport for all ages and abilities, it's a very open sport and easy to pick up. I'm all for dedicated pickleball courts at Linda Beach. Thanks for allowing the trial to show how impactful having dedicated pickleball courts at Linda Beach could benefit the Piedmont community!

Just like politics and work, you will almost never get a 100% consensus due to the wide differences of opinions, so please consider what the majority of people prefer and do the right thing and not give into the few (1 or 2) homes who are against having dedicated pickleball. You need to consider the future of Piedmont and it's residents with regards to the tremendously growing popularity of pickleball all over the country. Please don't give Piedmont a bad rap about not having any dedicated pickleball courts. I would hate to take away from the "official", dedicated tennis courts for a dedicated pickleball court when Linda Beach tennis courts are not "tournament" tennis courts sized. Better to take under-utilize and smaller courts from Linda Beach for dedicated pickleball courts instead or other tennis courts in Piedmont.
Keep Pickleball in Piedmont!
Keep the courts pickle. It’s a great thing for our community
Linda Beach courts are wonderful. They are walkable from my home. The community is very kind and welcoming.
Living near the courts on Linda Ave, I listen to the repetitive sound of the paddle hitting the ball. I know efforts have been made to mitigate the sound but it hasn’t worked. The sound is still invasive, not natural and repetitive from 9am until the last players decide it’s dusk. The noise from pickleball daily disrupts the entire Linda Ave and adjacent streets. It’s constantly in the background when trying to enjoy a morning cup o’ joe on a Saturday morning, when trying to meditate or nap during the day, when eating meals, when trying to read. It’s an unnatural sound that is an extreme change to the existing neighborhood conditions for the past few decades (and probably even further back). It’s unreasonable to expect the neighbors, particularly those who are sensitive to the noise from pickleball, to ensure this loud, unnatural sound for upp pop to 12 hours per day. Please reference a recent NPR article regarding the impact on people’s lifestyle and peace of mind. Again, it’s an unreasonable expectation to ask neighbors in the Linda Ave area to live with this noise 12 hours a day, every day.
Lots of traffic and crowded- noisy during the day. Maybe decrease the number of courts for pickle ball. Also make tennis available. Perhaps keep one tennis court open.
Love being able to walk from Home and meet neighbors of all ages to play!

Love the Beach pickleball courts! I live close by and I see them being used all the time. I would be very disappointed. If you didn't keep them, they are used by people who would never use the courts for tennis.
Love the pickleball court. Please keep them!
Make these courts full time pickleball. It's what the community wants
More and more families with kids and teens are playing since school is out. Keep the community vibe going. We do not want to intrude on the other pristine tennis courts; we just want a place in Piedmont to play pickleball. Pickleball scholarships for college are now in place. Let's move with the crowd and give our children a chance to excel and win scholarships for pickleball. Move with the times!
More permanent courts will help the sport continue to grow and make the community stronger.
My family frequents the playground/fields at Beach and my young daughter will enroll at the school next year. We have been present when the pickle ball players were using the courts. I have serious concerns about the noise impacts on the children at Beach. Average noise for pickle ball is ~70dB, which is almost twice as much as average tennis noise (~40dB). This noise pollution is a known issue with pickle ball and even covered on sites dedicated to promoting the sport. According to a recent NY Times article, there are significant deleterious effects on health and stress hormone levels with prolonged exposure to noise (https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2023/06/09/health/noise-exposure-health-impacts.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare). As a member of the community, a concerned mother, a physician, and a taxpayer, I am strongly against placing a permanent pickle ball court adjacent to a school or allowing any play while school or after-school activities are in session because of the aforementioned health impacts. Thank you.
My family gives PRD a lot of money for different programs and it is so good that pickleball courts are available outside of Saturday morning and afternoon.
My house is very close to the Beach courts. While I am supportive of Pickleball as a sport, the constant noise from the courts is extremely annoying even when the doors & windows are closed. It has led to disturbance in me and my husband's work, our daughter's nap time and evening story time. We have completely stopped using our outside deck because of the noise.. Will very much appreciate if you could atleast limit the pickleball activity so that we can go back to enjoying our home in Piedmont.

My husband and I recently bought in the area and were very excited to see (we thought) tennis courts a five minute walk from the new house. We were disappointed to see they'd been repurposed exclusively for pickle ball. We're happy to schedule when we play tennis around court availability if there's shared use, but it's highly inconvenient if the nearest courts are exclusively pickle ball. It looks like the Piedmont Park and Corey Reich Tennis Center tennis courts are rather close to one another; it's confusing why one of them wouldn't be a better choice for pickle ball so no area loses access to easily walkable tennis courts and we all gain moderately to easily accessible pickle ball courts within Piedmont.
My kids both went to Beach and I know the area well, and my son played PHS tennis so we also have experience with all the tennis courts around town. Pickleball at Beach is a wonderful upgrade to the town. The courts there do not play well for tennis, and we need access to pickleball in Piedmont! It's the fastest growing sport and a great option for those over 45 (of which there are many in town). I only wish your survey had a question about intended future play. I have an injury right now... so my expected future use of these courts is high even though it's not right now.
No Pickleball please. They take over and are not collegial. It is loud and there are many people who never want to leave. Unfair.
On several occasions during the trial, we couldn't play tennis because the Rec, Park and Hampton courts were full due to summer camps. This is when we most need Beach courts for tennis. If there were a way to split the Beach courts so they were available for tennis when camps take over the other tennis courts and pickleball during the afternoons and evenings, that would help address the problem.
Parking for student pickup and after-school activities has gotten next to impossible with the number of cars parked for Pickleball. Most of the people playing don't seem to even be from Piedmont! The current situation is not sustainable, regardless of your feeling about the sport played on those courts.
Parking is a now a problem for camp/school pick up near the courts/beach field and for the resident parking on Linda. There is also unpleasant constant noise that is heard from the pickle ball courts. It should be studied whether the elementary students can hear it through their classroom windows as the sound frequency is very irritating (recent NPR article on this topic of pickle ball sound frequency as well)

Parking is going to be a nightmare by the Beach courts once school is back in session-it was already challenging. I've never had difficulty parking near the Park or Hampton courts. Is using half of the CR courts for pickleball a consideration?
Permanent dedicated pickleball courts at Linda Beach are the best way to address enormous (pre-trial unmet), growing demand for pickleball in Piedmont with the lowest impact to tennis, which will still occupy eight times the dedicated court space to meet demand roughly equivalent to pickleball. The PRC does not have a good alternative to address pickleball demand. Limited hours at poorly lined shared courts with flimsy temporary nets across a few venues is unfair to pickleball's popularity within Piedmont. Parking for Linda Beach Elementary is better than at any other school in Piedmont so should not be considered an issue, as multiple checks have confirmed. Plus there are ways to improve it if needed. It's hard to see how safety would be impacted by some 25 pickleballers gathering at a venue like the park, which can host well over a hundred people for major events. We should be open to the results of the sound study, but the experience of players who live adjacent to the courts (as well as my own) is that the noise from pickleball does not add significantly to the noise levels around the park, and it is often drowned out by louder noises such as traffic and kids' sport teams. The use of a quieter, lower-pitched ball has mitigated any impact, and sound measures may help further. A small number of neighbors have complained about noise, I understand, including one household especially, which has submitted daily complaints. Prior to the trial, this household was already effectively leading the opposition to dedicated pickleball courts, focusing on the loss of tennis from the neighborhood. It's worth noting that they cited noise as an issue -- and an extreme one -- only after the trial began, even though pickleball had been played at Linda Beach for four years prior to the trial beginning, including during the pandemic, when children were at home. Indeed, despite then-opponents' worries prior to approval, no noise complaints were received about pickleball during four years of part time use . Please be careful about being overly influenced by a few people reporting noise issues, which may be unrepresentative, or because they are subjective and hard to dispute. Please also be cautious with petitions that neighbors sign to support their neighbors rather than because they are experiencing issues themselves. We should rely instead primarily on the results of the noise study and pay attention especially to the incremental impact of pickleball sounds in an already noisy park -- one that residents moved across the street from knowingly, understanding that the activities and associated noises from the park would change over time. Two Linda neighbors -- an elderly couple who play tennis -- recently described the advent of

dedicated pickleball courts at Linda Beach as a renaissance after years of the tennis courts being underutilized. Please support this important revitalization of Linda Beach.
Pickle ball has increased traffic on Linda making parking harder for school pick up.
Pickle ball is extremely loud. As a resident on Linda Ave down the street it is very disturbing. Please limit pickle ball hours. Thank you for your time reviewing my comment.
Pickle ball is way to noisy for residents - unfair to those who live nearby to have to hear pickeball all day long
Pickle ball playing makes disturbing noise. Please put a noise abatement wall up.
Pickle ball would be easier to play more often if more courts existed. We often go with friends to the oakland courts in Montclair bc they are oakland residents. Courts need to be pickle ball specific to get the most play. Converting these courts would do just that.
Pickleball at Linda Beach has been a tremendous social and exercise opportunity for me and countless other community members. The usage rate alone demonstrates that this is a vital community recreation opportunity that should be continued permanently when the trial concludes. Please keep the community pickleball courts at Linda Beach!
Pickleball brings a wide range pf age groups together where the process of pick up games enables a unique opportunity for young and old to engage in team work, competition and fun. Where else do you have young (13-14) and old (70+) and all ages in between playing sport together and building bonds.
Pickleball brings people together for healthy activity, and dedicated courts make that so much easier
Pickleball forever!!
Pickleball has changed my life and my outlook on the importance of exercise. I use to have foot and knee issues and wasn't very mobil. I was overweight and sluggish and has no energy. I discovered Pickleball at Piedmont and now I am a fanatic about exercising because it makes me feel so much better I have lost 20 pounds. I plat 3-4 hours a day 5 times a week. It was been wonderful playing at Beach as it's convenient and safe location. I've met a lot of new friends, young and old, and would never have had this opportunity to get more fit and healthy as I finally found a sport I love to play. Please Piedmont, convert the courts to full time si I can continue to work on my health goals.

Pickleball has changed my life. As a person who was not physically active before, I've found a community in Pickleball and I am exercising 6 days a week. Having that trial at Beach has allowed me to exercise after work, relieve stress, become more fit, make friends and I have lost 15 pounds. I am more fit than I have been my whole life. The community is wonderful of people of all ethnicities and ages. I hope the city will covert the Beach courts to full time counts. I look forward to playing everyday after work and on the weekends. Many of my friends live in communities where they have full time Pickleball courts and I hope our Piedmont community will do the same.
Pickleball has made a huge difference in my life to bring community, joy, fun, and fitness. I meet so many great people and love the way everyone can play together. It's an amazing use of public space— there's nothing like it for so many people to have so much shared enjoyment in a small space. I can play so much more because I can flexibly fit pickle into my life as a parent, student and worker with the court open hours. We're happy to do whatever to accommodate noise. I hope that the city of piedmont will keep the courts!!
Pickleball has made Piedmont more inclusive and has brought people of all ages together. I've never seen the courts at Linda get more use. It's so wonderful!
Pickleball has really helped me get out and stay fit. And I love that it is very social and I have lots of new friends of all ages.
Pickleball is a community sport, it brings people together that would have never met before. It's a gathering of all ages, all genders, all people who want to get outside of their homes. It's a sport that helps with mental health. I just met someone who said "pickleball saved my life, I was living on the streets just 5 months ago", this is a true story! Isn't the Recreation and parks department in all cities main job is to have spaces for people to come together and enjoy? When tennis first came on the scene it was played very similar to pickleball, where one could come and put their racket in the fence and be next to play the winner, no one came with a partner you met people on the courts and shared a common interest you may or may not become best friends but you would have some fun and competitive play! What pickleball does for the human body is allows you to be a kid again, enjoy some fun competition, laugh, release some tension and forget about a struggle or to you maybe having! Ann Lefkovits

Pickleball is a growing sport, but it is also noisy. We live 2 blocks from Hampton filed and when pickleball was being played there, we could hear the “pop” when the ball was struck. I can’t even imagine the affects of this noise on the neighbors near Beach. I think a better place for pickleball would be near the rec center/swimming pool/tennis courts. You could also consider putting them on the tennis courts behind the center of town where there is much more safe access to parking. I am sure the surrounding neighbors would support this, or maybe not due to the same noise challenges at Beach.
Pickleball is a happening sport. Tennis is pase and elitist and the existing courts near city hall are enough to support present needs. Please support this exciting new sport that has taken over America. It is a wonderful way for Piedmont residents to meet and socialise
Pickleball is a multi generational sport. I am a member at Claremont Hotel where I take lessons. Then I play also at LB as it is close to my home and a great community. Both Pickleball experiences I okay with 20-30 year olds and 75 year olds. I am 60. It crosses generations, people are kind and helpful. when one travels you can always find pickleball so it is a skill we should support in Piedmont .
Pickleball is a sport that everyone can play. It’s a sport easier than tennis and therefore attracts a very diverse crowd of all ages. It’s a great use of the courts and is a beneficial addition to the city.
Pickleball is a valuable addition to the Linda beach recreation area. Given the explosive Growth both nationally, and in town of Pickleball, it is certainly a much higher use of the little used tennis courts at Linda-Beach
Pickleball is a wonderful sport for all ages, particularly the elderly. The pickleball community is very warm, inviting and supportive of people wanting to learn how to play. This is not the case with other racquet sports. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America. We need more dedicated pickleball courts.
Pickleball is a wonderful, accessible activity for all ages. It seems a" no brainer" that Piedmont should have some dedicated courts. I live in the neighborhood of LB, and I support dedicated courts without reservation. Thank you.
Pickleball is an extremely inclusive sport across all ages and social classes. It brings people together. I hope the commission decides in favor of allowing folks to continue to play pickleball at Linda Beach.
Pickleball is bringing so many residents back out to exercise and socialize again… Please keep Pickleball as an option for our many residents who are enjoying this activity and exercise and lifestyle

Pickleball is easy for my family together. It is a great way to meet others. I've made wonderful friends through pickleball, unlike tennis. In tennis, I have to call players I know to ensure I have players at equal levels, and coordinating takes time. In pickleball, I can drive, park, and play however long or short I decide to play. What a difference. Do not let this angry, self-serving woman who had no issues before the trial destroy pickleball in Piedmont. She never once complained during COVID when she was home, and the schools were closed. Her history of complaints in other Piedmont governmental areas speaks for her character of never being satisfied and, as such, will make everyone miserable until she gets what she wants. Do not dual stripe Linda Beach. If you do, then as Amy Vallerie insists, dual stripe all other courts for the "convenience" of Piedmonters and multiple sports on EVERY public site. In her opinion, that is fair. That is a ridiculous notion. Why destroy well-lined courts and create chaos for line calls? Rational judgment for clear, crisp lines and separate courts for both sports is needed. The Recreation Commissioners can recommend reduced hours and provide PMS whenever the school district does not use it. This would help reduce the noise around Linda Beach and provide a practice area for middle school children taking pickleball classes. Pickleball is not a fad, and it is THE MOST important sport to integrate, create diversity in the community, and provide exercise and social activities for seniors. Anything less would be short-sighted.
pickleball is fun and popular, and it would be nice to have more courts in Piedmont
Pickleball is fun and very communal. It helps to bring back a sense of community which had been lacking since COVID.
Pickleball is here to stay so I think you should make them perm pb courts. There’s plenty of tennis courts for us
Pickleball is noisy and causes many injuries especially to older adults who think it is easy then tear their achilles tendon. Ask orthopedic doctors. I love tennis and it's hard to get reservations and I really don't want to look further afield to play tennis. Corey Reich is often full, so are Park courts which I prefer, often lessons are being taught there, please support tennis. Thakn you
Pickleball is really fun and great for beginners and experts alike. I particularly like the mixed age dynamic where I have seen my teenage boys interacting with players of all ages and levels to learn to play pickleball. I don't have a sense of the numbers of pickleball vs. tennis players but do have the sense that pickleball is a great addition to the Piedmont recreational options.

Pickleball is so fun and brings together so many people from across the community. Please invest in this sport by continuing to make space available for all. Thank you very much!
Pickleball is such a terrific activity for the entire community. We recently got some racquets so the entire family can play. Aside from skiing, there is no activity that all family members will rally for (pun intended). Every time I go by the Beach courts, there is a gaggle of people (ages 19-90?) chatting happily as they play or wait to play. I understand that the noise is a concern for some neighbors. It would be great to find a way to keep pickleball in the community while also responding to these concerns.
Pickleball is too noisy. Move it elsewhere.
Pickleball is very important for our community. It's a game for the entire family. Older people can play where for many tennis is too difficult. Pickleball should not replace tennis in Piedmont but it should be an additional opportunity in our town. It's a hugely important recreation for many reasons: mainly access for all generations.
Pickleball on Beach courts makes good use of usually empty courts. As a Piedmont resident, I'd say keep the Pickleball usage.
Pickleball please! I'm now a pickleball enthusiast (but still play at a beginner level). I really like the exercise and the sociability it gives me. Having Beach dedicated to pickleball all day every day allows me to go down there and pick up a game whenever I have the time. Its great.
Pickleball should create their own dedicated courts, not at the expense of tennis courts. Maybe a Pickleball facility can be included in the new housing area mandated by the state.
Pickleball should pay a decal and court usage fee as tennis in Piedmont does. Hampton courts are far for lower Piedmont residents to play tennis and it is a zoo with Nannie's and kids, baseball, softball and bubbles blowing that distracts tennis at 3pm. Park courts should be more available during the school year at 3pm onwards, these are easier accessible without distraction.

Piedmont has done a disservice to the community by instigating somewhat unilateral new rules for use of public space that presents a public nuisance due to noise. I find this unfair to the nearby community, who I know firsthand, is upset and hurt by these actions. Piedmont should embrace its residents, including those most affected by its policy decision making. This decision affects property values in the immediate area. That is fundamentally unfair. This appears to be headed to a lawsuit, and I do not want Piedmont dollars being spent to support such a lawsuit.
Piedmont has plenty of tennis courts and there is such a huge demand for pickleball, which is truly an inclusive community. Please stripe the Beach courts for pickleball to allow this community to thrive in town.
Piedmont middle school is very crowded so I did not play. Trying Linda. Each as it is less crowded.
Piedmont needs dedicated pickleball courts. The number of Piedmont residents who play is large and growing. It is a fantastic sport that enhances health and well being that people can easily access. Not providing permanent pickleball courts would be a disservice to the community.
PIedmont needs dedicated pickleball for the whole community. The temporary nets are falling apart easily whereas the more permanent nets hold up well. You can see how much pickleball is being played in Piedmont.
Piedmont should offer safe and convenient recreation opportunities to a broad range of it's citizens. There is a growing and active pickleball community that has been using temporary space and equipment for several years now. Based on the growing size of the community and the consistent and responsible manner in which the community has conducted it's business, I feel that they deserve a dedicated place to play and grow.
Playing Pickleball at the Piedmont courts has significantly improved my health and well being. I am in my 60's and never use to exercise. During the pandemic, I gained significant amount of weight. My doctor said I needed to lose weight as the weight was affecting my balance and mobility. I started playing Pickleball regularly at the PMS and beach courts and I have lost 20 pounds and feel the best I have ever felt. No more knee and leg pain. I walk to strength my stamina and play Pickleball after work at the Beach courts. Pickleball has changed my life and I hope the City of Piedmont converts the Beach courts to full time courts so I can lose another 10 pounds. I've met new friends and found a new community and I am grateful.
Please add wind screen on windy side The court provided balls are a nice touch Please paint better lines

Please allow for some hours of tennis in Beach courts
Please approve dedicated courts at Linda. We need pickleball courts in Piedmont
Please bring back the tennis courts! Our kids LOVED playing tennis after school at Beach Elementary with their friends and they would love to again? Also for myself, these courts are the most convenient for me and my family to play together. Lastly, I feel so bad the local homeowners have to listen to pickleball noise so many hours of the day. I am sure their home values have decreased due to this which does not seem fair. I honestly feel lucky we didn't l accidentally buy a home in that area where it's audible.
Please consider having dedicated Pickleball courts at Linda Beach permanently. Thanks.
Please consider the community the pickleball creates in Piedmont
Please consider the nearby neighbors. The sound of the sharp crack of the balls hitting the paddles is quite disturbing at times. Particularly for those of us right above the courts. Please consider limiting the playing hours and putting it back to "mixed" use. Just because you do not see "sign ups" for the tennis courts does not mean our neighbors are not using the courts. We appreciate your consideration.
Please keep pickelball at Beach!
Please keep pickleball!
Please keep the courts as multi use.
Please keep the courts at beach permanently
Please keep the pickleball courts
Please make Beach permanent pickle ball courts
Please make Linda Beach a permanent site for Pickleball.
Please make the courts pickleball only and fix the surface! Maybe do something for wind abatement too.
PLEASE PLEASE keep the pickleball courts full time. It's been an excellent way to meet my neighbors and enjoy time outside.
Please reduce the number of hours that is allowed for play. Very intrusive to the neighbors.

Please refinish the Beach courts so they are usable as tennis courts again. It would make sense as part of the larger Beach play area renovations that are planned.
Please resurface for pickleball only.
Please stripe courts for pickle ball only.
Please stripe for pickleball use or pickleball and tennis use.
Please take into consideration the neighbors. Although the hours ar 9am start time I heard people down there at 7 am a few days ago. I think our neighbors who play tennis and teach their kids tennis should be allowed to use these courts. Yes the sharp crack of the ball hitting the paddles are loud, but if you have mixed use and limit the pickleball times it could be more tolerable. I feel we as residents will not win against all the pickleball players, but w can compromise with my proposed recommendations. Thank you.
Please, please make the Linda Beach courts permanent for Pickleball! As a resident, it allows me more opportunity to get exercise, enjoy the outdoors, and connect with other happy people of ALL ages and race. The positives far outweigh the challenges to promote a healthy and joyous lifestyle in Piedmont.
Pls consider dedicated PB stripes. The age of the folks playing and ability to avoid set up/tear down will be easier for eye sight and lifting and moving heavy bags (safety and ergo)
Positive view of Piedmont since since Since Pickleball has opened to the public, there has been diversity with people and ages. I've seen school age kids playing with Seniors. One of the few exercises seniors participate in. Better usage of courts. Often, I see tennis courts empty. Better usage of space. Pickleball courts can be two to one tennis court.
Recommend shared use and limit the pickleball hours
Reduce the number of days/hours that pickleball is available at the Beach courts. The repetitive pop from pickleball play 7 days a week, up to 12 hours a day, is a burden to the neighbors who live in proximity to the Beach courts and against the city's noise ordinance (section 12.8).
seems like more people can and do use the pickleball courts than the tennis courts
Shared use feels like the optimal solution to give all geographic areas of Piedmont access to both.
Shared use is best!

Simply put, more people will get to enjoy these courts in their pickleball iteration.
Since pickleball use serves more Piedmont citizens than tennis use at Linda Beach, it seems only logical to convert the area to pickleball use, to benefit a higher amount of citizens.
Th courts are overcrowded. I have counted anywhere from 12-19 people on the court. They occupy every parking spot making it impossible to pick up or drop kids for Piedmont rec programs. The players are very aggressive regarding the parking spots. I have had to park on Lake to pick up a the Beach play fields. Please make a max number of players and a reservation system like tennis to avoid the overcrowding.
Thank you.
The arrogance of both sides is appalling. The courts are the peoples' courts and both tennis and pickleball should be playable on a multi-sport surface.
The availability of the Linda Beach courts for pickleball has increased my activity level and I have socially benefited from the friends I have made there. Last week I played with an 11 year old, an 8 y.o. and a Spirit airline pilot along with many different aged people. Please continue this trial into a permanent place top,at pickleball. I am 79 years old.
The Beach courts are better suited for pickleball than tennis — happy with the new pilot program.
the beach courts are not even regulation size for tennis and piedmont has a LOT of tennis court options already. the highest and best use for the beach courts is to make them permanent pickle ball courts - striped and with permanent nets. court reservations should be handled the same as tennis facilities through prd.
The beach courts should be shared use, between both and not pickle ball only.
The Beach courts should remain tennis courts only. Those who wish to play pickleball can do so at designated times, just as was the policy before the trial.
The Commission should recommend that the Beach tennis courts be equipped with noise abatement structures before allowing pickleball uses. Piedmont residents near the Beach tennis court and Beach School staff and students are affected by the noise level generated by pickleball uses.
The Commission should recommend that the use of the Beach tennis courts as pickleb

The community that has formed around this game is incredibly special. When my kids finished elementary school at Beach, and then the pandemic hit, I became increasingly disconnected from the community I live in. It felt like such a waste. Learning this new (to me) game has given me a way to meet and become friends with so many amazing people I would never have met otherwise. In the last couple weeks I played games with my daughter's classmates and with her second grade teacher. With a mother and son duo, with a full family learning and laughing together, with a pair of current college baseball players, and with a bunch of former collegiate athletes. There is something about the game, and especially the pickup style of play, that lends itself to light-hearted socializing, and the people in the bay area are invariably interesting. Not only does the game make it fun and easy for mixed level players to have a good game, it also offers never-ending challenges as you progress. Sometimes those challenges come in the form of a thrashing that reminds you to keep learning. I know the noise has caused problems, and balancing community needs is a nearly impossible and thankless task (so, thanks!). My hope is that the value of this wonderful community can be preserved, and that we get a chance to do whatever fundraising is necessary for noise abatement tools so that we can keep this beautiful thing going!
The court should be improved and shared.
The courts are much better sized for Pickleball than tennis and I believe that the number of Pickleball users justifies upgrading the courts for Pickleball. The concern for noise is overrated as there is already the school, preschool play area, sports field and dog park that all are used by the community and have been for ages and all contribute to noise as the community uses the area.
The courts are too loud for neighboring houses as well as the tot playground.
The courts at beach are unplayable for tennis. We tried it a couple times but it's too tight and honestly dangerous (due to the unevenness). But even with that and due to the different nature of pickleball, it's been a great to enjoy pickleball there. Its (temporary) permanent state contributed to more piedmont residents joining and enjoying the courts. If they were only flattened a bit that would make it even better. Strong supporter of transitioning them to pickleball permanently. Miko

The data shows it: there's high demand for pickleball in Piedmont. It all comes down to equity: how many DEDICATED pickleball courts are there in Piedmont? How many tennis courts are there in Piedmont?
The dedicated courts make it much easier to drop in and play pickle ball. I've met a number of neighbors and new members in the community which was more challenging with small windows of temporary pickle ball court access. The pickle ball community continues to grow and we need more access to courts. Having a dedicated space is wonderful. Please keep the Beach courts for pickle ball and improve the courts to add even more space.
The demand for tennis courts at Piedmont has not diminished over time. The Piedmont community need as much access to tennis courts as it has for a long time. I completely respect the need for pickle ball players to have access to courts as well but to provide that by taking away court time or access from tennis players does not make sense. As a community we need to find a way for pickle ball and tennis players to share facilities without blocking one group in order to provide for another.
The LB courts are used more now than I have ever seen. These courts are a safe haven for young kids to use while their siblings are either at the adjacent Beach playground or at the Beach playfield participating in their sport event. I have seen a three generation family enjoying the LB courts, grandparent rotating pickleball play with grandkids and their parents. A family affair it is.
The Linda Beach courts have given me the opportunity to play Pickleball which I love! I don't know of anywhere else in town or the area where I can play. Please keep these courts open for Pickleball for me and the community. It's a great way to bring young and old players together and interact socially which would not happen otherwise.
The Linda Beach trial has made it easier for me to get access to courts at PMS on the weekends. Before the trial, the courts were very crowded with long wait times.
The Linda courts are full of great folks throughout the day. I don't every recall that occuring with tennis. And its great to see 10 year olds playing with seniors. I can't think of another recreational activity that provides such a welcoming mix. thanks!
The location of these courts makes it an ideal venue for playing. The people are also extremely welcoming, respectful and cooperative in playing and sense of community. It is a wonderful place to play.

The loud noise pickle ball creates for residents that live within ear shot of the courts, is annoying! I do not want pickle ball to be played at this court location EVER! I do not like how historically the City of Piedmont punts activities down to Baja Piedmont. Share the wealth and let pickle ball only courts to be in upper Piedmont only, for there are far less residents that it will impact like it does at the Beach tennis courts.
The noise from pickle ball is a real issue. See the NYT that just came out.
The parking and safety issues increased next to Beach elementary when the pickle ball trial started. Safety of school kids should be the priority.
The PB courts are building community. They are actively used and it's so nice to see people of all different ages playing together. I'm always pleasantly surprised at the number of players using the courts. Clearly there is demand. I know sound is a legit concern, this is happening around the country and besides quieter balls, cities are installed sound barriers on the fences. It's working in other communities and I wonder if adding those would alleviate the noise issues for very local neighbors.
The pickle all noise is too loud for the Sunnyside Avenue homes.
The pickle ball courts at beach strengthened the piedmont community. It allowed the space for piedmont residents as well as others to come together and bond over their common love for pickle ball. Since the trial began, I have found myself highly more likely to go outside and mingle with others because of the trial court. Pickle ball is a sport that includes and involves everyone. With the addition of permanent pickle ball courts at beach, the community as a whole as well as individuals would improve greatly.
The pickle ball courts have greatly reduced my 11 yr old's time to play tennis. He can't play with me or his peers as there is very limited availability at other courts in Piedmont. Meanwhile the parking around Beach Elementary was extremely busy. Making pick ups and drop offs harder. Further more the noise from the courts could be heard at Beach during the school day.
The pickle ball courts took up one of the tennis courts, but the other tennis court could be used early in the morning before pickle ball started. I went by to hit tennis balls with a friend and the net was removed. Was this done by parks and rec?

The pickle ball players has made the parking situation around Linda terrible on the weekends. The kids sports games already make parking difficult and when you add in the pickle ball players, we are having to park way past Beach school to attend the elementary school sports practices and games. It makes things more difficult for parents hauling multiple kids and equipment. I assume the people who live on Linda don't like the additional congestion either. I'm not opposed to pickle ball per se, but I do feel like it adds a lot of strain to a residential neighborhood that is already pretty busy due to the sports field and the school.
The Pickleball courts are a great thing for seniors exercise, recreation and social interaction. I'd like them to be available for play as much as possible!
The recreation ("sport" is too strong a word) shows no indication of decline so the city should continue to support ("encourage" is too strong a word) its use. That, having been said it is concerning that this survey asked none of the questions that would foster a real dialogue to insure harmonious adoption: For example, "Has the noise level been am issue?" "Has parking been an issue?" Etc.
The sport of pickleball has brought to Piedmont a way for players of all ages to come together on an ad hoc basis to enjoy a satisfying and vigorous form of exercise. Prior to the beginning of pickleball in Piedmont, senior citizens had little opportunity to come together for outdoor exercise. The trial period at the Beach courts has demonstrated that a fixed location has the ability to satisfy the needs of both senior citizens and an increasing number of younger players and to do so in a way that brings these two groups together in a manner that no other sport can offer. The Beach courts are marginal, at best, for tennis, and other tennis locations in Piedmont well satisfy the needs of all tennis players, including those who live near the Beach courts. As a center for all sorts of outdoor activities (tot play, soccer, etc.), the addition of pickleball to the recreational mix at this location is in keeping with its previous use, and the issue of the sound of the game seems to have been manufactured by a very small number of residents and is clearly contradicted by others similarly situated. I sincerely hope that the Commissioners will do the right thing by our community and give pickleball a permanent home at the Beach courts.

The trial at Linda Beach courts has revealed the diversity of interest and engagement in pickleball in Piedmont. Folks from age 10 to 82, and from many different cultural backgrounds, play regularly -- and together -- in what feels like a true community activity. The demand for pickleball facilities is enormous, and Piedmont is in a position to help meet that demand with dedicated courts in this location. Everyone at Linda Beach is committed to using the reduced-noise balls and respecting the parking rules related to school activities. We hope the Commission can recognize what a significant opportunity there is to continue to support the community building that pickleball affords Piedmont and to commit to creating permanent courts in this location for this burgeoning and inclusive sport!
The trial period has proved to be a much better utilization of an under-utilized sport field in Piedmont. This is a great outdoor activity that seniors can easily participate in.
There are lots of options for mitigating sound on the courts. That should not prevent hundreds or thousands or residents from using the courts!
There are no permanent pickleball courts with daily access available in Piedmont. This sport is growing and provides valuable opportunities for fitness, exercise, and mental health to the population. I'm very much in favor of having Linda Beach become a dedicated pickleball facility able to support the needs of the community. Thank you!
There are, without any doubt, more players on the court when pickleball is being played. (4 courts vs 2 courts) Pickleball is mostly a doubles game.... So 16 players at a time in 4 courts, vs tennis which is most often played in singles style. Please dedicate these as PB courts, since Piedmont already has dedicated tennis courts! Seems only fair. Happy to pay a token medallion fee per year of this means permanent courts and permanent nets!

There have been countless times that the courts are completely empty. If the courts were shared, the tennis players would be able to pop in on days the courts are empty. There is also no reason that pickleball should have special treatment when it comes to not having to pay for a decal and to reserve a court. It seems as if the tennis community is being discriminated against and having to carry the financial burden that pickleball doesn't have to. Finding courts that are open has become extremely difficult since Piedmont has decided to ignore the Baja Piedmont tennis community and make a decision that impacts the families of Baja without any consideration of asking or taking a formal vote from the families. Over 50% of the pickleball players don't live in Piedmont. So the Piedmont tax payers should have to have our tax dollars subsidize the pickleball community that don't live in Piedmont??? This argument about pickleball being the fastest growing sport in the country is ridiculous. Soccer is as well. Maybe we should make the grassy an exclusive soccer field and not tell any of the families it is happening until 3 weeks before it happens. The execution of the pickleball plan was poor at best. If pickleball doesn't have to pay for decals and reserving courts then neither should the tax paying tennis community of Piedmont. I've never had a problem with the taxes here because of the community it benefits but you have taken away a facility that I used and many families did as well to service a community that largely don't even live in Piedmont. Ridiculous to say the least. There is absolutely zero reason why these courts can't be shared. Let's not even get into the noise it creates. The proximity of the noise to the sand lot where babies and toddlers play is also a huge problem. Decibel levels of hard hitting pickleball noise can be bad for the developing hearing of children. No one polices the paddles used. There are players that show up with paddles that are extremely loud. One last point is that now that the grassy has summer camps, the parking is a nightmare when the courts are used. I had to park a block away to pick up my daughter from camp everything. If I'm being honest it feels like Piedmont doesn't give much consideration to the families that live below Grand.
There is a large population of pickleball players in Piedmont and no courts striped only for pickleball. By contrast, there are many other courts striped for tennis. While everyone would like more facilities for their preferred sport, Piedmont has limited space and it must be shared.
There is a lively and growing community of people who played pickle ball at the Linda Beach courts. People are friendly and welcoming, and there is a range of ages of. people who participate. Enhances the comeraderie….
There is a shortage of tennis courts in Piedmont. Kids, esp in the summer and fall, on the high school tennis team, cannot practice. We are commuting to Moraga to play these days. Even a ball wall down by Beach would be some way to practice. Now there is no option.
There's a shortage of tennis courts.

These courts are not good for tennis because the closeness of the fence all around, you always run into the nets and easily can get hurt. Also they don't get use by our community enough while with Pickleball you have all ages at all time using the courts.
They are always so busy!!!! It would be nice to have another set of courts! It would also be nice to have some kind of online sign up or que to see how busy it is!
This has been an amazing community building experience. This is one activity where there are a lot of "seniors" participating, although Players of all ages are welcome!
this has been one of the best things the rec department has ever done. welcoming of people of all ages and backgrounds, supportive environment, great exercise, great social interaction. five stars!!!
This is a corrected response. Piedmont simply needs dedicated courts such as those provided by nearby cities. We are almost overwhelmed by the number of players who are showing up to play at Beach and the QR Code information clearly indicates the majority are Piedmont residents. And, as you know, there is absolutely no place to build exclusive use courts in our city. It is, however, critically important that we do everything we can to mitigate any noise that is produced at the Beach courts.
This is a great use of Beach! Pickleball is truly a family sport and I am delighted to see the community engagement.
This is a really nice way to stay active and meet new people. More than anything I've done in last 20 years, I think pickleball, and especially the Beach court, promote community spirit and cooperation. Please keep them!
this should be an easy decision of a RECREATION commission. the court should be permanently for pickleball
This sport is so good for our life, pickleball brings our family together, kid enjoy not only the pickleball and laughing, swearing, exercising, outdoor sun. Not watching tv, not on the phone. As a parent of teenagers who don't want to see their kids happier. Please make Linda beach permanent Court, let everyone have a healthy life. Many kids come to play after school, camps, give them a open court, there is not a pickle ball court in Piedmont, kids, teenagers don't have a chance to play before, kids is our future. commissioners please visit the Linda beach court, to see seniors, young adults, teenagers, young kids playing. Open your heart to hear how pickleball changes life, it sure changed my

This summer it has been very difficult to get a space in Piedmont tennis courts during the day when it used to be easy to find time on the Beach Courts. My daughter did enjoy the pickleball lessons at Beach. But my son loves Tennis and would as a family we would be much better served by a court that allows both sports to be played.
This survey does not seem to be interested in how the change of schedule impacts those of us with a house on the courts edge. I want at least a day or 2 of freedom from the noise of pickleball hits. I want to be able to have guests to enjoy my deck space without having to contend with pickleball hits to hear each other. I also want to know what happened to the bocce ball court idea that was proposed before covid. A Bocce ball court was to be in the space you are discussing. I was very happy about that prospect. Something I could enjoy at last included.
This trial is brilliant and these courts were an under used city facility. We live very close to the courts and our neighbours are very positive about the program. Thank you.
To my knowledge this is the only place to play Pickleball in town during the week. It is always crowded which shows the demand for the courts and is a sport that all ages and levels of ability play. This is the best thing that has happened to me since Covid- getting me physically active, outside after now working from home, and allows for new social interactions which helps with my mental health. Please keep these courts open for the benefit of me and our community.
Too loud. Need hours scaled back. Obnoxious sport
too much car traffic and noise next to beach school now that larger number of people using the courts for pickle ball. this is a safety hazard for the kids, a noise problem for the kids at school, and removes a lower Piedmont place for tennis play. a more appropriate place for pickle ball would be at the Piedmont park courts, or the city can establish a dedicated pickle ball site, say at coaches field area. also, why don't the pickle ball players have to pay for a decal like tennis players do? all around, this new concession of the beach courts to pickleball seems unfair and problematic in how it was conducted.

We are Piedmont residents. Our 17 year old is a tennis player and pickleball player. He plays on PHS Varsity, assists with coaching tennis clinics taught at the CRTC courts, and has been playing pickleball in Piedmont since it was first introduced there at the Park courts. The Pickleball community has been wonderful for our family. Dedicated Beach courts mean we can play pickleball as a family as the court availability would work with our busy schedules. Our son's goal is to go pro, we have been driving him from Albany, Berkeley, Oakland and Walnut Creek since he was 8 so he could get in some good play. Dedicated courts at Beach means he can play there regularly, just like he is able to regularly play tennis at CRTC. The social aspect of it has been great! Thank you for running the trial. It would be exciting to keep it going. We know of more and more youth who are interested.
We are seniors living in Piedmont and very much enjoy having a full time facility for pickleball. Playing pickleball is both healthy for us as seniors as well as socially connecting us to a supportive local community. We would very much like the courts to be dedicated to pickleball so seniors regularly have a place to play. Thank you
We have a limited amount of courts in Piedmont. The Beach courts are walking distance from my home. The courts aren't in the best shape but the fact that they were booked so often despite that speaks to how in demand the courts are. When Beach was closed for pickleball, I had to drive to Hampton field instead of being able to walk to my community courts. There can be some other space that can be utilized for pickleball players, like indoor retail space from the stores that have closed or offices that are downsizing and are giving up their leases.
We have found the pickleball courts to be an incredible asset. The Beach courts were not great tennis courts -- I always picked to play tennis at Corey Reach or Hampton Courts. But having the beach courts dedicated to pickleball has meant that we can easily find free courts and we have played many times as a family. The kids love it and it has been a great positive for our family! We hope that they remain pickleball courts!

We live just behind the courts and frequently utilize the tot lot next to the courts. The courts have become incredibly noisy during this trial with the constant ball popping noises all throughout the day. The players have tended to be more competitive and shout or use profanity which is really not appropriate with all of the toddlers next door on the tot lot and at school. I understand this is a popular sport but it has negatively impacted those who live nearby as well as those who utilize the tot lot. Please consider creating a better balance of both tennis and pickleball or moving the pickleball courts to another location. Thank you.
We would like our tennis courts back, please return them to the way they were
While I am not a very frequent pickle-ball player, I do enjoy it immensely and plan to play more. It is a great game and unusual in that it allows people of all ages and differing abilities to play together. Our society needs more of such opportunities. PG is not a "flash in the pan" fad-sport. It's here to stay. I think Piedmont should dedicate a set of courts exclusively to PB, and Beach is just fine (even though it's personally less convenient for me than being able to play PB, as in the past, at Hampton). I'm around town quite a bit every day and mostly the other tennis courts are empty, so we can't claim a supply problem. People who claim that probably just want their personal convenience of playing at Beach to continue. Yes to PB only at Beach!!! And, should this occur, please redo the surface to maximize the number of courts available. More than 3 could easily fit! Thank you.
While I haven't played much pickleball recently, I'm excited about the courts and would love to get out there and play. Please keep them!
While I like tennis, I love Pickleball and play it much more often (several times per week). All of my friends have turned to Pickleball and I suspect the courts will be used more often if they are dedicated to Pickleball. I would rather see the courts used for Pickleball. If it should be shared use, it would be nice if at least one court can be solely dedicated to Pickleball as the multiple lines are confusing.
While I physically can't play pickleball, I'd really like our children to learn as I believe it is a fantastic social sport with future hopes of scholarships being created for the kids, so best start now. They have played it in gym class already. My folks have been playing pickleball for over a decade (also avid tennis players), and it is a great community sport.

Who is the commission soliciting feedback from—piedmont residents or the general public? I think feedback should only be considered from verified piedmont residents, as we provide the funds and tax payer dollars for these courts. My hypothesis from walking by the courts daily is that the majority of people are from outside piedmont (ie Oakland). The courts should foremost be meant to serve piedmont residents and I don't think that is reflected given the question of where you live is not part of this survey. My desire is not to subsidize other peoples pickleball use with my property taxes, particularly when I am not able to play tennis (mixed use) as a result. Furthermore, non-Oakland residents should pay for use.
Why is this so difficult?!
With the summer camps in session, it has become almost impossible to reserve a court during the day at Park and Corey Reich courts. Again we would appreciate sharing Linda Beach with tennis AND pickle ball there, not one or the other.
Worried about the noise as described many times by the neighbours at Beach and in todays NYT article: https://www.nytimes.com/2023/06/30/sports/pickleball-noise-complaints-lawsuits.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare
Would love to continue to see these courts used for pickleball only. It's been a great community gathering.
Would love to see beach courts for pickleball only since there are a number of tennis courts already!
You asked for usage. But you failed to take into consideration the impact the noise has on the neighbors. It's jarring and affects our living. Please return the court back to tennis or set up a noise abatement wall. PLEASE CONSIDER THE PEOPLE LIVING AROUND THE AREA! Linda Sigel 136 Sunnyside Avenue Piedmont

Non-resident comments

71 year young man who lost 15 lbs since starting pickleball. there is a great sense of community at the court and friendships are forming all ages are starting to play and in enjoy playing with all of them one aging tennis court among approx 10 in piedmont that we are asking to serve the fastest growing sport in the country
After a total knee replacement, I will no longer be able to play tennis safely, so I will continue to play, and enjoy the fun and friendly atmosphere of Pickle Ball in Piedmont at Linda Beach. I'm an older adult who still loves playing sports, and playing at Linda Beach allows me to get my exercise, meet new people, see friends, and play outside. As a former tennis player, I really hope we can all share the courts, so the tennis players and the Pickle Ball players will all have a chance to play our sports outside in Piedmont! I lived in Piedmont for over 25 years and now live in Rockridge, so I have a fondness for the Piedmont!
All ages love playing PB...i love it so much and have met so many great people
Although I am an Oakland resident & only play pickleball ocasionally in Piedmont, the idea of permanent courts is very exciting & many people in the pb community would probably flock to Linda Beach.
Although I only play PB at this time in my life, as a prior tennis player I would probably vote for shared use because it seems more fair.
Always searching for the right day and time to play— when there are enough players to be fun but not so many that wait times between games are longer than 10 minutes. L . B. takes the pressure off of other venues to make the search more successful.
appreciate the process and you all being open to making the change. Linda courts were never great for tennis (too narrow) and more often than not when I go down to try to play pickleball, the courts are packed with folks waiting, whereas tennis was much more often open and empty
As a beginner I have found Pickleball players to be a fun, respectful, warm, conscientious and caring group of people. As a recent retiree, they are helping me make new friends through the sport and my doctor is VERY pleased I am finally becoming active after 40 years sitting at a desk. More court availability means more opportunity for seniors like me to get more active. Thank you.

As a tennis player, I have many places to play in Piedmont, or oakland. As a pickleball player, my options for dedicated courts are few. I travel to Walnut Creek, alameda, and have gone as far as Concord and Mare Island to play. There is always a wait to get on the courts, and I often see the tennis courts empty. Pickleball is a very welcoming sport for young and old. But what makes this more appealing is that you don't have to have a person or a group prearranged to play with like you do with tennis. You can go solo and rotate in with people of all levels. It is easier on the body than tennis and I have to say, I have much more fun playing pickleball than tennis and I find it just as competitive while being fun at the same time. Dedicated courts would benefit the community, reduce waiting times, and make it so people wouldn't have to travel far to get in some games.
Because I play both tennis and pickleball, I would like to see the courts return to a shared space.
Dedicated pickleball courts are really in high demand. It would be great to have Linda Beach serve the growing pickleball community in Piedmont and surrounding areas.
Dedicated pickleball courts at Linda Beach would be a great asset as so many more people are playing now, including a lot more children.

First, thank you for the trial, the monitoring, this survey, the various meetings, and Al of the follow-ups. I appreciate the thoughtfulness that's going into this process.

What I hope for: I would so much like to see LB go pickleball only, with resurfacing & dedicated striping, and with clear, easy-to-remember, extensive hours.

Reasons:

1) In Piedmont, I played/play at Piedmont Middle School, Hampton Park (why did this option disappear? I loved playing there!) and at Linda Beach. In none of these venues do we have dedicated pickleball courts. I would really love to play on some pickleball-only courts. Yes, your eyes adjust in some senses, but in others your brain/judgement is thrown off as you make split-second instinct decisions on playing balls.

Imagine playing basketball on a court also lined for ice hockey and tennis. It's like that.

Dedicated courts/striping somewhere in Piedmont would be so appreciated.

Note: I also play at Bushrod in Oakland (most often), Montclair (semi-often), Richmond (semi-often), El Cerrito (semi-often), Bay Club SSF (occasionally), and, now, whenever away from home. The only places I've ever gotten to play on dedicated courts are Bay Club and when traveling. When traveling, it is MUCH more likely that there will be dedicated courts — Denver, CO; Oahu, HI; Olympic Valley, CA; Ludington, MI, to name just a few. The Bay Area is way way behind, and we could really use some dedicated courts.

I've heard that there may be some Piedmonters under the (mistaken) impression that "people are coming in to play on OUR courts" — I say mistaken impression be/c yes, residents of towns other Piedmont play on Piedmont courts— but everyone plays everywhere! And Piedmont residents are also actively playing on Oakland, Berkeley, SF, El Cerrito, Walnut Creek, etc etc courts. People follow the game.

2) Having a dedicated space with easy, clear, extensive hours, as we've had during the trial, is so helpful as one juggles work/volunteer, family, life commitments— one can just show up, without having a ton of planning having to work out perfectly … so it supports the emotional and physical health of players; and well-being is a great community value.

3) I'm aware, from things tennis players have said, that the LB courts aren't regulation — either the courts themselves or the play area around them. To me, this is another reason to go pickleball-only.

4) I hear a rumor of a pickleball-paddle cover or new surface that basically silences the paddle-ball contact — ? Problem solved?!

5) I'll close again with thank you. Since picking up pickleball last October, at age 60, my life has been revolutionized. I haven't been this active or this engaged for years. The random, mixed social contact in pickleball is so sorely lacking from most elements of life now. Please understand that when pickleball is supported, community contact and real, human, affectionate bonds among otherwise-strangers are also supported. Pickleball brings people together.

Give the line courts more contrast against the tennis court lines

Great courts
Great folks, environment & community
Great location. Nets up already. Nicest community
Having a set location to access Pickleball is very helpful. It is much easier not having to spend 10 minutes settling up a net and 10 minutes taking it down and storing it each time one wants to play. The next step is one set of clear lines on the court. I have been playing for 7 plus years and love the game even more now than when I started. It is amazing that I get to play with my daughter. Thank you weighing all the positive so many people are getting from this trial.
Having designated pickle ball courts at Linda Beach would enrich the Piedmont/Grand Lake experience. It brings so many different people together in an outdoor environment, exercising, and interacting with a positive neighborly attitude.
Having these courts has been great. Very fun and social communal activity. I hope they are made into permanent courts.
Hello, I am an avid player and a supporter of Rick and the Piedmont Pickleball scene. I am an administrator for the Bushrod Pickleball meetups and I know how important the extra courts are to the pickleball community, please consider putting pickleball courts at Linda Beach. I personally teach new folks beginner pickleball and have had countless student from your area. (within walking distance) As a senior player I know how important community and exercise are to the aging population. I often see old and young playing on equal footing playing pickleball. It is an unusual sport that supports that scenario. Piedmont has the means to support courts while the rest of Oakland and the surrounding areas suffer. It would be tragic if the city by passes pickleball court there. The rest of Oakland cannot accommodate such an endeavor. I'd like to see pickleball courts at Linda Beach. Pickleball is not a fad. Pickleball is the new Tennis craze of yesteryear. David Yabusaki

Hi there!

My wife and I are relatively new to the neighborhood—we moved just two years ago. Since then, we've discovered the sport of Pickleball and the incredible community surrounding it that's become established in Piedmont. The pickleball community here is now our very favorite thing about where we live.

We're a couple in our thirties and have made close friendships through the sport with community members spanning backgrounds and the decades. It's routine for us to play (and laugh, as you always do in this game) with 85-year-olds and 6-year-olds alike on any given day. Never in school, workplaces, or with other hobbies have we had the privilege of being a part of such a diverse, welcoming community with a shared passion. Better still, it all centers around being physically active, positivity, and encouraging one another.

We're incredibly disappointed to hear that an outspoken few are pushing hard to stop the conversion of Linda Beach to permanent pickleball courts. Linda Beach is the primary space in which we play—the gathering place for the already large and growing community—us two are there every afternoon! We're also a bit puzzled that noise seems to be the primary complaint. As you, of course, know, these courts are located between a school and a highly-trafficked sports field and across the street from a dog park (that we also frequent). The noises from kids' cheers on the field and dogs' barks across the way have been there for years. When approaching Linda, we can hear them long before the tapping of pickleballs.

Those who live within earshot of Linda have chosen to live among noises from the surrounding amenities. Anyone with a genuine intolerance for such noises surely wouldn't have moved there in the first place. Still, we appreciate that it's natural to be change-averse and protective of one's property, and we're taking actions like using quieter balls and paddles to minimize any impact that our activity's different type of noise may have.

It's tough to imagine a public space with higher utility than the Linda Beach pickleball courts—dozens of community members are spending hours on the courts every day. With how quickly the sport in general, and our local group of players in particular, are growing, we need as many courts as possible. And, Linda Beach is a perfect location—so many of us bike to the courts, and I love that I can jog there from my home as a warm up.

We've heard that those opposed to the courts have been contacting the Recreation Commission frequently. We appreciate you thoughtfully considering all expressed viewpoints while also being careful not to reward minority "squeaky wheel" behavior at the expense of the greater good. Especially when looking at the medium to long-term, I am certain that moving forward with the permanent courts will be a net good for the City of Piedmont. Us humans are remarkably adaptable: Even if the "tap tap" of pickleballs is audible at our neighbors' properties amid the barks and kids' cheers, it will cease to be noticed over time. On one side, we have, for few people, a modest perceived negative in the short-term that will

turn neutral in the long-term. On the other, we have an immeasurable positive (community, unlikely friendships, exercise, fun!) for numerous people, the magnitude of which will continuously increase as more of us pick up paddles and friendships deepen.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this and for taking seriously just how important this is to those of us who plan to stay in the neighborhood for many decades. We invite you to come out to the courts and join us! Balls and loaner paddles are always available, and teaching the game to newcomers is as much a part of Piedmont Pickleball culture as is laughing after each point with would-be strangers.

Sincerely,

Josh

I am 67 years old, and have difficulty seeing the green lines that are striped on the tennis court for pickleball. I volunteered through both schoolmates program and at Linda Beach Elementary teaching pickleball to the kids. It has been so fun, to see some of them bring their parents and play on the courts since then. There is a ten year old who lives a few blocks away whose parents now feel comfortable with the group, so he is allowed to come play with us without his parents. I have enjoyed having new learners on the court, including 20-40 years olds who have joined in playing pickleball at Beach since the trial began. It is a fun activity which is amazing all ages can be grouped in a game and be competitive. I hope we don't have to go back to setting up, and taking down the nets during limited hours on courts that are full of confusing lines. Thank you for the opportunity to have the trial!

I am a fan of both tennis and pickleball, but I think it best to convert Linda courts to Pickleball only; the space for tennis does not allow regulation size courts, and both sports would benefit from having dedicated, properly marked courts.

I have visited the Linda courts many dozens of times. It is typical to see 16 pickleball players of all ages, shapes and sizes keeping each of the four courts constantly filled, with benchwarmers waiting their turn at the sidelines. I believe dedicated tennis players will be better served by well maintained, high quality, dedicated courts at another location.

I am a member of the Oakland Hills Tennis Club, where permanent courts have been installed for over three years. Permanent courts make a huge difference in the quality of play because of the consistency of net height. I would not expect tennis players to use temporary nets.

Pickleball brings together people for active competition and friendship. Please enhance this community by building a professional facility.

I am a retired Emergency RN living in Montclair. Playing pickleball in Piedmont 3-4 days a week has brought so much joy to my life. Last week I was able to play with a 9 yr old from the neighborhood and my new 80 yr old friend. I have enjoyed teaching pickleball basics to young ladies at the Piedmont sports day the last couple years. I have so much gratitude for the generosity of the residents of Piedmont. Thanks, Laurie Goodfellow
I am a senior citizen. My doctor told me to get more exercise and get out of the house and socialize more. Pickleball has been a godsend for me. I play 3 or 4 times per week. I am now part of a pickleball community with many new friends. It is a very welcoming group. I live in Oakland, but I am very grateful to the Piedmont recreation department for the Linda Beach pickleball courts and the trial period that is underway now. I strongly urge the commission to make the pickleball courts permanent. Gary Robinson
I am an advocate and player of Pickleball. I belonged to a tennis club when I wanted to play tennis. I would like the neighbors' need for quiet met as much as possible. North Berkeley courts have a sound dampening material draped on the fence that may help mitigate noise issues. Thanks for all of your consideration in this matter.
I am very excited to hear about this possible conversion of the court. I would LOVE to play more at Linda Beach. I did come out to play last week, but due to not being able to see the pickleball likes due to the lines matching the court colors, I just couldn't keep playing. I really would like to support this conversion, but I can't do it by playing as they are currently.
I am wholeheartedly in favor of converting the courts to permanent Pickleball courts and would love to see 6 courts in that space. Pickleball is a great recreational outlet for those of us who are retired and need a local court of play on during the week. These courts are definitely needed to accommodate the growing interest in PB among both young and old players. In the 5 years I have been playing PB, I have seen a dramatic increase in younger players and continue to enjoy being able to beat them regularly!
I appreciate that the Beach courts are available to everyone as often as you have made them. My responses show limited participation because I have been out of town a lot the past few months.

I appreciate you making a court available to pickleball players because, in my experience and my friend's experience, tennis players are very unfriendly to pickleball players and are often possessive of the courts. This makes it hard to find courts to play pickleball and feel we belong in community life. Hope you find that embracing diverse team sports is healthy for everyone in the community! Thank you!
I believe pickleball is the best thing that has ever happened to seniors and all folks of all ages. It's a fun activity and a nice environment to socialize and meet people. I play 3 to 4 times a week because it keeps me in physical shape. At 70 years old, I feel better than ever due to pickleball because it's a cardiovascular activity. Young adults and teens really enjoy pickleball too. It's a healthy environment for them because it's a safe place and players seem to look out for each other. There are no dedicated pickleball courts in Piedmont -- yet it's the most popular sports everywhere in recent years. There are plenty of tennis courts in Piedmont so why can't Piedmont at least have one dedicated for pickleball.
I didn't use the court because I am brand new to Pickleball. I love the sport, it is a way for older adults to stay active and healthy. It also offers a wonderful way to combat isolation and socialize with other players. All wonderful health benefits. Thank you for this trial and I hope it continues.
I discovered pickleball at LB courts before the pandemic and was instantly hooked on the game thanks to the warm, welcoming and inclusive individuals forming this incredible PB community. I enjoy walking to the courts since I am an Oakland resident living just a few blocks away. Unfortunately, I haven't played for more than a month due to family matters but I miss playing and seeing all my PB friends and meeting many new younger and older players. I am looking forward to coming back on the courts as soon as possible. I sincerely hope that the Commission will understand how crucial pickleball can be in building a vibrant, diverse, physically and mentally healthy community (so needed in this day and age) and will see how the benefits of a permanent pickleball site outweigh any hindrances.
I earnestly hope these courts become permanent dedicated pickleball courts in the future! The congenial community that has arisen around these courts is absolutely delightful! Young, old, and in-between play side by side, given the agreeable rotation system and color-coded ranking. Hopefully, the open play system will not be upended by a more exclusive pay-to-play or reservation system. Let's promote this inclusive vibe that has been created on these courts!
I enjoy the Linda Beach courts because they are dedicated (meaning not shared with tennis) and I can come anytime and there are usually people there to play with. This is very helpful with my schedule.

I experience the PB courts as a unique opportunity to meet and make connections with people of all ages. These have been significant, life changing connections. The open play nature of PB is vastly different from a making reservations system and creates the community building.
I feel more useful to setting up for pickle ball since there are more people show up playing pickle ball most of time.
I found out about this while on the bus riding by the Beach school pickleball courts. So a few days later, I got off the bus there and asked someone who was coming out of the court about it - whether anybody could play, whether it was a pickup game, or if I needed to bring someone to play with, etc. She was kind enough to encourage me to play, and told me where I could get a racket. She told me there is a white board where you write your name while you're waiting to play, and that it's a pickup game, anybody can play, it's free, you don't need to be part of a special group, or sign up before coming, or pay to play. So I'm thinking of buying a racket and trying it there. Also, some friends of mine play basketball on some weekday evenings at Beach school, so maybe I'll go at the same time they go. I think it's wonderful that you make these courts freely available to the community. I haven't tried it before but have been hearing about it since before COVID. I like playing ping pong and Beach school is closer than any ping pong place in Oakland, which I haven't done since before COVID. Tennis seems like a little too much running for me (I'm 62) and my brother got hurt (not in Piedmont) falling when he was running playing tennis, so pickleball might be a happy medium between ping pong and tennis. I've observed that a lot of people are playing pickleball there around 5pm on weekday evenings. Thank you for making this available. I hope you will continue to do so.
I had also played tennis once at Linda Beach but not again due to the dimensions.
I have met so many wonderful people because of PB and when I play I enjoy the laughs, the game and camaraderie. The demand is great and growing and more courts are needed.
I have played in Piedmont for quite some time. Before the trial, I played at the Hampton Courts on Weds and Friday and the middle school on the weekends. We are doing everything to keep the noise level to a minimum at Linda Beach. . Pickleball has added so much to my life from making new friends and improving my overall health. This has become a major joy in my life. Please do everything that you can to ensure that Linda Beach becomes a pickleball only venue.
I hope you keep these courts savailable

I just started playing pickleball this year and am really enjoying it. I love having the Beach courts available as a place to play. I expect to play more as I make more pickleball friends and advance in my skill level.
I know there are pros and cons to these courts, but I love the diversity and community that these courts provide. It's really special.
I live a block away from these courts. I used to drive to the Lincoln Park courts in Alameda because they have four dedicated courts in good condition. I would love to have designated pickleball courts in my neighborhood. Before I began playing here, I walked around the neighborhood for exercise. I saw the empty tennis courts. Thank you for giving the community this trial. Pickleball has been so good for my health. Kind thanks eloise
I live about 5 minutes drive from the Beach courts and I love that I can go there anytime. I used to play at PMS on the weekends but Beach is usually less crowded. People are very friendly and inclusive. One of my pickle ball friends who plays at Beach a lot has become a volunteer teaching the kids at the school. It's a real boon to the community, getting people of all ages to have fun and get healthy together.
I love having a place very close that is dedicated to pickleball! I vote for only pickleball courts. Sharing with tennis player is fine but the quality of the courts is better when there are just pickleball lines.
I love playing here people are very nice
i love playing with the amazing people of all ages
I love the community I have found at the Linda Beach Pickleball courts!
I play pickleball all over the East Bay, but Piedmont is my favorite community for being so inclusive and welcoming to folks at all levels and all ages. It's great fun to play with children and to be able to bring beginners, including my own kids.
I really enjoy and appreciate pickleball at Beach
I really enjoy playing pickleball but have to drive to play at evening courts. The Linda Beach courts are walking distance for me and I'd prefer to walk to play. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
I recommend pickleball only courts.
I retired mid- Covid as burned-out,health care provider with subsequent, multiple cancer surgeries. The Pickleball community at Linda Beach has provided an incredibly supportive community for me to recover and thrive. I feel very welcomed as a new player ! So much laughter… I leave feeling healthy, healed and with a sense of hope in my life.. it's a huge part of my life. Thank you for this trial. I only hope that these courts can become a dedicated community. The community organizers are working so hard to meet the needs of the community as well as the neighborhood- they are an incredibly dedicated group. We owe them a ton of kuddos for all their efforts- thank you.. Hilarie Harris
I so enjoy pickleball here. At times I play all courts se in use most of the time

I stopped playing pickleball during the pandemic, and have delayed returning because of foot surgery. I eagerly look forward to starting to play again at Linda Beach, a 9-minute walk from my house. I will respect the hours and rules, and will never bring a car! Please make the Linda Beach pickleball courts permanent. Thank you!
I stopped playing tennis and only play PickleBall 3 times a week, making Beach court's permanent PickleBall would be great for the community Craig Nelson
I strongly support pickleball only courts. Interest in pickleball is growing rapidly and dedicated courts support more players of all ages engaging in the sport. Paul Kivel, in the Beach courts neighborhood.
I support shared use of Linda Court. it seemed fine to me before the trial began, with pickleball players using the court at designated times and tennis players able to use the courts when pickleball was not in session.
I support shared use with certain hours dedicated to tennis and certain hours dedicated to pickleball.
I support striping the Linda Beach courts for Pickleball only. The courts are the most convenient to my house and the pickleball trial has encouraged me to increase my overall physical activity and I can feel the improvement in my overall health. The pickleball courts at Linda Beach have supported and promoted a vibrant community of pickleball players and the courts are getting excellent use on a daily basis.
I think pickleball is a growing sport that utilizes less space and more people can use the same amount of space than tennis. 2 Pickleball courts= 1 tennis court therefore more people could use the space.
I think the best use of the courts at Linda Beach would be to designate them as permanent Pickleball courts. The courts are too small for tennis and the location is the best in terms of noise.
I think the pickleball courts provide much-needed recreational opportunities, especially for seniors like myself. My husband and I have met a great community of players and enjoy exploring the restaurants on Piedmont Avenue before or after play. I find the double striping (tennis and pickleball) confusing and would support the use of pickleball only courts at Linda Beach. Thanks for your consideration of this matter.
i think the usage has shown that the trial has been a great success! the courts meet a great need in the area

I urge the Commission to establish dedicated PB courts at Linda Beach. The demand is overwhelming, and there was extremely little use of the tennis courts before PB began there. I won't repeat the many potent arguments about the great social and health benefits of Pickleball, its escalating popularity and the dearth of available courts compared with tennis. I volunteered 5 times to teach Beach elementary students PB, and they loved it. The age and social mix in this sport is unique. Picklers deserve dedicated courts with lines we can see! Please establish regular PB courts act Beach.
I value the pickleball courts at Beach as they are the most available courts in the area during the week.
I volunteered teaching pickleball to the Piedmont "Play Like a Girl". Many girls like pickleball because it is not a contact sport that involves pushing and shoving. I am 78 yrs old and can no longer play many sports, but pickleball provides exercise, competition, and camaraderie with others. Please continue to provide sports facilities for senior citizens as well as young people.
I wish from the bottom of my heart that The Recreation Commission recommends the repurposing of the Linda Beach courts to allow for more permanent pickleball use. Playing pickleball at Linda Beach has afforded me access to a delightful group of people, on which I have come to rely for socialization and activity nearly every day of the week. These two things are incredibly vital for community members of all ages, and I've seen players aged 6-80+ on the Linda Beach courts! (Not to mention how such intergenerational relationships are a win-win for us all.) We are happy to use quieter balls and abide by opening/closing hours to make this as amenable as possible to neighboring residents, and hope that they — and others — can see what a net positive using Linda Beach for pickleball is for the area.
I would greatly prefer full time pickleball courts.
I would highly recommend that the Commission recommend refinishing the courts and only striping them for pickleball. The community deserves dedicated courts that support a sport which fosters more belonging and kindness than any other I have played. The pickleball open play at the Beach Courts have lead to many friendships and intergenerational recreation that is unique to the sport. Securing this space for pickleballers would signal that the Piedmont Recreation Commission is dedicated to the evolving needs of the community and is interested in investing in the fastest growing sport in the US!

I would hope the Commission would not stripe the courts for one sport only. Based on useage, there could be some courts for tennis and some for pickleball. I play pickleball all over the area wherever there's access that fits my schedule. Since it's a multi-age, multi-ethnic, affordable sport, it would be an asset to any community. Thanks for considering the community in making your decision.
I would like to have permanent Pickleball courts here.
I would love a permanent home for pickleball courts in Piedmont. Please vote pickleball only!
I would very much like to use these courts but have been injured in an unrelated to pickleball accident and unable to exercise. This is a wonderful safe neighborhood for single women to do something physical.
I'm a senior (73) and a Oakland resident. I started playing Pickleball 2/2020 at Piedmont Middle School. I played 5 days a week and rowed on Lake Merritt 2 times a week. Been retired since 2017. This sport has changed my life! It's challenged and motivated me to be better etc. I've met fabulous people thru Pb and heard that the Piedmont group is the most welcoming. Pickleball has made Piedmont a destination! I have other choices but Linda, Hampton and PMS are my go to courts. PLEASE continue your good work and allow Pb to flourish. Sports builds character! It makes us, the community a better place!
I've heard from multiple tennis players that they don't like the courts on Linda as they don't have the appropriate space needed around the court for tennis. The opportunity to use these courts for Pickleball has been an amazing addition to the community. I love taking my teenage boys there to play & I also love the connections & new relationships I have made within the Pickleball community.
I'd love to see the courts available for pickleball only. There is very much demand, limited supply, and the use of these courts is much appreciated. Especially for our older community members, pickleball has proven to be an effective way to stay physically active and socially engaged. Some of us have developed strong new social networks as a result. This is an especially urgent need after the long period of isolation with COVID. Thank you!!
Is an Oakland resident I strongly urge you to convert these tennis courts into pickle ball courts. The sport is growing rapidly, and we need as many quarts as possible. :-) Thanks for conducting this research!

It has been great having a fixed place to play pickleball in Piedmont. I recently moved to the area and have been able to meet people and make friend because of pickleball. The open pickleball sessions make the sport easily accessible for everyone. I have enjoyed playing with people of all ages. Please keep these courts for pickleball only so we have dedicated courts with permanent lines and nets. This is the optimal use of this space. It provides far more recreational utility for the community than tennis courts that are not regulation size.
It has been my experience that the piedmont pickleball community has provided so many people of many ages and various backgrounds to come together to not only play a sport that provides regular physical and cognitive exercise but also provides a supportive social community. To lose such a positive community would be very sad indeed. I honestly hope dedicated pickleball courts become a reality at Linda Beach but if that is not the decision the commission recommends then at least I hope that pickleball will be allowed at Linda Beach in some form. Thank you.
It is a great space. Thank you
It is a great thing for those of us not terribly athletic
It is amazing to experience the community that has been created since the trial began. Knowing courts will be available draws so many people of all ages and builds connection and belonging. Thanks so much for making this available! And please make it a permanent offering for the community. Thanks!
It is so clear that Pickleball is here to stay with overwhelmingly support and numbers continually growing. That is just not true of tennis. Tennis is not having a surge and the needs of the community clearly favor pickleball, In fact, by the time of this approval, should you approve in favor of pickleball, we might be outdated already in the ability to provide for the growing number of new people taking on the sport on such a regular basis. Please vote to keep these courts for pickleball. Thanks.
It is wonderful having a shared community space through pickleball! I used to play tennis and did not find such a vibrant community through it. Parks are community spaces and it's time to respond to the current moment to establish a permanent space for pickleball players in Piedmont and the surrounding area. Currently, the only dedicated courts are in Montclair, which many Piedmont residents use. Piedmont has a fantastic opportunity to add another space for all East Bay residents.
It seems obvious that a pickelball only facility would serve a much larger portion of the population.
It would be great to have more pickleball courts. Thanks.

It would be great to have permanent courts that can serve North Oakland and Piedmont community all week long instead of just weekends at Piedmont Middle School.
It would be nice to have permanent pickleball courts and nets
It would be so nice to have permanent nets at Beach to play pickleball. I think the trend is growing and so many young people also love the game. We all need more reasons to be outside doing something that burns calories vs. sitting at home! Please add these to our options of where to play full time.
It would be wonderful having dedicated Pickleball courts at Linda Beach!! The courts at Piedmont Middle School are not very good and this would be a big improvement!
It would be wonderful to have dedicated PB courts at Linda Beach. I play PB in multiple locations from Richmond to Piedmont, including Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and Albany. There are so many PB players at all the courts I go to multiple times a week, it can be hard to get enough play time in with so many people waiting to get into games. Having Linda Beach as a place dedicated to PB gives players from the community and surrounding communities a place to play. Thank you so much for considering this!
It's a great use of the facilities! Multiple people coming from all areas compared to the very few people we saw use the beach courts in the past. Games are super fast and allow for a constant rotation of players. And this is a much more friendly game for all ages!
It's fantastic that you are considering making the Linda Beach Pickleball courts permanent. I'm thinking of one day before my foot surgery 3 months ago (the reason I haven't been at Linda Beach more) where I had just driven back from Sac and felt cranky, so I drove over to LB in the early evening to p,ay. I played with people. I didn't know, but left a happy camper.
It's been amazing to welcome new players into the community, including families. The noise reducing balls have been an excellent adaptation. I feel privileged to be part of such a vibrant and diverse community of players.
Its been WONDERFUL at Linda during the trial!
It's difficult to see the pickleball lines when the court is marked for tennis. The tennis lines are white while the pickleball lines are always more muted colors. I have played on courts marked exclusively for pickleball and it is much nicer. That said, I doubt I would be playing pickleball regularly if I hadn't run into the community that has arisen around pickleball in Piedmont. It looks like the tennis courts are too close together to be used fully by tennis players.

It's very important, especially to us seniors, that the Linda Beach courts be dedicated exclusively to Pickleball. Dedicated Pickleball courts will be an important asset to the community.
I've had only positive experiences playing pickleball at Linda Beach. Pickleball is becoming a phenomenon for a reason. I grew up in the suburbs (of MA) and the tennis courts sat idle 99% of the time. Using public space for community-building activities like pickleball is exactly what public space is for. If you decide to live next to public space (or a school, etc.), you need to be prepared to compromise within reason so the public gets the benefit from the space.
Just go there on any day and see for t Yourself how popular it is…and how happy the energy us!
Let's see. Pickleball is fun. For all ages. Much easier than tennis. The comraderie is a beautiful part of the game. I'm in my 60s and work in oncology care. A very stressful job. Pickleball helps me relax and take my mind off my job. Thanks for listening, Rev. Maura Singer
Limit hours of use. Close courts at 6pm Listening to the sound of the balls all day is extremely draining on the brain. Neighbors should have some piece of mind in the evenings while enjoying time time with their families.
Linda Beach courts is the closest permanent pickleball courts to me right now, we used to go to pietmont middle school on the weekends but we would prefer coming to these courts as they are permanent with no needs for setup and breakdowns of the nets.
Linda beach has become my home away from home. I’ve made so many friends there. I go five times a week. It’s been a highlight of 2023!
Linda Court has been a wonderful venue for pickleball. I've met so many kind and welcoming people. To be able to develop new friendships in my 70's is really gift that the courts have given me and so many others of us.
Look forward to regularly playing pickle ball there
Looking foreword to the new project!
Love having more places to play at with friends and family!!
Love the Linda Beach courts. Thank you for having them!
Love what's happening here with these courts. All four are packed with 16 people waiting to play on the sidelines. It's a nice vibe and better than the quiet / seldom used tennis courts

My family and friends love the open play options provided by the Linda Beach pickleball trial. I've been able to show friends and family of all ages how to play. They've purchased their own equipment and love the welcoming environment of the Linda Beach pickleball courts. It is especially heartwarming to see seniors and kids playing a sport together.
Nice courts & folks to play with.
No.comment
Open play Pickleball at Linda beach is so much more welcoming to people of all levels than in piedmont middle school on the weekends. We would rather go to Linda beach for Pickleball than anywhere else
Other than 4 courts at Montclair, there are dedicated public pickleball courts anywhere convenient. There are however many tennis dedicated courts. The Beach courts are not very suitable for tennis because they do not have the appropriate space needed. I play both tennis and pickleball, and I had never played tennis at beach because of lack of space to appropriately reach a tennis ball once it's outside the lines.
PB courts seem very popular there, and I hope to return often.
PB is extremely popular and very social. It brings tight community members across age, race, ability, etc. it improves physical health as well as mental health! The courts are crowded and there is demand. It is about the same noise level as the adjacent playing field.
Pickle ball is a wonderful sports accessible to people of all ages and abilities. It fosters a sense of community and invites people in who have otherwise not thought of themselves as athletes. It's a sport that can be played when age/injury rule out other activities. It is smart for communities everywhere to create space for wholesome physical recreation.
Pickle ball is awesome!
pickle ball is popular and increasing rapidly in popularity. it is a sport people of all ages can and do enjoy. piedmont would be well served and serve the citizens well by having dedicated pickle ball courts.
Pickleball continues to grow in the community and the US. Each time I've visited there has always been new players suggesting that it could be picked up by more individuals

Pickleball has been a life uplifting sport and community organization that has helped me greatly since exiting the pandemic. I can easily say that much of my success and happiness has been derived from playing this sport with community members! We truly need more places to play. Thank you
Pickleball has been an incredibly positive experience in my life. I am retired, and playing PB 3+ days a week is keeping me healthy physically, socially, and emotionally. There is such a dearth of PB courts in our local area, compared to the numbers in our population. So few. The people I have met and played with at Linda Beach are a phenomenal group. They are friendly, welcoming, and helpful. Please please keep Linda Beach, it makes my life, and so many others, better. Thank you.
Pickleball has been my saving grace. I sadly had to abandon tennis at the age of 50 due to knee issues. But pickleball has allowed me back into a racket sport that keeps me fit and is also a significant mood elevator. The social aspect of the sport is unparalleled. Having played sports all my life I've never experienced one that forms community as easily and quickly as pickleball. Like Norm walking into Cheers, before long everyone knows your name and warmly welcomes you on the court.
Pickleball has grown significantly in the last two years. I have noticed more kids, families, and beginners playing since the trial started. I volunteered teaching PE pickleball to the Beach Elementary school during the trial and have been thrilled to see some of the kids playing at Beach. With the exploding growth of the sport the need for courts will only get greater. I hope we can be good neighbors with sound control anyway we can and sound barriers will also help.
Pickleball has had a dramatic positive effect on my health and well-being over the past 6 years that I've been playing. I was part of a working group that developed the courts at Bushrod Park in Oakland and we have had rousing success there. The sense of community that has developed and the number of people who have learned this sport for the first time are testaments that support the further spread and support for pickleball courts in every city. We deeply hope that the city of Piedmont continues pickleball at Linda Beach.
Pickleball is a great physical and social activity. That's why it has exploded in popularity in the last few years.

Pickleball is a joyful, low-barrier activity that can be enjoyed by all. The benefits are immediate (exercise, sunshine, social) and long-term (community building, connecting with people who are outside your normal circle). It's a practical antidote to anxiety and isolation, from retired life or working for home. It's a bridge builder to begin to understand differences across age, ecomic class, culture, sexual orientation, etc. We should embrace this recreational sport for the difference it is making, big and small, past and future!
Pickleball is a passing fad. Tennis is not.
Pickleball is a really nice community activity. At the Linda Beach courts, during the trial, I've personally played with seniors, middle age, 20 something's and even high school age residents, and it has been such a nice way for the community to bond and come together in a friendly and accessible outdoor activity.
Pickleball is a sport but it's not just a sport; it has benefits that go beyond those that attend participation in sports. It fosters a sense of community among its players via the open play system that is enriching and life-enhancing. Also, cross-generational play frequently occurs; I have played with doubles partners and opponents ranging in age from 9 to 80. What a gift that is. This gift reflects how accessible and inclusive a sport pickleball is. Thank you for running the trial at Linda Beach; long may pickleball continue there.
Pickleball is a very inclusive sport - players are all ages & ethnicities. It's helping players form a community & making retirement more fun. Hope the Linda Beach courts stay open for Pickleball. Jessie Ortiz
Pickleball is a wonderful sport that can be played by young and old alike
Pickleball is an incredibly inclusive sport. People of all ages and body types can enjoy it. It is also an efficient use of space, as many people can play in the space of one tennis court. My new love of pickleball has made me new friends and helped me feel more a part of the larger bay area community. I hope more courts are made available so more people can enjoy pickleball!
Pickleball is continuing to rapidly increase, to the benefit of the health of Piedmont residents. I encourage you to grow your capacity to meet this community need. Thank you.
Pickleball is ever-growing in popularity and there are not enough courts to satisfy demand. There is also no decent place to play in the Piedmont/Grand Lake area, so this location would be a welcome addition. The pickleball community is very respectful and in Oakland is steered by a person who doesn't hesitate to communicate a code of conduct.
Pickleball is extremely important in my life- it's essential and my life would not be the same w/o it. LB is the only place where I can play as Montclair courts are reserved and make it so very hard to play on. LB is my place of joy, fun and exercise.

Pickleball is for all ages. I am 64 yr old and it is easy to learn and give me the exercise and social interaction I need.
Pickleball is popular for young and old as I have seen many different ages play. Courts are being used by many as it seems like there is people there most of the time that I have been there twice a week. Seniors are using it a lot as a form of exercise which leads to better health. It is a social community which helps depression. I have met so many people that I would not normally meet. It is so enjoyable that people get hooked and that is why this sport is exploding. There are not enough courts to satisfy this new and exploding sport.
Pickleball is such a big part of my social life. I play at other courts, but the Linda beach courts are so close to me and convenient. It would be wonderful to have them regularly.
Pickleball is the only activity I've encountered where all of society's groups intersect, other than jury duty and the DMV waiting area.
Pickleball is the only recreation sport I know which brings together players of all ages and abilities in an enjoyable activity which can be experienced together and with very little required training. I am 76 years old but I have played regularly with partners and opponents ranging in age from 10 to 80+ years old. Expanding the access to PB at Linda Beach will bring many enthusiasts together on a continual basis.
Pickleball is, as you're well aware, growing at an exponential speed. The use of the Beach courts for Pickleball takes the pressure off other courts allocated for pickle ball use. I appreciate your willingness to consider some dedicated Pickleball courts in Piedmont. If there are a lot of tennis players who also need more courts, it would make sense to set the courts up to allow both sports to be played at Linda Beach.
Pickleball only makes the most sense for many reasons. So many more people enjoy the courts for pickleball than they ever did for tennis. The joy in the community is palpable. There are plenty of other tennis courts. These need replacing anyway; might as well install beautiful permanent pickleball courts! Though some (one?) may disagree, pickleball is here to stay.
Pickleball only!!!
Pickleball only, please!
Pickleball seems way more popular these days than tennis. I have not played recently because of an injury, but hope to start playing again soon. Having the courts striped for pickleball would be wonderful!
Pickleball to the people!
Piedmont has dedicated tennis courts near the junior/high school. I think it would be nice to also have dedicated pickleball courts.

Piedmont would be well served to dedicate these Beach courts for pickleball exclusively. The tennis courts were inadequate due to smaller space and debris on courts. More importantly, there are many more people enjoying the use of these courts on a regular basis now. There can be a reasonable compromise with the players and the neighbors regarding traffic and noise. The sport is growing rapidly and these courts are well suited to serve the needs of the community. Please approve full time use for pickleball. Thank you.
PLEASE ADD MORE PICKLEBALL COURTS. IT IS the fastest growing sports in America and yet, we constantly have to argue with tennis players about using the courts.
Please consider all of the feedback that has been provided by hundreds of pickleball enthusiasts over many months. Thank you for your consideration and support.
Please consider dedicated pickleball courts in Piedmont, they are desperately needed and will be heavily used. This is an incredibly inclusive and easy to learn pick up sport with open play, for all ages, and the community is organized and passionate as well as welcoming. I play all over the East Bay, but Piedmont is my favorite community. We need courts!
Please consider pickleball courts at Beach courts. Currently there are only a handful of places to play in the area. More courts are needed due to the growing number of players and high demand for the sport. Dee Morris USA Pickleball Ambassador

Please consider that installing permanent pickleball courts enables the Beach space to accommodate four times the number of players than a tennis court can. Although the sport is attracting younger participants, the vast majority are senior citizens who are trying to stay active in an activity that enhances their social and physical well-being. This is very important when many seniors tend to be isolated and sedentary when their options are so limited. I also understand that a single female neighbor's complaint forces players to use a pickleball that produces less noise. Instead of succumbing to one person's complaint, please consider measuring the noise (from a pickleball and a tennis ball) that can be heard from her property, which is across the street and uphill from the Beach court. I was told that the woman just wants the court available for tennis when her family members visit, essentially making it her own private facility. One person shouldn't be allowed to impact hundreds of people's use of a public space. Many thanks to the City of Piedmont for considering the conversion of the Beach court to pickleball!
Please consider the joy and sense of community this pickleball court will bring to the the neighborhood. It’s happening right now during the trial.
Please don’t stripe for tennis courts. The striping makes it hard to see the which line is the pickle ball courts
Please enable pickleball.
Please keep pickleball courts at Linda Beach. The folks who play there are great and the courts were in constant use when I was there. Everyone was considerate and welcoming.
Please keep the courts!
Please keep them as pickleball!!! They make a big difference for the community.
Please keep these courts open! They are always being used!
Please make the courts permanent!
Please offer a reservation system so I can plan to get a court to play.
Please sterilize for pickleball only
Really liked my experience at Linda Beach. It was convenient and welcoming, I'll definitely be back. That said, if the commission decides to double-line the courts for both pickleball and tennis, please make the pb lines darker. They're so light now we can barely see them while we're playing. Thank you!
Since turned over 80 Pickleball is my main excerize.
Thank you for piloting pickleball at LB, it’s been a great community resource!

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to utilize the Linda Beach courts to promote mental / physical health and community among all age groups, through Pickleball. It is rare to enjoy a healthy activity, one in which no one needs to twist your arm to participate.
Thank you for the consideration for one of the most popular and growing sports around. It takes only one short observation to see that Pickleball courts are very crowded with many multi generations of players. Activity like this is infinitely good for the health of the citizenry, including the social contact which has been so lacking during the pandemic.
Thank you for the courts!
Thanks
The 30+ kids who have soccer practice etc regularly on the adjoining field are way noisier than any of the pickleball players
The availability of the courts has allowed me much more exercise and pleasure since the Beach courts became available for Pickleball. I live alone and I am enjoying the camaraderie with the other attendees. There are few other places to play that aren't packed with long waits. It has been a blessing.
The Beach Courts are wonderful for pickleball. Please keep it going!
The Beach courts were never great for tennis to begin with because the space is inadequate for 2 courts (limited on ends, and too close together), and the courts were minimally used, or at least I often saw them empty when driving by (my son lives in Piedmont). As designated drop-in pickleball courts, they will be used year round by many. I've gone to the courts in the morning as well as the afternoon during this trial period, and there have ALWAYS been people there for a pickup game. It's a very friendly, welcoming atmosphere, with people of ALL ages coming out to play or learn the game, elementary age kids as well as seniors.
The beach tennis courts were for a long time less than desirable, but played there occasionally. Won't miss them. Enjoy playing pickleball there now and hope to play more often.
The change to pickleball has been tremendous and is bringing in a great sense of community and well being! I sincerely hope these become PERMANENT pickleball courts!
The community building aspect of pickleball is probably the number one appeal for the majority of participants. It utilizes significantly underused park facilities and encourages physical activity for all ages.

The courts would benefit from resurfacing (roots are lifting and breaking the surface in various places, and are a hazard), and permanent pickleball-only lines and nets would make play much more enjoyable and safe.
The highest and best use for this space is for Pickleball. PB draws in significant numbers of players and all age groups and skill levels. There are existing tennis courts in Piedmont that are under used while PB courts get heavy usage.
The multi generational community these courts have created is incredible! I've never seen anything like it!!! Amazing.
The need for more pickleball courts is pressing, and I devoutly hope you decide to install permanent courts at Linda Beach. I've been playing p'ball for 8 years, four times a week, at least two hours every time. Since I play around 10 hours a week, merely counting me as a steady user understates my actual usage. This goes for a great many of us. I'd venture that few if any tennis players use your courts this heavily, so merely counting players vastly understates the difference. All over the East Bay eager players are swamping existing facilities. I know it's not your job to address this area-wide problem, but it does indicate the service you'd be providing your community. Thanks, Alan Kaplan
The need for pickleball courts in Piedmont is obvious. This sport is growing exponentially and courts can't be built fast enough to comply with demand. The health and community building benefits of pickleball are undeniable and unique to this sport. I encourage the Commission to recognize the future and stay ahead of it.
The number of people who play pickleball far outnumbers the number of people who play tennis (and the number and disparity continues to grow--pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the world). In addition, you can get more pickleball courts on the same space you use for tennis courts. There is a very collegial community of pickleball players who are courteous and very respectful of each other and the courts (there's a clear etiquette that's self-enforced and everyone adheres). Please continue making pickleball as available as possible once the trial ends. And thank you for the support you've lent already.
The pickle courts have opened up an opportunity for many people to get outside to play and have fun. Personally, it has provided a an opportunity to create a community! The courts are full of people daily, meeting, exercising, laughing and making friends. I can’t imagine how that is not evident to everyone involved in this trial! What a wonderful positive addition greatly needed in our neighborhood !
The pickleball at Beach courts is AMAZING! Such a fun group of people and way to stay active. Please keep these courts!!

The pickle-ball Beach community if a fun, diverse group of people. It really has become an amazing community treasure and I hope piedmont continues to allow us to play at Beach.
The pickleball community is growing, would greatly benefit from the Piedmont courts and is a community that takes very good care of the facilities.
The pickleball courts are a tremendous asset. I see a mix of beginners and advanced every time I am there. I see families playing, including young children. I have made new friends myself and find the community much more than a chance to exercise but also a chance to connect.
The Pickleball courts are not just for exercise - they also encourage community and friendship. I heartily endorse them.
The Piedmont PB folks are very welcoming and fun. In addition, I've talked personally to a couple of neighbors walking by the courts when I was coming or going asking about learning to play & how to go about that.
The Piedmont pickleball community is great for me it s a big game changer to have permanent pickleball court with open play all day long Thank you 🙏
the play is really great, close to my house and the people are really great!
The set up at Beach was welcoming and eased my introduction to the sport. It was so enjoyable
The trial has proven how many people use the courts. There are no dedicated pickleball courts in Piedmont and the sport is growing fast. “Sharing” courts does not work well as older people can not see the lines. It is asking a lot for so many volunteers to set up and put down nets, plus be there to lock and unlock courts each day. There is a huge need for pickleball courts and tennis players, which I also am have numerous options to play elsewhere.
There are so many pickleball players in Piedmont; dedicated courts at Beach is the best use of scarce resources (courts). There are other places tennis can be played, but Beach is unique in that it is not good for tennis, but works great for pickleball. Pickleball is a sport played by all ages, it is a social sport (with open play rather than instruction or single groups). Please approve it for dedicated pickleball play.
These courts are close to my home and I would like to play here more often.
These courts are conveniently located to me and the people are great. I play now about 3-4 times per week.
These courts are great servicing a diverse group of people , let’s keep them
These PB courts bring our community together. I see all ages having fun, exercises ,and making friends. It's physical & mental important part of all our lifes. L.B. is a major blessing for everyone to play P.B.

These pickleball courts have been fantastic for afternoon and evening games during the week. The community there is fun and welcoming and I've very much enjoyed having this venue for pickleball play.
This is a fabulous venue. Thank you!!!
This is a great addition to piedmonts recreation mix as a tennis player I'm in strong favor of having dedicated pickleball courts
This is a great community
This is a wonderful community resource and I hope that it can continue! The plentiful open play hours is wonderful especially for people who work/have childcare responsibilities/etc. it's rare to have a multigenerational space like this one!
This is a wonderful sport that brings in all ages in the community. It is really fun to play and provides great exercise for all. I had an office on Piedmont Avenue for about 40 years and the tennis courts were rarely used as I often walked past there on my when I had time off. People, kids and families are really enjoying it and the community provides opportunities to meet a lot of new people as well. It is also a terrific support system for all. Please don't let it stop as it services many more than oppose it.
This seems like a good compromise between tennis and Pickleball- the courts are too close together to play tennis - I play both tennis and Pickleball and plan to continue doing both
Turning the Beach courts into pickleball courts is beneficial for seemingly hundreds of locals. Last weekend there must have been 30-35 people playing, interacting and having fun, during the 90 minutes or so that my wife and I were at the courts. Community, exercise and social interaction - three positive contributions the courts have provided during the trial. We hope the courts get permanently converted to pickleball courts. Thank you
We have really enjoyed having the pickle ball courts available. I would hope that they can stay as we have other courts in Piedmont dedicated solely to tennis already. Thank you
We love these courts! And would love a few more!!
We need these courts. Hundreds play pickleball there
What an incredible community of people there is at Linda Beach. My 15 year old son & I play here together

When you are looking for a cardio event, interact with nice folks, the Linda Beach Open Play during the trial period is a godsend. Set hours for play, nets that are up, balls and available loaner paddles -- allows folks of all ages to learn and play a new sport. It is our hope that Piedmont Parks & Rec will support a permanent pickleball venue after the trial.
While I don't use the Linda courts, I regularly use the Piedmont Middle School courts and with the sports popularity soaring for people of all ages, the more lined courts we have availability to the community the better!
Wonderful opportunity for the community at large
Yes we need them.

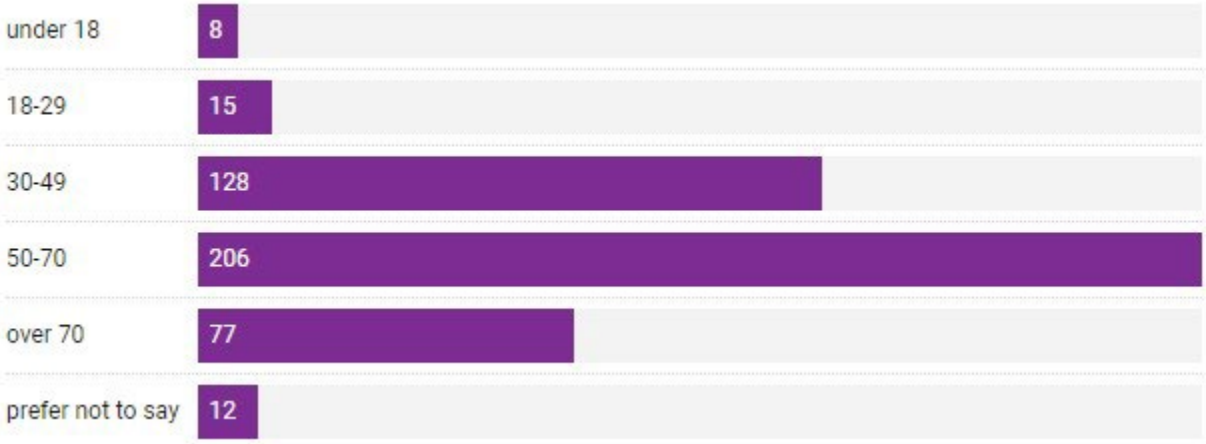
About you

Do you live in Piedmont?

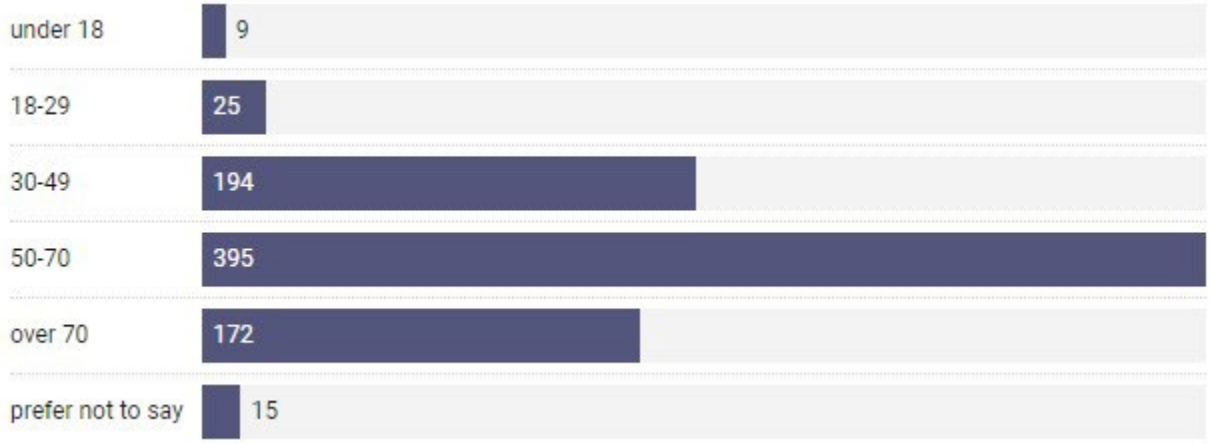
All responses

What best describes your age?

Resident responses



All responses



Attachment D

Piedmont City Code - Chapter 12 OFFENSES-MISCELLANEOUS

7. SEC. 12.8 NOISE DECLARED NUISANCE Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code, and in addition thereto, it is unlawful for any person to willfully make or continue or cause to be made or continued or to allow any animal to make or continue to make any loud, unnecessary, or unusual noise which disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood or which causes discomfort or annoyance to any reasonable person of normal sensitivity residing in the area. Such noise is declared to be a nuisance.

8. 12.8.1 Standards to Be Considered. The standards which shall be considered in determining whether a violation of the provisions of this section exists shall include, but not be limited to, the following: Offenses-Miscellaneous 12-4 (a) The sound level of the objectionable noise; (b) The sound level of the ambient noise; (c) The proximity of the noise to residential sleeping facilities; (d) The nature and zoning of the area from which the noise emanates; (e) The density of the inhabitation of the area from which the noise emanates; (f) The time day or night the noise occurs; (g) The duration of the noise and its tonal content; (h) Whether the noise is continuous, recurrent or intermittent; (i) Whether the noise is produced by a commercial or non-commercial activity; (j) The intensity of the noise; (k) Whether the noise is natural or unnatural; (l) Whether the noise is usual or unusual. (Ord. No. 512 N.S.,12/89)

9. 12.8.2 Prohibited Noise. In addition to the prohibition described in paragraph 12.8.1, the following noise is specifically prohibited: (a) Construction and Demolition. Operating or causing the operation of any tools or equipment used in construction, drilling, repair, alteration or demolition activities between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. each day, Sunday evening through Saturday morning, and between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. Saturday evening through Sunday morning. (b) Gasoline-Powered Blower. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a gasoline-powered device used to blow leaves, dirt or other debris off sidewalks, driveways, lawns or other surfaces within any area of the City except that gasoline-powered leaf blowers may be used by public agencies on publicly-owned or operated facilities. (Ord. No. 517 N.S., 3/90)

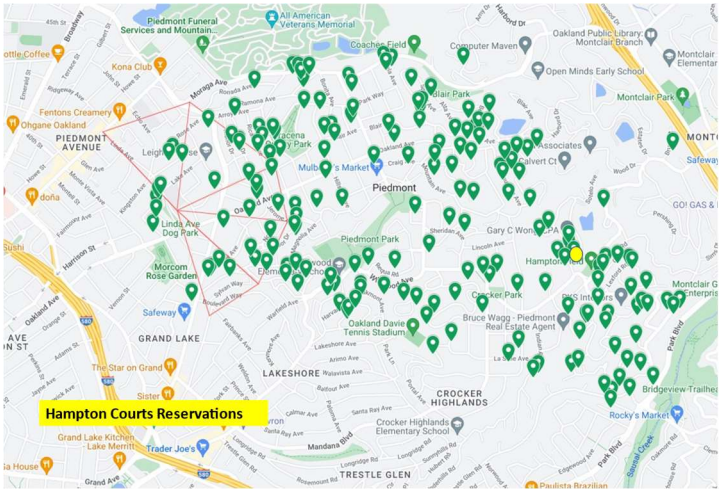
10. 12.8.3 Exceptions

11. (a) Emergency Repairs. Emergency work conducted by public service utilities or governmental agencies shall be exempt from the provisions of this ordinance; provided that in the case of such emergency work, the public service utilities or government agencies involved shall promptly contact the Piedmont Police Department prior to or within 30 minutes after commencing such emergency Offenses-Miscellaneous 12-5 work, providing the Police Department with the exact location of the work, the time anticipated to complete the work, the nature of the work to be performed, and whether any assistance from the Police Department or other City services are anticipated in connection with such emergency work.

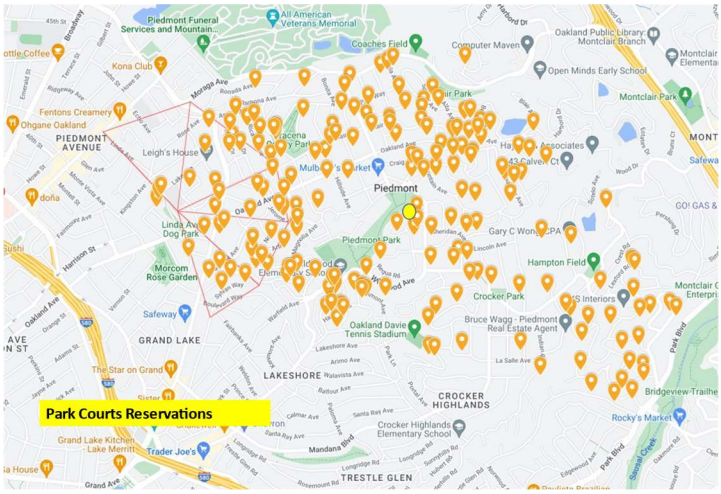
12. (b) Other. The City Administrator may grant temporary written exceptions to the Noise Ordinance upon the showing of good cause by the applicant. (Ord. No. 512 N.S., 12/89) 12.8.4 Violations. Violation of any provision of the Noise Ordinance shall be an infraction. The City Council shall set the fine for violations from time to time by resolution. (Ord. No. 512 N.S., 12/89)

Attachment E: Court Reservations by Decal

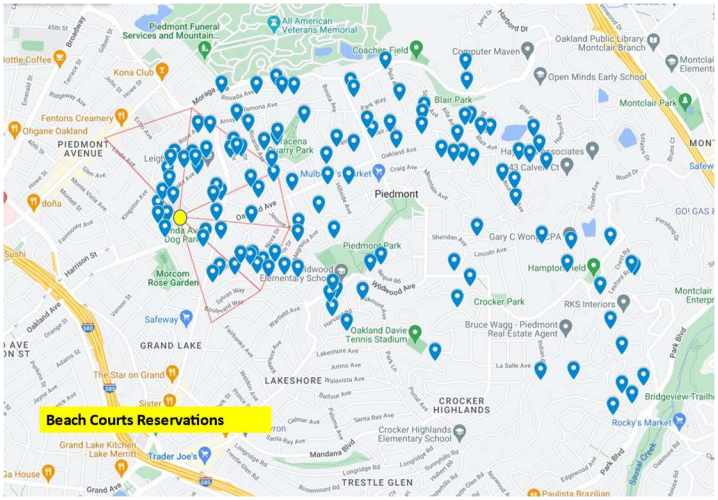
Decal location reservations at Hampton Courts in 2022



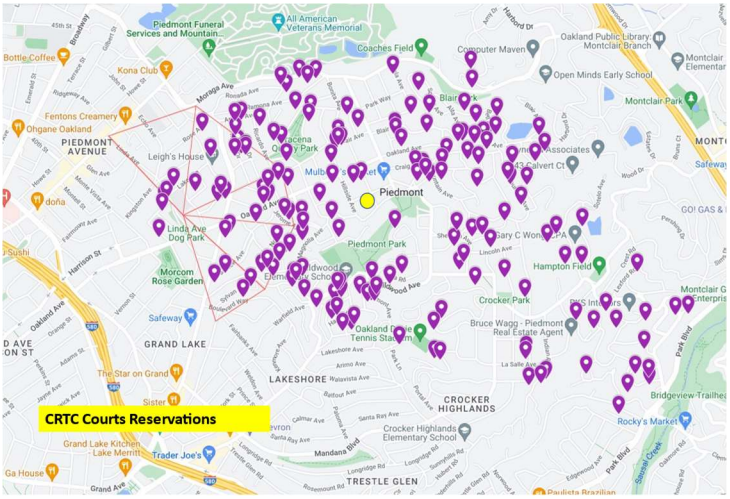
Decal location reservations at Park Courts 2022



Decal location reservations at Beach Courts in 2022



Decal location reservations at CRTC Courts in 2022



Attachment C

From: Jeffery Trowbridge
To: Rosanna Bayon Moore
Cc: Chelle Putzer; Kara Christenson
Subject: Requested Neighborly Accommodation Proposal from Piedmont Pickleball Committee
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 10:33:48 AM

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from an **external source**. Please use judgment and caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Dear City Administrator Moore,

Here is the proposal you requested, at our August 21, 2023, meeting, from the Piedmont Pickleball Committee for neighborly accommodations to accompany the dedication of the Linda Beach courts to pickleball use only. This proposal is a unilateral offer to the City Council and not intended as part of a negotiation with those of the neighbors in the Linda Beach area for whom Ms. Christenson speaks (given that Ms. Christenson made it clear in our meeting that her group does not wish to participate in any negotiations regarding dedicated pickleball courts at Linda Beach). Note: There are neighbors living on both Sunnyside and Howard who fully support dedicated pickleball play at the Linda Beach courts for whom Ms. Christenson does not speak.

"Proposal:

A. Introduction:

This proposal is conditioned upon an affirmative City Council vote, at their duly scheduled public meeting on September 5, 2023, in favor of dedicating the Linda Beach courts to pickleball play only. This includes implementing the plan for the permanent painting, striping and affixing of nets for pickleball play only on 4 parallel courts facing in an approximately north south direction, with a ball barrier net affixed between the courts and the player waiting area behind the courts.

B. Sound Dampening:

The Piedmont Pickleball Committee will commit to the use at the Linda Beach courts of the quieter balls and to the use of lower noise paddles (as defined by generally accepted lists put out from time by time by credible pickleball related organizations). This includes providing loaner lower noise paddles for use only at Linda Beach to players without access to such paddles.

C. Time Limitations:

Pickleball play at the dedicated Linda Beach courts would be limited to the following hours on the following days of the week:

Monday and Tuesday: 9-6
Wednesday: 9-12
Thursday and Friday: 9-6
Saturday and Sunday: 10-4

Notes:

1. This proposal reduces the trial period of pickleball play at Linda Beach of 84 hours per week to 51 hours per week (i.e., by approximately 40%). It reduces the Recreation Commission's recommendation of 63 hours per week of play by about 20% as a neighborly

accommodation.
2. The Piedmont Pickleball Committee requests that the City and Recreation Department consider adding up to 2 hours of additional time of play on Wednesdays at Hampton Courts (for total of 5 hours of play on Wednesday).
3. This proposal is conditioned upon play being allowed on the Linda Beach courts beginning immediately after an affirmative City Council vote on September 5, 2023, for the herein proposed hours, with the temporary nets again being screwed down (as they were during the trial period) for safety. Play during the proposed and approved hours would be allowed at Linda Beach courts prior to and after the actual improvements to the Linda Beach courts (which we understand may not take place for several months).
4. This proposal is without prejudice to the making of requests for additional time for pickleball play at facilities in Piedmont other than the Linda Beach courts. Those requests would be dealt with in whatever procedures are appropriate as to the entities operating the facilities.
5. This proposal is without prejudice to the making of requests for additional time of play at the Linda Beach courts in the future based upon changed conditions, including but not limited to any future losses or reductions of pickleball use of other facilities in Piedmont or the use or installation of sound dampening strategies and/or materials determined to meaningfully further reduce pickleball noise transfer to the Linda Beach neighborhood. Any such requests would go through all proper City and Recreation Department procedures, including all required notices to neighbors.

D. Further Steps.

1. Annual Donations.

The Piedmont Pickleball Committee, conditioned upon approval of play at dedicated Linda Beach courts as herein proposed, proposes requesting a $25 per player per year donation for pickleball access to any and all Piedmont courts. Based upon our current email notice lists, we estimate that such donations could generate $6,000 or more annually. The use of these funds would include the purchase the reduced noise balls, the purchase loaner paddles from generally accepted approved lists of lower noise paddles, and the maintenance and repair of pickleball nets.
2. Future Sound Dampening Efforts and Costs.

The Piedmont Pickleball Committee proposes to work with the City, after approval of dedicated courts at Linda Beach on the terms herein proposed, to further investigate and evaluate potential additional sound dampening strategies. In the event that the City and the Piedmont Pickleball Committee are jointly satisfied that any specific such strategy would provide a meaningful further sound accommodation to the neighbors, and that the strategy is economically viable, the Piedmont Pickleball Committee would commit to conducting a capital campaign with the goal of raising sufficient monies to match up to the first $30,000 of the City's cost of such improvements. Approval of any such improvements would be by normal required City procedures.

3. Continued Monitoring and Cooperation by and between Piedmont Pickleball Committee and City.

As they have for approximately five years to date, the Piedmont Pickleball Community and Committee hereby commit to continue to work with the City and Recreation Department to make dedicated pickleball courts within the Linda Beach Recreation Area operate as a safe, compliant, vibrant and valuable community asset for the greatest benefit to all its residents."

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you very much for the time and attention you are devoting to this matter.

Jeff Trowbridge

Pickleball Working Group: Report from the Neighborhood Representative

This report from the neighborhood representative to the Pickleball Working Group approved by the Piedmont City Council at its August 7, 2023 meeting is submitted by Kara Christenson, the representative for the Linda Beach neighbors who have been actively engaged in the City's proposal to permanently convert the Linda Beach tennis courts to a dedicated pickleball facility.

Introductory Statement:

It was a privilege to participate in the Working Group with the pickleball players' representative, the Director of the Piedmont Recreation Department and the City Administrator at the meetings on Tuesday, August 15 and Monday, August 21, 2023. I appreciated the opportunity to exchange perspectives and ideas. Even though the process did not arrive at a mutually agreeable solution, I believe it resulted in better understanding, and I want to express my gratitude to the City and the City Council for providing the time and space to allow this process to happen.

I am providing my report of the Working Group discussions below. This report reflects my perspective and, to the best of my ability, the perspectives of the Linda Beach neighbors who have been most actively involved in issues associated with the five-month trial of exclusive use of the Linda Beach courts for pickleball play from March 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023.

Neighborhood Representative's Report:

<u>Scope of Discussions</u>

From the outset, the Working Group discussions focused on the options for mitigation of noise impacts set forth in Salter's technical memorandum, dated August 1, 2023 and attached to the City's Staff Report to the City Council dated August 7, 2023. Unfortunately, from the perspective of the Linda Beach neighbors, this framing around the premise of the inevitability of the conversion of the Linda Beach courts to a dedicated pickleball facility placed them at a disadvantage. Underlying this premise are the findings of the Recreation Commission's Linda Beach Court's Restriping Subcommittee, dated July 14, 2023, which in turn were based in part on the Salter Noise Survey, dated July 6, 2023, that a dedicated pickleball facility at Linda Beach would not violate the City Code section 12.8, Noise Declared Nuisance, and, further, that noise mitigation is something to be offered only as a "good neighbor effort."

The Linda Beach neighbors have repeatedly commented on the flaws of the Salter Noise Survey (e.g., using a 24-hour average to measure a sound that lasts 2-10 milliseconds, and failure to address the impulse characteristics of pickleball noise). The assumption that a dedicated pickleball facility at the Linda Beach courts is consistent with the City's Noise ordinance de-legitimizes the neighbors' position that pickleball activity located essentially in their backyards is a nuisance that impacts their quality of life and their health. It should have been no surprise that the neighbors would be reluctant to immediately drop these concerns and accept the contrary viewpoints of pickleball advocates in disregard of their own experiences of five

months of pickleball play, up to twelve hours per day, seven days a week, audible in their backyards, and, in some cases, in their homes.

Nevertheless, despite these constraints, the Linda Beach neighbors participated in the Working Group in good faith. The neighbors met with their Working Group representative prior to both meetings and shared their input regarding options to mitigate noise from a dedicated pickleball facility at Linda Beach should that come to pass. The Linda Beach neighbors also gathered additional technical information regarding acoustical studies of pickleball noise and provided that information to the other Working Group participants to show that Salter's assessments of pickleball noise at Linda Beach is not the only approach to analyzing pickleball noise, and that Salter's approach is, in fact, rejected by experts with considerable experience in pickleball acoustics.[1] The neighbors also researched the types of sound barriers suggested by Salter's technical memorandum, such as mass loaded vinyl and sound curtains, as well as examples of cities that have invested in such mitigation measures only to find that they do not address neighbors' concerns. All of this time and energy was in service of a good faith effort by the Linda Beach neighbors to participate in the Working Group constructively and knowledgeably.

Mitigation for Linda Beach Courts as Dedicated Pickleball Facility

The City's intention was for the Working Group discussions to focus on the level of interest from the pickleball community and the Linda Beach neighbors in sound barriers as proposed by the Salter technical memorandum.[2] Again, this mitigation option was proposed solely as a mechanism to facilitate the City's ability to proceed with a dedicated pickleball facility at Linda Beach that would operate for at least nine hours per day, seven days a week. Given this fact, it is not unreasonable to think that the pickleball players' optimistic perspective on sound barriers might have been shaped by the prospect that sound barriers could help them achieve their desired goal of a dedicated facility at Linda Beach, regardless of the barriers' efficacy at mitigating noise.

The Linda Beach neighbors, however, have significant and legitimate concerns about the effectiveness of sound barriers, which the neighborhood representative shared with the other Working Group participants. A primary concern is that sound barriers seem to be effective only if they break the line of sight between the origin of the noise and the receptor of the noise. This limitation is in fact identified in the Salter technical memorandum: "Note that where the barrier does not break line-of-sight to at least portions of the court (i.e., due to elevated positions of nearby receivers), then this would not reduce pickleball noise." Moreover, it is clear that Salter does not know the scope of the line of sight issue at Linda Beach, since the technical memorandum states that additional work would need to be undertaken to answer that question:

[1] At the time that the City contracted with Salter, Salter admitted that its experience with assessing pickleball was "limited" and that it had conducted only one pickleball noise survey, at a private golf resort in a rural area between San Jose and Gilroy.

[2] The Working Group also briefly discussed low noise equipment. The Linda Beach neighbors do not believe this option would be adequate. The City has required use of low noise equipment for years and the pickleball representative asserted that all players use low noise equipment — yet, pickleball play at Linda Beach still causes significant noise impacts.

“Survey work could be conducted to provide additional clarification of sightlines between nearby residences and the courts.”

The lack of information regarding line of sight is particularly relevant since the residences most impacted by pickleball at Linda Beach are at elevations substantially above the courts. Based on our research and understanding, barriers are unlikely to break the line of sight at the Linda Beach courts unless they are much higher than the current height of the fencing at the courts. Therefore, it is not clear that the residences adjacent to the Linda Beach courts that are most impacted by pickleball noise would experience any significant benefit from sound barriers. Given that the City has estimated that the cost of barriers will likely approach six figures (barriers will require reinforced fencing around the courts to safely support the barriers’ weight, a cost that the City stated that it had not yet assessed), any reasonable person would have concerns about such an expenditure given this gap in understanding. The Working Group discussions, however, repeatedly returned to the barriers option with no answers to the question of whether they would break the line of sight for adjacent residences. The neighborhood representative was repeatedly asked about the Linda Beach neighbors’ position with respect to barriers and, at the risk of appearing “unwilling to compromise,” could only repeat the legitimate concerns about the lack of information necessary to intelligently assess this option.[3]

Mitigation for Linda Beach Courts as Dual-Use Facility

At the second meeting of the Working Group, the Linda Beach neighbors proposed an option that would allow continued pickleball play at Linda Beach according to the schedule approved by the City Council on January 6, 2020 in Resolution No. 02-20, and as modified by PRD in February 2022. This proposal represents a compromise for many Linda Beach neighbors given that they feel the Linda Beach courts are an inappropriate location for any pickleball activity given the proximity of the courts to their residences. Specifically, the proposed schedule would provide for 9 hours of play per week at Linda Beach, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Although this schedule falls short of the 63 hours of play recommended by the Recreation Commission, it should be considered in the context of the availability of other courts in Piedmont, specifically:

- Linda Beach, four courts, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday;
- Hampton, four courts, 12:00 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday; and
- Piedmont Middle School, six courts, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

In other words, under the proposal set forth by the Linda Beach neighbors, the City of Piedmont would provide at least four courts for pickleball play (and often six courts), seven days a week, for eight hours on both weekend days, six hours on three weekdays, and five on two weekdays.

[3] One option that the Working Group did not discuss was a “bubble” that might be more effective at containing the noise; the cost of such an option would likely be several times that of barriers but might be effective.

In total, the City of Piedmont would provide 222 hours of pickleball play between the three facilities - a significant amount of time for an activity that engages perhaps three percent of the City's population.[4] Moreover, it should be noted that each court accommodates four players and that open pickleball play (the apparent preference of most Piedmont pickleball players) allows for players to rotate in and out of play, meaning that each hour of play actually accommodates many more than four players.

Day	Court	Hours	Courts	Days	Weekly Hours
M, T, Th	Linda	3	4	3	36
W, F	Hampton	3	2	2	12
M, T, Th	PMS	3	6	3	54
W, F	PMS	2	6	2	24
Sat, Sun	PMS	8	6	2	96
			Total Weekly Hours		222

Given the City's framing of the Working Group's discussions to mitigation specifically at the Linda Beach courts, it was difficult to explore how the proposal put forth by the Linda Beach neighbors could work in conjunction with availability of other courts in the City or even whether expanding hours at Hampton or PMS courts might better serve the needs of pickleball players. An issue that merits consideration is the fact that the PMS courts are located on property owned by the Piedmont Unified School District. The City, however, has a demonstrated record of successful partnership with PUSD to allow access to this space for the purpose of pickleball play. At the City Council's March 4, 2019 meeting, the Recreation Commission stated that the PMS courts were its "number one" recommendation for a permanent pickleball facility, ahead of the Linda Beach and Hampton courts. This confidence in the viability of the PMS courts for permanent pickleball play was presumably a factor in the City Council's adoption, in June 2019, of Resolution No. 30-19 approving the use of $50,000 from the City's general fund for improvements to the PMS courts specifically for the benefit of pickleball players. At the City Council's January 6, 2020 meeting, the Recreation Commission stated that the PMS courts would be a "fabulous" facility for pickleball in part because the courts are centrally located in the City and because they are not close to homes. In addition, PRD has repeatedly stated at Recreation Commission meetings that the PMS courts are available during the week after school hours (as they are currently) and all day during school breaks, including the summer.

It is true that the PMS courts are not "dedicated" pickleball courts; it is not clear, however, why dedicated courts are so essential to the enjoyment of a recreational activity — as the then-Recreation Commission chair noted at the City Council's March 4, 2019 meeting, it is common for sports facilities in Piedmont to be striped for more than one sport — Piedmont's

[4] According to the pickleball representative, the Piedmont pickleball players' email list includes approximately 450 names, and approximately 60% of whom, or fewer than 300, are Piedmont residents. Of a population of approximately 11,000 persons, 300 is roughly three percent.

sports fields are lined for football, soccer and lacrosse, and the school gyms are lined for basketball and volleyball.[5]

Conclusion:

The Linda Beach neighbors raised valid concerns regarding sound barriers, in particular, the question of whether this costly measure would alleviate noise impacts on residences located at elevations significantly above the courts. This issue was also identified by the City's own consultant, which noted that barriers that do not break the line of sight will not be effective and that the line of sight at the Linda Beach courts had not been surveyed or defined. As an alternative, the Linda Beach neighbors proposed a schedule of play of three hours per day, three days per week. Although this schedule is currently in place, the proposal represents a compromise by the Linda Beach neighbors, many of whom feel strongly that the Linda Beach courts are an inappropriate site for any pickleball play because of the proximity of the courts to their homes and the impacts the noise from pickleball play has on their quality of life, physical health and well-being. The Linda Beach neighbors also believe that this schedule, when viewed in the context of the availability of other courts in the City such as Hampton and PMS, is a reasonable compromise given the fact that the City's space constraints for recreational activities. The City simply cannot satisfy all demands at all times.

The Linda Beach neighbors remain hopeful that a mutually agreeable resolution can be accomplished and look forward to continued discussion of this issue at the City Council's September 5, 2023 meeting.

[5] It is possible that one reason that pickleball players desire dedicated courts to make them suitable for tournaments or some other reason.