

RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION

AGENDA 3-11-2021

Item 6-B

Recommendation to Authorize Staff to Convert One
Tennis Court to Four Pickleball Courts at
Washington Park

Public Comment

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] No to Pickle ball at Washington Tennis Park
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:11:43 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Paolo Cardenas [<mailto:paolomcardenas@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 7:53 AM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alameda.ca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No to Pickle ball at Washington Tennis Park

To whom it may concern,

I have been coming to Washington Park since 2004. And, I enjoy very much the current state. And, to change its layout will only be a negative.

Washington Tennis Park is considered a rare gem amongst the NorCal tennis community and I believe adding pickle ball courts will surely ruin its status, allure, environment and charisma.

Numerous USTA teams have utilize the Washington Park Tennis courts as their hosting site for team competition. They have contributed in generating income for local municipalities through reservation fees.

Washington Tennis Park has a really strong tennis community that brings many folks together from all walks of life.

Please do not add pickle ball courts!

Paolo Cardenas
339 Broadway Unit 102.
Alameda CA 94501

Sent from my iPhone

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Save Washington Park Tennis Court #4!
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 7:52:30 AM

From: Philip Bernasek [mailto:pbernasek@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 5:27 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Save Washington Park Tennis Court #4!

Hello ARPD,

As an Alameda resident and frequent player on the Washington Park tennis courts, I am grateful of the tennis facilities that we have in the city. I am reaching out to voice my strong opposition to the proposed elimination of court 4 to make pickleball courts. A few reasons why we should not go ahead with the proposal:

1. Tennis is only growing in popularity since the start of the pandemic. Eliminating a court will make it more difficult for residents to find already scarce courts.
2. Washington park nearly always is utilizing all 6 of it's courts. I'm always amazed by how rare it is to find even one court unused at seemingly all hours of the day. In addition, ARPD teachers often are taking 1-3 of the courts at any given time to teach. Removing 1 court will make wait times untenable for those not paying for lessons.
3. Pickleball courts can be constructed anywhere else in Washington park without impacting the tennis courts. For example, the pavement area around the tennis court bleachers, the grassy area behind court 4, etc could all serve as a home to the pickleball courts .

I hope you take my thoughts into consideration as you make this decision. Thanks for everything you do for the city of Alameda!

Regards,
Philip Bernasek
304 Coral Reef Rd.

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Tennis Court #4 at Washington Park
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:47:01 AM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
2226 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7529 / (510) 523-4071 (fax)
Website & Online Registration: www.alamedaca.gov/recreation
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From: Nu Opaongpand [mailto:warintorno@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 9:46 AM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tennis Court #4 at Washington Park

Dear Alameda Recreation and Park Department,

I want to voice my support for keeping Court #4 at Washington Park as a tennis court.

The park is the heart and soul of our tennis community here in Alameda. I used to play tennis at Washington Park every week. Recently, it has become a challenge to find an available court as tennis became a popular sport during this pandemic. Already, the tennis courts are impacted and crowded. There are people waiting in line to get on a court. Losing another tennis court would make the situation worse. Also, there are already pickleball courts in Lincoln Park and other areas for residents.

Please consider keeping Court #4 as a tennis court.

Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Nu Opaongpand

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park - Court 4
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:39:44 AM

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From: Doug Friedman [mailto:tanya8467@me.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 9:29 AM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park - Court 4

Dear Alameda Recreation and Park Department,

I want to voice my support for keeping Court #4 at Washington Park as a tennis court. I am a resident of Alameda and I play tennis on the courts up to four times every week.

I suffer from a disease that limits my activity and I have found Washington Park has helped fight off the progression of the disease. The tennis courts at Washington Park are very busy, and sometimes I have to wait to play, but it's worth it.

I sincerely hope this is all reconsidered and that it is possible to have a pickle ball court in another location.

Sincerely,

Doug Friedman

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: Keep Washington Park Tennis court
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:27:28 AM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
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From: Steve K [mailto:stevekdtm@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 9:23 AM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keep Washington Park Tennis court

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my opposition to converting tennis court #4 at Washington Park to a pickle ball court. My wife and I have been residents of Alameda for 15 years and we are both tennis players. We have played tennis at Washington Park for almost that entire time and we have formed a lot of friendship and we get a lot of exercise playing tennis. Over the years, and more recently, there has been a large influx of new players as a result of increased housing in Alameda and the pandemic. The Washington Park courts are always full now and always a wait to get on the court. To take away one of the courts would make the matters significantly worse. The solution is not to take away an existing court at Washington Park but rather to build more courts in Alameda. Therefore, I oppose converting Washington Park court 4 or any other court at Washington Park to a pickle ball court. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Steve Kang

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Alameda PB Court conversion
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:07:59 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
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From: Lindsay M. Pettingill [mailto:lpetting@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 12:42 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Alameda PB Court conversion

I'd love this! I live in Oakland but would definitely come down to Alameda to play w more courts!

Lindsay Pettingill
she/her

Check out my [company](#)

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:08:41 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
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-----Original Message-----

From: Rick Laverdure [<mailto:rpl5423@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:06 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts

Yes, we need more courts in Alameda! Washington Park, and other places as well (including Bay Farm). Pickleball is reportedly the fastest-growing sport in the US - let's not have tennis courts sit idle (as they often do) while the rest of us compete for pickle ball court time. Thanks.

Rick Laverdure
100 Anderson Rd
Alameda 94502

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park Pickleball Conversion
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:08:51 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
2226 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
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From: m.mcnaircsr7030@gmail.com [mailto:m.mcnaircsr7030@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:07 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park Pickleball Conversion

I believe by converting one of the tennis courts to four pickleball courts is in the best interest of the community. It will offer recreation for 16 people at a time compared to 4. It's a sport that all ages can play, so it offers valuable family time, and activities for youth, as well as seniors, and everyone in-between. Also, since we have so very many new players, we are in desperate need of more courts; and this is a cost-effective way to provide activity to many, and it's forward-looking to accommodate the growth that is certain to continue.

Marianne McNair
2012 Clinton Avenue
Alameda CA 94501

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park pickleball courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:08:11 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
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From: Carole G [mailto:carole.gifford@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 12:47 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park pickleball courts

Hi,

I am as enthusiastic as can be about this project. There is higher demand than availability for the courts at Lincoln Park. Pickleball is a wonderful way to get exercise promoting health. Perhaps the more important benefit it has is creating a vibrant community. I have made friends and had so much fun through pickleball. Please proceed with the tennis court conversion asap!

Carole Gifford
458 Haight Ave

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: Pickleball at Washington Park
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:08:27 PM

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From: Jenny Rieger [mailto:jennyrieger1@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:04 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball at Washington Park

Dear Parks Dept.,

You would be doing the community of Alameda and surrounding cities a huge favor if you would please convert one tennis court to 4 Pickleball courts. There are an increasing number of players in the Bay Area and Alameda who need more Pickleball venues.

I understand that tennis is very popular, but your courts are many, and those tennis players will be Pickleball players soon enough, anyway, lol!!

Please do the conversion!

Jenny Rieger

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Additional Pb courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:38:38 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
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From: Diane Padway [mailto:dpadway@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:38 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Additional Pb courts

Pb is a great, free community activity that is less strenuous than tennis so more folks can be involved. I strongly encourage the community to add additional courts as the ones at Lincoln Park frequently have many people waiting and the process creates contention, which is antithetical to the enjoyable game of PB.

Diane Padway

--

Diane

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] pickleball courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:30:21 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Alan Kaplan [<mailto:lnkpln@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:29 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] pickleball courts

Hello

I'd like to encourage you to convert a tennis court at Washington Park into four dedicated pickleball courts. I've been playing for about five years, three or four times a week, and it's always been true that there have never been enough courts to accomodate the size and enthusiasm of the pickleball population. I've played many times at Lincoln Park, often with numerous players waiting for a court. I hope you've been pleased that they're so well used. I'm certain that four more courts would be a successful additional to your recreational offerings.

Thanks
Alan Kaplan

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:39:54 PM

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From: Barry Odza [mailto:barryodza@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:39 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts

Hi,
My wife and I are in favor of converting the tennis court to pickleball courts.

I was also wondering if ARPD has considered hosting a pickleball league?

Thanks,
Barry Odza

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] pickleball in Alameda
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:28:38 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
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-----Original Message-----

From: Flo Hodes [<mailto:emailflo123@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:28 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] pickleball in Alameda

Hello!

I'm writing in support of more dedicated pickleball courts in Alameda.

I played my first games of this sport at Lincoln Park in Alameda. What a terrific spot that was - and I am very grateful that the courts existed there. It was still so new as a sport in the area and there were very few courts to be found anywhere.

Since then - about three years ago - pickleball has exploded in popularity and every city in the area is moving toward acknowledging the need for dedicated courts. With hundreds of people avidly playing pickleball, I urge you to increase the number of dedicated courts in Alameda. They will not stand empty!

Thank you for your consideration.

Flo Hodes

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park proposal
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:39:28 PM

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From: melinda downing [mailto:melindadowning@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:39 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park proposal

One tennis court = 4 pickleball courts seems like a no brainer.
The four pickleball courts can serve 16 people. One tennis court can serve 4 people.

There are many additional tennis courts available around Alameda beside at Washington Park (I am sure you have the total number) but only 4 pickleball courts total in Alameda.

Please do it. Thanks

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Conversion of tennis court to pickleball
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:25:29 PM

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From: Sandy Lauren [<mailto:slauren813@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:10 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Conversion of tennis court to pickleball

Definitely in favor.

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] More Pickleball Courts please!
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:25:48 PM

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From: Alain McLaughlin [mailto:alain@alainmclaughlin.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:16 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] More Pickleball Courts please!

Dear ARPD,

We are new Pickleball players, pandemic players if you will, and are really enjoying the social, athletic and competitive aspects of the game. My wife and 11 year old son are as passionate about the game as I now am and it's wonderful to share the sport.

I see families with young kids, seniors, middle age couples - all ages of players on the courts. Apparently it's a pretty addictive game!

We are lucky enough that we can walk from our home to the courts at Lincoln Park and it would be great for our West End neighbors to have similar access to courts in Washington Park too!

sincerely,

The McLaughlin / Bansal Family
Alameda

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:25:58 PM

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From: Beth Pao [mailto:bethpao@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:19 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts

I would be very much in favor of converting one tennis court at Washington Park to 4 PBall courts. Count me as a Yes vote. Thank you!

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park PB courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:25:37 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Derek Cheung [<mailto:dac996@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:11 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park PB courts

Hello -

I fully support having pickleball courts at Washington Park.

Derek Cheung

Sent from my iPhone

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball conversion
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:58:26 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Josephine [<mailto:josephinewhite@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:51 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball conversion

Hello ARPD,

I am a new resident in Alameda. I currently play pickleball in Oakland. I live near Washington Park. I would love to play with my boyfriend and a few other friends at this park. I very much support conversion of one tennis court to a pickleball court. This sport is growing in popularity, is wonderful for people of all ages and a great addition to activities one can do during Covid and after.

Sincerely,
Josephine

Sent from my iPhone; please excuse any typos.

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:58:38 PM

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From: Laia Pedreno Mateu [mailto:laiapedreno@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:53 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park courts

Hello!

I would really appreciate if one of the courts at Washington Park was converted into a Pickleball court. I live nearby and that would be really great. I can't be at tonight's meeting so I wanted to leave this comment.

Thank you!

Laia

--

Laia Pedreño Mateu
LMFT #106526

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] YES to more pickleball courts at Washington Park!
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 1:26:16 PM

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From: Maureen Bormolini [mailto:mbormo@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 1:23 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] YES to more pickleball courts at Washington Park!

Fingers crossed, Maureen

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Conversion of Tennis Ct. to Pickleball Court
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:34:41 PM

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From: Debbi Glosli [mailto:debbiglosli@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 2:17 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Conversion of Tennis Ct. to Pickleball Court

I am in full support of converting a tennis ct. at Washington park to 4 pickleball courts. The only courts in Alameda are at Lincoln Park and almost always vey busy with lots of folks waiting to play. Pickleball has grown exponentially and more courts are needed to meet demand.

Thank you,
Debbi Glosli

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickle ball courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:50:16 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Randi Hepner [mailto:randi_hepner@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 2:50 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickle ball courts

Hello,

I'm very much in favor of converting one tennis court into four Pickleball courts at Washington Sq. in Alameda.
Thanks for your consideration,
Randi Hepner

Sent from my iPad

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] pickleball court conversion
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:35:25 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Amy Akashi [<mailto:amyakashi@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 2:27 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] pickleball court conversion

Pickle ball is a very engaging sport, that is easy for almost anyone to join. And the community is friendly and inviting.

It is too sad to see Tennis Courts that are completely empty and that valuable space not being used.

In the meantime, there are so little courts in Alameda, that some players have to be turned away, or waiting excessively.

Being outdoors is more important than ever. Please go forward with converting tennis courts to kickball courts.

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball court
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:34:34 PM

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From: Beth mcmahon-wise [mailto:bmw3309@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 2:19 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball court

Strongly in favor of converting tennis court at Washington park into 4 Pickleball courts. At most 4 people can play on 1 tennis court but 4 Pickleball courts could accommodate 16 players- math makes sense! Courts at Franklin are packed when I try to go so we need more options!

Beth McMahon

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:11:17 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
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-----Original Message-----

From: Nancy Kaspar [<mailto:nancykaspar2@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 2:05 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts

Hello there,

I am writing to enthusiastically support the creation of four new pickle ball courts at Washington Park in Alameda. Pickle ball is a wonderful sport for all ages and has increased in popularity to the extent that it is getting challenging to find available courts. It would be wonderful if there were more courts to used in Alameda.

Thank you so much for your consideration, Nancy Kaspar

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:43:10 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
2226 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7529 / (510) 523-4071 (fax)
Website & Online Registration: www.alamedaca.gov/recreation
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From: Lyn Murray [mailto:murraylyn12@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 2:42 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball

I support adding 4 PB courts to Washington Park. The sport has grown so quickly and there aren't enough courts in the area to accommodate everyone! Thanks for your consideration.

Lyn Murray

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] please convert one tennis court at Wash Park to 4 Pickleball courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:36:00 PM

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From: Judith Stacey [mailto:judith.stacey@nyu.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 2:35 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] please convert one tennis court at Wash Park to 4 Pickleball courts

I take pickleball classes at Lincoln Park in Alameda and am writing to urge support for the proposed conversion of one tennis court at Washington Park into 4 pickleball courts.

As you have heard, Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the US and is expanding geometrically in Alameda County. We simply do not have enough courts to accommodate the many residents eager to play.

Adding pickleball courts will serve many more residents-- up to 16 individuals can play rather than 2 or 4 on a single tennis court.

Please support this conversion.

Thank you
Judith Stacey
pickler

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Pickleball Courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:34:50 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: CONSTANCE CHIULLI [<mailto:cccubed@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 2:19 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Pickleball Courts

Hi -

I play pickleball regularly in Lincoln Park. I very much support converting the tennis courts at Washington Park to pickleball courts. The courts at Lincoln Park fill up very quickly and more people are taking up pickleball.

Thank you for your consideration .

Regards

Connie Chiulli

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Granite M](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball Courts and the March 11 Agenda
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:11:13 PM

Hi Amy Wooldridge - I have seen your posting of the Pickleball Courts being very popular and that it would be addressed on the next Recreation and Parks Commission on March 11. I note that that agenda is currently not posted on the City's legistar website.

I am a tennis player and live near Leydecker courts. I note that since the pandemic that these courts are more utilized than ever before. -- not only by the public but also by instructors. Oftentimes, we'll see two ARPD instructors on two separate courts - thus leaving only one court available for anyone else. At one point in time, the teaching schedule was posted inside the bulletin board for that purpose. That is no longer happening.

I do have friends who play pickleball at Lincoln Park. When I drive by Krusi Park, I rarely see the one Pickleball/Tennis court being used. I've been told that there apparently is an elite group of people who do not allow open entry into their games which I thought was what pickleball was about. I base that thought on friends who play pickleball at private clubs. Alameda has several courts that have been in disuse which might serve the purpose as opposed to expanding pickleball to well-used courts, such as Washington.

Right now since we're still very much in the pandemic, the circumstances are extraordinary and those people who are clamoring for more pickleball courts won't be using them when the pandemic is hopefully concluded. They'll be more occupied with the activities that are normal for them. I'm also hoping to see less usage of tennis courts so that wait time is lessened in that golden moment.

To plan for a future which utilizes pandemic reality seems to be very skewed and really needs a true reality check - unless you have more information than I and see the pandemic as lasting multiple years.

I do want to say that I've really enjoyed seeing the transition of Jean Sweeney Park which is certainly your legacy for community involvement and action.

Thank you for your time and yes, I do plan to register for the Zoom meeting.

Helen Keating

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:51:53 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Powning [<mailto:billpowning@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 5:30 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball

Park People,

I love playing pickleball at Lincoln Park but it is often too busy. It would be great to have another venue to play on the island.

Thanks for considering this!

Bill Powning

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Plan by Alameda City to Convert Tennis Court to Pickle Ball Courts at Washington Park
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:52:13 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Kwok Yin Chan [<mailto:kwokyinchan@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 5:27 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Plan by Alameda City to Convert Tennis Court to Pickle Ball Courts at Washington Park

Dear Commissioners,

I am a resident of the Alameda Island and a frequent user of the tennis courts at the Washington Park. I enjoy playing there with many of friends whom I met over the years while playing tennis, and consider that circle as an important part of my life. I have learned that ARPD is seeking comments regarding its plan to convert one of the six tennis courts to pickle ball courts. I am all for giving the public more opportunities to exercise and socialize. I played pickle ball before but personally enjoy tennis more.

The big number of tennis players using the Washington Park courts is evidenced by the long line waiting to play on Saturday and Sunday. Therefore, I object to the conversion of one court to pickle ball courts. Why not build new pickle ball courts on the lawn currently adjacent to Court #6 and Court #3 & #4?

I believe many of the tennis players I know and I do not know would agree with me.

Regards,
Kwok Yin Chan
2408 Oceana Street, Alameda CA 94501
512-672-9437

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Please build PICKLEBALL COURTS at Washington Park
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:21:31 PM

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From: Themy Adachi [mailto:themyjo@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 3:10 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please build PICKLEBALL COURTS at Washington Park

PICKLEBALL
3-4-21

Alameda Parks and Recreation Department,

I live on Bay Farm Island and playing pickleball in Alameda has changed my life. It is my main activity in retirement because it keeps me physically healthy, mentally stimulated, and connected to a wonderful community of older adults. For most older adults, pickleball is a sport that is still physically do-able, easy to learn, and in Alameda, provides a welcoming and inclusive environment. It is no wonder that it is the fastest growing sport in America, and no doubt in Alameda as well. I drive around Alameda and see many tennis courts not being heavily utilized. Transforming one court at Washington Park to four pickleball courts would therefore be a very wise cost-benefit decision given the demonstrated and growing popularity of pickleball.

In the past few years, the demand for pickleball court time has grown exponentially at Lincoln Park. During peak hours, wait times can often exceed 30 to 45 minutes to get on a Lincoln court. With the growing number of scheduled court reservations and lessons, access to drop-in games becomes even more limited. I've noticed that some Alamedans have grown frustrated with the current limited court access and the tensions that arise from that, and consequently have cut back on their pickleball participation or chosen to migrate to other cities to play. But most older Alamedans would prefer not to have to drive to other cities to play because transportation, traffic, safety and socialization become greater issues. I cannot express how important it is that pickleball provides older Alamedans with a sense of community. Please give us another place in Alameda to spread pickleball joy to more older adults.

Court 4 at Washington Park is ideal because it has lights that will enable people to play

during the evenings, thus spreading out daily court usage, as well as give more opportunities for working folks to play. Since there aren't nearby neighbors, pickleball noise won't be an issue in that location. Court 4 already has a separate gate entrance and a fence separating it from the other tennis courts so it would minimize disruption to tennis players. The large lawn area adjacent to the court will be a great place for those waiting to socialize. Unlike the Lincoln courts, Washington Park courts are oriented correctly to minimize sun glare when playing.

Thank you in advance for supporting pickleball and older Alamedans!

Sincerely,
TJ Adachi
Themy-Jo Adachi
613 Ironwood Road
Alameda, CA 94502
themyjo@gmail.com

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Please convert to pickleball
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:49:58 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: To-Trinh Nguyen [<mailto:sototrinh@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 7:39 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please convert to pickleball

Hello,

I support the conversion of one tennis court into four pickleball courts.

I first learned how to play pickleball at Lincoln Park and have made many great friends in a short amount of time just by attending the original “open play” days. Jean Melgar (Ambassador) was exceptionally welcoming and encouraging to me as new beginner. It is a positive experience when someone meets Jean and other pickleball players in Alameda.

Pickleball is an amazing community sport. More pickleball courts will be beneficial in supporting our current global pandemic. It’s a healthy outdoor sport and more courts will allow better social distancing by reducing the number of people waiting to play.

Please help Alameda be an even popular city to play in. Washington Park is already a great place to visit. Adding pickleball courts will make it better.

Thanks,
Trinh Nguyen

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Please more PB Courts
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:49:34 AM

From: Christine Miura [mailto:christinemiura@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 7:41 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please more PB Courts

Hey ARPD,

As a resident of Alameda, I am expressing my desire to have additional Pickleball Courts in the city.

I play 4-6X a week at Lincoln Park. I started in May 2018. The interest in PB has always been high, Since Covid, so many more people are playing as its so much fun! Sometimes we can have as many 50 people out playing and waiting for courts.
I'm sure if we had more courts, we'd have more people playing on any given day.

As a community member, it would be GREAT to have more courts available to meet the demand of court ttime. If there is any way to create additional courts that would be welcomed greatly.

If there are any tennis courts being underutilized, one court makes 4 pb courts which satisfies 16 people vs. 4 people. PB is the fastest growing sport on the planet! Everyone is playing! It'd be great to see those empty courts filled with happy picklers!

Sincerely,
Christine Miura

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: The conversion of a tennis court at Washington Park into 4 PB Courts.
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:51:36 AM

From: Josee Scanlan [mailto:joseescanlan@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 5:40 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: The conversion of a tennis court at Washington Park into 4 PB Courts.

To whom it may concern~

I am writing to express my support for the conversion of a tennis court at Washington Park into 4 PB Courts.

My husband and I (both active and in our early seventies) are ardent Pickleball players, always in search of a nearby court to play on!

We have been playing for a few years now and Pickleball has truly changed our lives in so many positive ways.

It keeps us active and we have forged new friendships with so many from all different age groups and backgrounds.

Everyone one encounters has the same thing to say, "This game is so much fun, it builds community spirit, it's easy to learn and the players are competitive, but always supportive of one another!"

Of late, we have been driving to Hayward (from Oakland) to use the newly built public courts there, but even those are becoming ever popular of late.

It would be much appreciated if more PB courts were put in at Washington Park.

With appreciation,
Sincerely~

Josee Scanlan and Neal Dickler

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park conversion to Pickleball
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:21:46 PM

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From: Darlene Vendegna [mailto:pickleballdar@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 3:14 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park conversion to Pickleball

Hello there

I am writing to voice my request and support of the proposed conversion of a tennis court at Washington Park to 4 pickleball courts. Although I live in Oakland, before Covid, several friends and I had the lovely pattern of playing pickleball at Lincoln Park and then going out to brunch in downtown Alameda on Sunday mornings. The addition of more courts will not only serve the Alameda playing community, but would bring in players from around the area, who will then go looking for food and drink opportunities close by.

The wait times for playing at Lincoln Park can be quite lengthy, it's clear that more courts are needed, not just in Alameda but all over the East Bay Area.

Four times as many people can utilize the space for pickleball over tennis. In addition, the shorter time span of a pickleball game (15 minutes, typically, sometimes less), means that far more citizens can utilize the space in an hour for multiple games. It is a sport that appeals to all ages. As an instructor for the last three years, I've personally taught almost 500 people to play. Most of them continue to play because it's so easy and so much fun. Grandparents play with their peers but also with their grandchildren. I've seen three generations playing together at once. The beauty of the game is that it doesn't require a lot of athleticism.

Please vote yes for more courts in Alameda

Best regards,
Pickleball to the People

Darlene Vendegna

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park Tennis Court conversion to PB Court
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:21:55 PM

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From: Tina Asti [mailto:tasti@mail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 3:16 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park Tennis Court conversion to PB Court

Hi,
It would be great if one (or more) of the tennis courts at Washington Park is converted to PB courts to help spread the love and bring pickleball to this side of the island! There are 6 tennis courts at Washington Park so converting one court to accommodate the growing number of PBers I think is a reasonable request. I truly hope you decide to move forward with this proposal.
Sincerely,
Tina Asti

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Parks Tennis Courts - Attn to the Park & Rec Director and Commissioners
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:45:10 AM

From: Matt Kim [mailto:flymattkim@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 10:23 PM

To: Amy Wooldridge <AWooldridge@alamedaca.gov>; ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Parks Tennis Courts - Attn to the Park & Rec Director and Commissioners

Dear Dir. Amy Wooldridge and Commission Chair Adrienne Alexander, Vice Chair Eric Robbins, Commission Member Ron Limoges, and Commission Member Tara Navarro,

I have been playing tennis at Washington Park since 2013 when I started playing the sport. The tennis community that welcomed me back then has become a second family - even after moving to Walnut Creek a few years ago I still frequent Washington Park to play tennis.

I understand there is an increase in the popularity of pickleball, but tennis has also boomed in participation during the pandemic (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucelee/2020/12/15/tennis-experiences-boom-during-covid-19-coronavirus-pandemic-how-to-play-safely/?sh=9da17c270e33>). During the COVID pandemic, there has been an increase of wait times to grab a tennis court because there are so many people playing. There has to be a way to create pickleball courts without disrupting the tennis community and causing even longer wait times for tennis players.

Additionally, pickleball players can play their sport on a tennis court with temporary pickleball nets, but not vice versa. If court 4 remains a tennis court, both tennis and pickleball communities can share the court to play their respective sports, but if court 4 is converted into pickleball courts tennis players cannot use that space. Wouldn't a better alternative be to allow both communities to use court 4 (on a first come first serve basis)?

Lastly, I believe creating pickleball courts on court 4 will cause friction between the pickleball and tennis communities, especially since tennis players have seen increasing wait times recently. Finding a way not to take away from one community for the benefit of another would be beneficial to both. For the reasons listed above, I am against converting court 4 at Washington Park into pickleball courts.

--

Best,
Matt Kim

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington Part court 4
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:50:37 AM

From: Bry Cards [mailto:brycards@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 7:18 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>; Amy Wooldridge <AWooldridge@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Part court 4

Dear Dir. Amy Wooldridge and Commission Chair Adrienne Alexander, Vice Chair Eric Robbins, Commission Member Ron Limoges, and Commission Member Tara Navarro",

As a concerned citizen and resident, I would like to voice my opposition to the planned pickle ball conversion of tennis court 4 at Washington park. At this time, the facility can barely accommodate the demand of people wanting to play the game of tennis. With ARPD lessons and the regular use - the courts are always busy - but you can get a court to play on for an hour.

Moreover, given the Covid pandemic which has affected us all - the increased demand to play tennis has grown several folds. A simple examination of the courts use during the weekdays and weekend will prove my point.

I would like to personally commend your department on the maintenance of the tennis and general park facility. I have played on many courts, both public and private, and I can attest the these courts are truly wonderful. That said, getting rid of one court to make room for another sport does not make any sense. Surely there are other areas where you make room for another racquet sport.

Tennis is an all inclusive sport that brings the community together; a safe space where one can get away, exercise, and enjoy the fresh air. Personally, I have been frequenting the courts for over 20 years. Please do not destroy a perfectly good court to make way for a new sport.

Sincerely,
Bryan Cardenas

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Yes for Pickleball at Washington park!
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 4:09:29 PM

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From: Judy Broughton [mailto:judycbroughton@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 4:00 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yes for Pickleball at Washington park!

Please, please, please put in pickleball courts at Washington Park- I usually play at Lincoln Park, but it has become very crowded- also, Washington Park is in my neighborhood, so I'd much rather play there- Thank you, Judy Broughton

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: Pickleball court conversion
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 4:27:18 PM

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From: Ed Choi [mailto:edchoi2@outlook.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 4:26 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball court conversion

Dear Commissioners,

I'm writing to express strong support of converting court #4 at Washington to 4 pickleball courts. As you know, pickleball has become very popular for Alameda residents, where as, tennis has become less popular. I'm 71 years of age and formally a tennis player until I sustained multi injuries playing tennis. I picked up pickleball when Rec & Park introduced the game to residents 6 years ago. I've been playing on a regular basis since.

Pickleball is easy to learn, less hard on the body and fun to play for all age group. My whole family plays it. Many of my tennis players are switching to Pickleball and playing the game more and tennis less. With the growing popularity of Pickleball, we've outgrown the 4 courts at Lincoln Park. The wait time for play has increased. With the addition of 4 courts at Washington Park, it would help greatly to allow more people to play.

We are thankful that we are able to continue to play this fun sport during the pandemic. The sport has provided exercise and social connection for the players.

We urge you to support the court conversion and allow people, especially Alameda residents, to gain more access to his fun sport of Pickleball.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ed Choi
36 Basinside Way
Alameda, CA 94502

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickle ball court #4
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:50:18 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Griffith [<mailto:bebopbill@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 7:32 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickle ball court #4

Hi :

I am a regular tennis player at WAPA.

While I'm in favor of more pickle ball

Courts in Alameda, court # 4 at Washington Park is not the place to build new Pickle ball courts. I feel unused courts At College of Alameda or Alameda Point Etc. would be a better place for new Pickle ball courts. Lower Washington park Courts are already full, especially during The pandemic!

Thank you for your time and
Consideration.

###

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickle Ball Courts at Washington Park
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:21:23 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Jason Chenoweth [<mailto:jchenoweth22@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:05 AM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickle Ball Courts at Washington Park

To Whom It May Concern,

There has been discussion of the conversion of Tennis Courts to pickle ball courts at Washington Park in Alameda and I have to passionately request that this does not happen. These tennis courts are highly sought after and if some were converted to pickle ball courts, that would only increase the demand for more tennis courts. On weekdays after work and all weekends/holidays, regardless of cold or warm weather, these tennis courts are completely taken up.

Pickle Ball may be popular for now, but tennis has been and will continue to be popular for many years to come. If the Washington Park tennis courts were not being used as frequently as pickle ball courts would be, then I can understand the conversion. However, since the tennis courts are in high demand, it would make more sense to build dedicated pickle courts than convert the tennis courts. Thank you for your time and I hope you take this email into consideration when you make the final decision.

Jason Chenoweth

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickle Ball
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:46:48 PM

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From: santellt@aol.com [mailto:santellt@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 3:44 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickle Ball

Sir,

My intro to racquetball took place decades back at NAS Alameda.....two weeks back I stopped by the gym and waved at the courts, or what's left of them. Then on to Michaan's for business and then over to Lincoln Park for PB.

I saw the explosion with RB and in the years that followed the implosion.....my relationship with RB ended last March courtesy COVID.....I had been introduced to PB and had not yet really become "Engaged".....I am now fully engaged!

PB has far greater appeal to nearly anyone who may be interested in maintaining some sort of physical condition. The current explosion will not soon relent, indeed will continue unabated for quite sometime to come....

My visits to Alameda will be limited hence----I end up walking far more than playing....so more courts would be welcome...At present my drives to either Hayward or Livermore end in couple hours of games---as it should be....

V. T. Santell
San Leandro, CA A PERFECT city for the game, not yet happened! There's a "Rumor"

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickle ball
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:50:57 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Janet Clark [<mailto:michiganthyme@att.net>]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 6:36 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickle ball

Please add new courts. Becoming quite crowded.

Janet Clark

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts at Washington Park
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 4:51:11 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Ednalee Warnecke [<mailto:ednaleew@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 4:50 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball courts at Washington Park

Hello, I fully support the conversion of a tennis court to four pickle ball courts at Washington Park. Because Pickleball is usually played as doubles, 4 courts will allow 16 players at once. Much more than the 2 to 4 players of one tennis court. As you probably know, Pickleball is a growing sport and super popular right now. We need more Bay-Area courts! Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Ednalee

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball Courts at Washington Park
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:51:16 AM

From: Stewart Wilson [mailto:swilson_us@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 6:09 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball Courts at Washington Park

Dear ARPD folks,

As you know, Pickleball is an up and coming sport that is really taking off. It started out being particularly appealing to youthful seniors, but nowadays it attracts people of all ages.

Alameda's existing 4 courts in Lincoln Park are getting extremely heavy use. The former tennis court accommodates up to 16 people, but that's not enough to meet the demand. Prior to the pandemic we've had as many as 30 people waiting to play!

I manage a volunteer email list to advertise events and allow people to find partners for games. There's 315 people on the list!

I understand you are considering converting a tennis court at Washington Park...that'd be fantastic! It would alleviate some crowding at Lincoln Park, and equally importantly, provide lights so that we can play in the evenings in the fall, winter, and spring, which we can't do at Lincoln Park! So many folks will be delighted and so grateful!

Hope to hear positive news shortly!

Best regards,

Stewart Wilson
1502 Grand St
Alameda

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball Courts
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:52:38 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: sheila shener [<mailto:shlshnr@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 5:02 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball Courts

Thank you Alameda Park and rec (Mastick Senior Center) for introducing me to Pickleball 2 and 1/2 yrs ago. I have taken beginner classes to advance.

I play at Lincoln park. What I have noticed is younger people are starting to play Pickleball which I am thrilled to see. It is a wonderful active social sport which connects people of all ages. The Lincoln courts are often full with lots of folks waiting to play. We need more courts to accommodate the growing amount of people playing.

I hope we can get Pickleball courts at Washington Park.

Sheila Shener

Sent from my iPad

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball!!
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:59:52 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
2226 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7529 / (510) 523-4071 (fax)
Website & Online Registration: www.alamedaca.gov/recreation
Like us on facebook: playarpd

-----Original Message-----

From: Cheryl Saxton [<mailto:golfingdc@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 2:59 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball!!

Please convert one tennis court at Washington Park into 4 Pickleball courts. The best thing that has happened to Alameda since the new golf course has been the Pickleball courts at Lincoln Park. We need more! The Lincoln courts are always full and we can't leave the west end high and dry when it comes to the fastest growing sport in America.

Thank you,
Cheryl Saxton.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 4:24:36 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
2226 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7529 / (510) 523-4071 (fax)
Website & Online Registration: www.alamedaca.gov/recreation
Like us on facebook: playarpd

-----Original Message-----

From: Laura Cooksey [<mailto:llcooksey@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 4:21 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pickleball

I am hugely in favor of more pickleball courts in the city of Alameda. It is a fantastic sport that's good for people of all ages and especially good in the time of Covid. For many of us, it has been our way to keep sane during this time. I favor making pickle ball courts in Washington Park. I drive all the way from Richmond to play pickleball in Alameda and oftentimes spend money at the local businesses while I'm there.
Laura Cooksey

Sent from my iPad

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Washington park tennis courts
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 9:29:38 AM

From: North/Arpaci [mailto:northarpaci@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 9:12 AM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington park tennis courts

I have been using washington courts last 25 years .probably it is the most utilized tennis courts ,even public sturcture in town. You can check allmost everyday from early morning to late evening youwill find somebody playing. Forget sparing one need more courts. You can witness fights ,arguments over courts all the time. Washington courts are more than tennis for alot of people. It is more like home and familly. Please do not take away

Sincerely ,Muhittin. Arpaci

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Convert to Pickle Ball Courts at Washington Park
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:46:35 AM

From: Gordon Yee [mailto:gordon@aumackyee.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:23 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Cc: Edward Kallas <EKallas@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Convert to Pickle Ball Courts at Washington Park

Hello ARPD,

My wife and I have raised our two daughters here in Alameda. They are both grown and no longer at home. Yahoo! There could not be a better environment for us to raise our kids! We love Alameda! We appreciate all the summer ARPD activities and all year round activities.

What makes Alameda so wonderful is the city and ARPD provides opportunities for the very youngsters, youths and seniors to participate in creative outlets for physical exercise, dancing and many other programs. Keep Alameda a welcoming place for Seniors and provide more Pickle Ball Courts too.

We are both retired and avid PB players before the pandemic. We are careful now and decided to stop and plan on startup PB as soon as it is safe to do so. Seniors like us are growing in population and are, in most cases, very active. I would like to see additional PB courts in Alameda. Please add more courts in Washington Park for us - seniors and anyone else that wants to play PB!

Thank you ARPD for having Edward Kallas as our Pickle Board Facilitator. He has been a wonderful help in getting more people playing PB! Thank you!

--
Regards,
Gordon Yee
27+ year Alameda Resident

"For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other."
-- [Millard Fuller](#)

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Converting tennis courts to pickle ball courts
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 4:13:47 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
2226 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7529 / (510) 523-4071 (fax)
Website & Online Registration: www.alamedaca.gov/recreation
Like us on facebook: [playarpd](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: HR [<mailto:hjr4@icloud.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 4:05 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Converting tennis courts to pickle ball courts

Hi,

I play pickle ball in Alameda at the Lincoln Park courts. There usually is a long wait to get on the courts as many people are there waiting to play. I play there during the week and on weekends and it seems to be always busy. The courts are in pretty bad shape also, so it would be great to have courts that are in decent shape to play on. It would be awesome if Alameda would convert some tennis courts to pickle ball courts so that more people can enjoy the sport without having to wait long periods of time. Thank you for your consideration.

Helene Rostock

From: [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] More Pickleball in Alameda please
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 4:51:00 PM

Alameda Recreation and Park Department
2226 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7529 / (510) 523-4071 (fax)
Website & Online Registration: www.alamedaca.gov/recreation
Like us on facebook: playarpd

-----Original Message-----

From: Barbara Krummel [<mailto:BARBARAKRUMMEL@comcast.net>]
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 4:48 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] More Pickleball in Alameda please

I am writing in support of converting tennis courts at Washington Park to pickle ball courts. Pickleball is a sport for all ages and one where a teen can play with a parent or grandparent and have a fun and competitive game. The pickle ball community is friendly and social. Let's bring more of this wonderful community-building game to Alameda please!

Barbara Krummel
3258 Liberty Ave.
Alameda

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] New pickleball courts in Alameda
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 9:30:48 AM

From: Ken Woolfe [mailto:kdwoolfe@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:55 AM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New pickleball courts in Alameda

Over the past three years, my wife and I (in our 70s) have played pickleball at Lincoln Park with wonderful and cooperative people. However, those courts can become exceedingly crowded particularly on open-play days, so having additional courts in Alameda would be very helpful particularly given the explosive growth of pickleball.

- Ken

From: [Katherine Sirota](#) on behalf of [ARPD](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] PB Courts in Washington Park
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:44:42 AM

From: judy chung [mailto:chungjudylam@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 10:39 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PB Courts in Washington Park

Hi, I own a house in Alameda and love playing at the courts in Lincoln Park. I started playing four years ago and at that time it was just 15 to 20 people. PB has grown so fast these last four years that now we have 100s of regular players and many travel from other cities to visit our beautiful Island. The sport will keep on growing. I really hope we add more courts at Washington Park. This will eliminate our wait time and keep up with the demand. With indoor racket sports closed such as Raquetball and pingpong, we are seeing a lot of these players at our courts too.

Thank you,
Judy Chung
1915 Schiller St
Alameda, CA 94501

From: [Matt Kim](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#); [ARPD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Parks Tennis Courts - Attn to the Park & Rec Director and Commissioners
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 10:23:26 PM

Dear Dir. Amy Wooldridge and Commission Chair Adrienne Alexander, Vice Chair Eric Robbins, Commission Member Ron Limoges, and Commission Member Tara Navarro,

I have been playing tennis at Washington Park since 2013 when I started playing the sport. The tennis community that welcomed me back then has become a second family - even after moving to Walnut Creek a few years ago I still frequent Washington Park to play tennis.

I understand there is an increase in the popularity of pickleball, but tennis has also boomed in participation during the pandemic (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucelee/2020/12/15/tennis-experiences-boom-during-covid-19-coronavirus-pandemic-how-to-play-safely/?sh=9da17c270e33>). During the COVID pandemic, there has been an increase of wait times to grab a tennis court because there are so many people playing. There has to be a way to create pickleball courts without disrupting the tennis community and causing even longer wait times for tennis players.

Additionally, pickleball players can play their sport on a tennis court with temporary pickleball nets, but not vice versa. If court 4 remains a tennis court, both tennis and pickleball communities can share the court to play their respective sports, but if court 4 is converted into pickleball courts tennis players cannot use that space. Wouldn't a better alternative be to allow both communities to use court 4 (on a first come first serve basis)?

Lastly, I believe creating pickleball courts on court 4 will cause friction between the pickleball and tennis communities, especially since tennis players have seen increasing wait times recently. Finding a way not to take away from one community for the benefit of another would be beneficial to both. For the reasons listed above, I am against converting court 4 at Washington Park into pickleball courts.

--

Best,
Matt Kim

From: [Raymond Lui](#)
To: [ARPD](#); [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Parks Tennis Courts - Attn to the Park & Rec Director and Commissioners
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:21:47 PM

Dear Dir. Amy Wooldridge and Commission Chair Adrienne Alexander, Vice Chair Eric Robbins, Commission Member Ron Limoges, and Commission Member Tara Navarro:

I was a former ARPD employee who worked at Franklin and Washington Parks when I was in my teens and taught tennis for your department.

I strongly oppose turning Court 4 in Washington Park into a pickle ball court. I'm sure you have received many emails why people opposed and I'm no different. Washington park tennis courts on any given day are crowded full of tennis players. In addition, I see 2 ARPD employees teaching tennis on certain days that only leaves 4 courts open to the public. I would like to suggest building additional courts due to the rise in popularity of tennis and charging for court hours. Both the City of Berkeley and City of Oakland have started implementing this system recently. I personally think this is a win for the public to get more courts & and add additional revenue to ARPD.

Respectfully,
Raymond Lui
415-828-1795

From: [Ken Fagel](#)
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#); [ARPD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Parks Tennis Courts - Attn to the Park & Rec Director and Commissioners
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:56:20 PM

Dear Dir. Amy Wooldridge and Commission Chair Adrienne Alexander, Vice Chair Eric Robbins, Commission Member Ron Limoges, and Commission Member Tara Navarro

I received an ARPD notice of a meeting about converting court #4 at Washington Park to 4 pickleball courts. I am totally opposed to this. As a longtime Alameda resident and homeowner, I have played tennis at Washington Park since 1988. I have played on USTA teams out of Washington Park since 2001. There are other solutions for pickleball courts without removing a heavily used tennis court. We need more tennis courts in Alameda, not less. I plan to address these issues at the commission meeting next Thursday.

I was at Washington Park Friday when I was told that I have to get off the court because the 3 courts were reserved for St. Joseph school. There was also a non ARPD teacher who was taking court #4 for hours, which left only 2 courts for residents and public. If we lose court #4, there would have only been 1 court left. There are people waiting for courts most of the times I play there now. To take a court away for pickleball or any other reason makes no sense to me at all. There are many other alternatives you could entertain, such as the empty concrete lots on the naval base that are not used at all.

Ken Fagel
1514 Fernside Blvd.

Amy, I received confirmation from you on my previous email. I reviewed the public comment portion of the Commission Agenda and noticed that my email was not included though you confirmed you would include it on 3/1/21.

From: Amy Wooldridge <AWooldridge@alamedaca.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:23 AM
To: Ken Fagel <ken@kenfagel.com>
Subject: RE: Washington Park and Pickleball notice

Hello Ken,

I received your email and will include it with public comment to the Recreation and Parks Commission.

Thank you,
Amy

Amy Wooldridge

Recreation and Parks Director
2226 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7570
awooldridge@alamedaca.gov
www.alamedaca.gov/recreation

From: ARPD
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:57 AM
To: Amy Wooldridge <AWooldridge@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: FW: Washington Park and Pickleball notice

From: Ken Fagel [<mailto:ken@kenfagel.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 1:45 PM
To: ARPD <ARPD@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park and Pickleball notice

I received a ARPD notice of a meeting about converting court #4 at Washington Park to 4 pickleball courts. I am totally opposed to this. As a longtime Alameda resident and homeowner, I have played tennis at Washington Park since 1988. I have played on USTA teams out of Washington Park since 2001.

I was at Washington Park yesterday when I was told that I have to get off the court because the 3 courts were reserved for St. Joseph school. There was also a non ARPD teacher who was taking court #4 for hours, which left only 2 courts for residents and public. If we lose court #4, there would have only been 1 court left. There are people waiting for courts most of the times I play there now. To take a court away for pickleball makes no sense to me at all. There are other alternatives you could entertain, such as the empty concrete lots on the naval base that are not used at all.

Ken Fagel

From: [Tony Ng](#)
To: [ARPD](#); [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Parks Tennis Courts - Attn to the Park & Rec Director and Commissioners
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 8:54:47 AM

Dear Dir. Amy Wooldridge and Commission Chair Adrienne Alexander, Vice Chair Eric Robbins, Commission Member Ron Limoges, and Commission Member Tara Navarro,

I am an Alameda resident and have played tennis at Washington Park since 2002. I am requesting that court #4 at Washington Park remain as a tennis court. I understand the need for pickleball players to find courts to play. As this sport continues to grow, tennis has also grown with it during the pandemic. According to the Physical Activity Council (PAC), tennis has boomed during the pandemic with an estimated 21.64 million Americans playing in 2020. This appears to align with the crowds of people waiting to get a court at Washington Park.

Rather than convert an existing and well-conditioned tennis court into pickleball courts, I propose using a court at either Longfellow or Alameda Point. I believe these courts aren't used as heavily, which makes converting them into pickleball courts ideal.

This would be a win-win for both tennis and pickleball players - provide pickleballs courts and not take away a court from tennis players. We can still provide access to one group and not create a barrier for others.

Respectfully,
Tony Ng

From: [Bry Cards](#)
To: [ARPD](#); [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Part court 4
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 7:18:35 PM

Dear Dir. Amy Wooldridge and Commission Chair Adrienne Alexander, Vice Chair Eric Robbins, Commission Member Ron Limoges, and Commission Member Tara Navarro",

As a concerned citizen and resident, I would like to voice my opposition to the planned pickle ball conversion of tennis court 4 at Washington park. At this time, the facility can barely accommodate the demand of people wanting to play the game of tennis. With ARPD lessons and the regular use - the courts are always busy - but you can get a court to play on for an hour.

Moreover, given the Covid pandemic which has affected us all - the increased demand to play tennis has grown several folds. A simple examination of the courts use during the weekdays and weekend will prove my point.

I would like to personally commend your department on the maintenance of the tennis and general park facility. I have played on many courts, both public and private, and I can attest the these courts are truly wonderful. That said, getting rid of one court to make room for another sport does not make any sense. Surely there are other areas where you make room for another racquet sport.

Tennis is an all inclusive sport that brings the community together; a safe space where one can get away, exercise, and enjoy the fresh air. Personally, I have been frequenting the courts for over 20 years. Please do not destroy a perfectly good court to make way for a new sport.

Sincerely,
Bryan Cardenas

From: [Mark Neiman](#)
To: [ARPD](#); [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washington Park Tennis Court #4 - Attn to the Park & Rec Director and Commissioners
Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:26:29 PM

Dear Dir. Amy Wooldridge and Commission Chair Adrienne Alexander, Vice Chair Eric Robbins, Commission Member Ron Limoges, and Commission Member Tara Navarro;

I am unable to attend the Recreation and Parks Commission meeting on March 11th regarding the proposed conversion of court #4 at Washington Park to pickleball, so I am sending this email in lieu of my attendance.

I have been playing tennis at Washington Park since 2009 and have also played pickleball several times at Lincoln Park. I assume that the reason behind this proposal is the booming popularity of pickleball. However, tennis is undergoing its own boom - there has been a 49% nationwide increase in tennis participation during the pandemic (See <https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucelee/2020/12/15/tennis-experiences-boom-during-covid-19-coronavirus-pandemic-how-to-play-safely/?sh=9da17c270e33>). Based on my experience over the past year, crowds have definitely increased and there is usually at least a half hour wait to get a tennis court at Washington Park with the exception of a couple hours in the middle of the weekday when people are at work. Whether it's 8 am on a Saturday, 8 pm on a Tuesday, or a Thursday afternoon, I am always waiting to play and often have to ask players to leave due to their time allotment being up.

In summary, converting Court #4 to pickleball solves one problem (more courts for an increasingly popular sport) while creating another problem (longer wait times for an increasingly popular sport). There must be a better alternative - I would be happy to make a donation to support more pickleball courts as long as it doesn't take away from existing tennis courts. Some potential spots for pickleball could include Rittler Park and Alameda Point.

Thank you,

Mark Neiman
1949 Otis Drive
Alameda, CA