



## CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION Staff Report

September 9, 2021  
ORDERS OF BUSINESS

<b>TO:</b>	Forest and Beach Commissioners
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Sara Davis, City Forester
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Tennis and Pickleball Court Options

### RECOMMENDATION:

The Forest and Beach Commission is requested to weigh in on the decision to go forward with additional striping for additional pickleball games, or to leave one tennis court as it is.

### BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

In the past pickleball enthusiasts approached City staff requesting that we reconfigure the tennis courts in Forest Hill Park to allow for pickleball play. The City did restripe one court to accommodate pickleball play. Currently the courts allow for one tennis match and one pickleball game, or two tennis matches, or two pickleball games. Up to eight (8) people can play at one time.

Recently, pickleball enthusiasts noted the increasing popularity of the game and requested the City to restripe the other tennis court to accommodate up to two (2) additional pickleball courts which would result in up to 16 people using the courts at once.

It should be noted that tennis and pickleball players are both using the same tennis nets. However, tennis and pickleball games require nets of differing heights. The height difference has caused the existing nets to become damaged and not at the proper height for either sport. The pickleball community stated that they would provide their own movable nets to accommodate pickleball play if the City restripes the second tennis court.

The August 20, 2021 edition of the City Administrator's "Friday Letter" included a link to a survey which followed the following verbiage:

#### *Calling All Tennis and Pickle Ball Players*

*We want to hear from you! The City is working with partners to install new tennis nets at the Forest Hill Park courts. At the same time, the City has been asked to re-stripe the playing surface to include two more pickle ball courts for a total of four. Movable nets would be provided by the pickle ball players.*

*Are you supportive of adding new striping for more pickle ball courts? Please click the link below to answer our short, three-question survey to let us know what you think.*

The Survey link was also posted on the "Carmel-by-the-Sea Be Neighborly Facebook Group" (932 members) and "Carmel-by-the-Sea Nextdoor Neighborhood Group" (1,948 members).

The survey resulted in a total of 82 responses. Of these responses, 82% were in favor of additional striping for additional pickleball games, while 18% were opposed, apparently wishing to keep one tennis court available. Attachment 1 includes the results of the survey. Attachment 2 is a transcript of narrative from the survey asking respondents why they chose their response.

Staff is recommending that the Forest and Beach Commission weigh in on the decision to go forward with additional striping for additional pickleball games, or to leave one tennis court as it is.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

A community member has volunteered to have the courts power washed before painting at no cost to the City. However, water quality control measures must be enforced.

The pickleball enthusiasts noted that they would provide the movable nets at no cost to the City. The only cost to the City would be the painting supplies and ongoing maintenance.

### ATTACHMENTS:

[Attachment 1 - Survey Results](#)  
[Attachment 2 - Survey Narrative](#)