

Staff Report to Council

Parks, Recreation & Culture

FILE: 15-7710-01/22

REPORT DATE: May 18, 2022

MEETING DATE:

June 07, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Carleen McDowell, Manager of Recreation and Culture

SUBJECT: Update on Racquet Courts Resurfacing

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW/APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDATION(S):

THAT Council:

- A. Receive for information the Staff Report titled "Update on Racquet Courts Resurfacing" as presented at the June 7th, 2022 meeting of Council; OR
- B. Other.

PURPOSE

To provide information to Council on current and upcoming Racquet Court projects in Pitt Meadows.

☒ Information Report

☐ Decision Report

☐ Direction Report

DISCUSSION

Background:

Many city parks and trails have seen increased usage due in part to the recent COVID-19 pandemic which encouraged people to be active outside. Pickleball was already an emerging sport that's popularity has grown exponentially in recent years. These factors escalated the need to consider options for the addition of outdoor Pickleball courts within the city. The City of Pitt Meadows has six Tennis courts located within three community parks and no dedicated outdoor Pickleball courts. Tennis Courts are located at Mitchell Park, Sommerset Park and four courts at the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park (PMAP). During the pandemic a group of local residents purchased their own net and

chalked temporary lines on the tennis courts to play Pickleball outside. Staff worked with this group to facilitate a pilot project of painted temporary lines which was very well received by the community as a whole.

Analysis:

In 2021, several options for the addition of outdoor Pickleball courts were considered. The Pitt Meadows Athletic Park was selected as it had the least impact to neighbouring homes, and multiple courts allowed for shared use between sports.

Temporary Pickleball lines for six courts were painted on two of the four tennis courts to accommodate increased participation. Staff worked along side volunteers to initiate the painting, however after some challenges with the paint a contractor was brought in to complete the task.

During the pilot project various comments were received from players of both sports within the community. To date only one negative comment has been received about the noise impact to a neighbour of the park. To formally receive community input on how best to support the growing demand for usage of the courts, staff created an Online Survey which was conducted from February 8 to 28, 2022.

There were over 200 online surveys completed with 87% in support of resurfacing the courts. Of those, 63% of the respondents preferred tennis on two courts and Pickleball lines on one side to accommodate six dedicated courts. The majority of respondents also wanted to see permanent nets installed in the ground for each dedicated use, as well as additional fencing to separate the Pickleball courts to alleviate ball interference from the adjacent courts.

The feedback received aligns with the recently completed Parks, Recreation and Culture Masterplan that recommended dedicated PickleBall courts, and was ultimately the option selected for the court resurfacing project. The scope of the original resurfacing project was expanded to include the additional nets and fencing (attachment A), and a Request For Proposal went out earlier this year. Tomko Sport Systems Inc. has since been awarded the contract, and the work is scheduled to begin in July 2022.

The courts will require a full closure from the end of July until September, which allows for the appropriate ground preparation and surfacing to be applied and cured during the warm weather and ensures the courts will last for many years of community use. The traditionally offered summer children's tennis lessons will be moved to the court at Somerset Park to accommodate the work to take place during this time. There will also be regularly scheduled gym time at the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre (PMFRC) to accommodate drop-in Pickleball as well staff are looking at a temporary option outdoors on the sport court behind PMFRC.

During the planning and research stages of this project, all Courts within Pitt Meadows were evaluated and were found to be in varying conditions. The Courts at Somerset Park were found to be in relatively good condition, however a sealcoat to both the Tennis Courts and Sport Courts will be applied this year to extend the life. The courts at Mitchell Park will be resurfaced in the next couple of years, and will remain lined for Tennis only due to the topography of the site and proximity to neighbouring homes.

While the addition of dedicated Pickleball courts has been well received by the local residents, the local Pickleball Club has expressed a desire for an additional 14-16 covered outdoor courts. The recently completed Parks, Recreation and Culture Masterplan (MP) suggests monitoring the Pickleball trends and regional service levels, which staff will continue to do. Saying that, the MP also suggests the development of a covered multi-use sport box and should that be prioritized in the MP Implementation Strategy lines for a variety of sports will be considered including Pickleball.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

- ☐ Principled Governance ☐ Balanced Economic Prosperity ☐ Corporate Excellence
☒ Community Spirit & Wellbeing ☐ Transportation & Infrastructure Initiatives
-

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- ☐ None ☒ Budget Previously Approved ☐ Referral to Business Planning

The resurfacing of the courts was planned for in the 2022 Parks Capital budget, and the 2022 Recreation Equipment Capital budget will cover the additional scope of netting and fencing.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- ☐ Inform ☒ Consult ☐ Involve ☐ Collaborate ☐ Empower

Comment(s): The public was consulted on this topic in February 2022.

KATZIE FIRST NATION CONSIDERATIONS

Referral ☐ Yes ☒ No

SIGN-OFFS

Written by:

Carleen McDowell,
Manager of Recreation and Culture

Reviewed by:

Diane Chamberlain,
Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture

ATTACHMENT(S):

A. Pitt Meadows Athletic Park Court Layout