

# PICKLEBALL COURTS POLICY REVISIONS



October 6, 2025 Meeting

# SUMMARY

Following completion of [Capital Improvement Project \(CIP\) 619](#), [staff requests revisions](#) to the Kelly Courts – Pickleball Courts policies including, modifying the open hours of operations, updating the language for permissible equipment usage, and designating courts 1 and 2 for reservation and open walk-on play while courts 3 and 4 remain open walk-on play only at Clark Complex.

# BACKGROUND

- In summary, **Pickleball** is a racquet sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping pong and has substantially grown in popularity continuously over the last decade with **increased local demand** among Hermosa Beach residents
- In **March 2017**, following extensive community engagement, **City Council approved** the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission (Commission) recommendation of **converting** one of the two Kelly Tennis Courts at the Clark Complex into **four dedicated pickleball courts**.
- Two courts were **closed in 2020** due to potential safety issues and litigation.



# BACKGROUND

- Following the opening of the Pickleball Courts, staff and the former Department Use Policies Subcommittee (DUPS) of the Commission formed a [community stakeholder focus group](#) to discuss viable solutions that would limit noise impacts to the nearby residents while providing use of the pickleball courts during preferred times by the pickleball community.
- At its [June 2, 2021 meeting](#), staff and DUPS requested the Commission recommend to City Council the approval of updated use policies and hours, formed with the Pickleball Stakeholders Focus Group.
- At its [July 13, 2021 meeting](#), City Council approved the Commission's recommendation on the updated use policies but revised the hours, allowing for more hours for use of the courts than initially recommended by the Commission.



# BACKGROUND

- Since staff's report in 2021, staff have received **feedback** from members of the **pickleball community** expressing their dissatisfaction with the limited court use hours, limited availability of open play, and inability to secure a reservation with limitations of temporarily closure of two pickleball courts. The courts are available for reservation by residents who obtain a pickleball membership, otherwise, available on an open walk-on play basis, free of charge. However, the courts are reserved 98% of the time, and obtaining a reservation is very competitive due to the high demand.
- Staff has received a concern from one nearby resident of the pickleball courts being used outside of the adopted court use hours and general noise complaints, otherwise, Staff have not directly received any additional feedback or concern about noise impacts to date.

# BACKGROUND

## Parks Master Plan

At its [November 12, 2024 meeting](#), City Council approved and adopted the 2024 Parks Master Plan. The project underwent a robust community engagement process, highlighted the growing demand for pickleball and the desire for additional facilities, while also acknowledging the need to balance schedules for open play, reservations, and enhance programming.



# BACKGROUND

- At the [February 10, 2026 Commission meeting](#), staff recommended Commission consider a recommendation to City Council to approve modifications to the Kelly Pickleball Courts Use Policy. Staff also requested the Commission consider one of the following options to modify the courts' hours of operation:
- [Option 1:](#)
  - Monday: Closed
  - Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
  - Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
  - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
  - Friday–Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- [Option 2:](#)
  - 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily.

Commission approved staff's recommendation [with the exception](#) of the recommended options to modify the courts' hours of operation. Instead, the Commission recommended that City Council consider approval of maintaining the facility hours as currently designated.



# DISCUSSION

- The **current hours of operations** for the Pickleball Courts are:
  - Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 a.m. through 9:00 p.m.
  - Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 9:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m.
  - Sunday-Monday: closed
- The functions of the **Parks and Recreation Department** (Department) are to **provide opportunities for educational, recreational, cultural, and social service activities and resources** for all age groups, to develop and maintain the City's leisure areas and facilities in an attractive and safe manner, and to ensure that such facilities are suitable for a wide variety of purposes.



# DISCUSSION

- The sport of Pickleball has grown in popularity over the years since the last policy updates. For example, the Major League Pickleball (MLP) was founded in 2021, and in 2024 merged forming the United Pickleball Association (UPA).
- Pickleball is recognized as the **fastest growing sport** in America and in the field of Parks & Recreation. The sport saw a 52% increase in participation from 2022 to 2023 alone, an estimated 23 million active players in 2025. Most notable growth among ages 25–34 (not just seniors), and working-class adults. According to the most recent census reporting, 25% of Hermosa Beach residents are ages 25–39, and 58% are ages 25–59.



# DISCUSSION

- The Kelly Pickleball Courts have high local demand and limited hours. Included in **Table 1** below are the annual **Pickleball memberships purchased** along with the **associated revenue** from memberships and member court reservations since the creation of the Pickleball Membership Program.

| Calendar Year | Total # of Memberships Purchased | Total Revenue from Memberships* | Total Revenue from Member Reservations* |
|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 2021          | 204                              | \$3,071                         | \$19,112                                |
| 2022          | 290                              | \$4,656                         | \$33,739                                |
| 2023          | 279                              | \$4,758                         | \$37,782                                |
| 2024          | 290                              | \$5,220                         | \$37,714                                |
| 2025          | 206                              | \$3,708                         | \$29,142                                |

*\*The annual membership rate and hourly reservation rate increase by up to 5% annually based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to keep fees aligned with inflation and the cost of providing services.*



# DISCUSSION

- In addition, staff performed best practice research of comparable cities' including the hours of operation and total number of dedicated courts available (**Table 2**).
- All comparable cities operate 7 days a week, on an drop-in play and reservation basis

Table 2: Local Cities Pickleball Court Hours of Operations

| City            | Location and Hours of Operations  | Total Dedicated Courts |
|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| Manhattan Beach | <u>Manhattan Heights Park</u><br>Monday through Friday<br>8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.<br>Saturday and Sunday<br>8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. | 3                      |
|                 | <u>Manhattan Beach Middle School</u><br>Saturday and Sunday<br>8:00 a.m. to Dusk  | 6                      |
| Redondo Beach   | <u>Alta Vista</u><br>Monday through Friday<br>8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.<br>Saturday and Sunday<br>8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.             | 4                      |
| Torrance        | <u>Charles H. Wilson Park</u><br>6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily  | 2                      |
|                 | <u>Walteria Park</u><br>8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily  | 6                      |



# DISCUSSION

## (Table 2) Continued:

Table 2: Local Cities Pickleball Court Hours of Operations Continued

| City       | Location and Hours of Operations                        | Total Dedicated Courts |
|------------|---|------------------------|
| Torrance   | <u>Sur La Brea Park</u><br>6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily | 4                      |
| El Segundo | <u>Recreation Park</u><br>8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily | 4                      |
| Lomita     | <u>Lomita Park</u><br>9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily     | 4                      |

# DISCUSSION

- Reduce/limited daily operating hours have created constraints on court availability, which can impact membership growth, drop-in participation, and overall user experience. Expanding the operating hours in Hermosa Beach would better align court availability with neighboring cities, meet current demand, foster continued growth.



# • Proposed Operating Hours: Option 1

- Wednesday, Friday to Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. with Monday closed.
- Benefits and Projected Impact could include:
  - Maintains the current evening access only two days a week
  - Increases high-demand and resident access periods by adding Sunday providing inclusive/equitable time to play working professionals
  - Maintains manageable staffing resources
  - Increased membership sales & retention, and reservations, leading to estimated \$4,000 in additional revenue annually.
  - Reduced court crowding and wait times
  - Maintaining relief to the nearby residents one day a week (closed Mon)

## Attachment 2



# • Proposed Operating Hours: Option 2

- Open 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily
- Benefits and Projected Impact could include:
  - ❑ Aligns with Kelly Courts - tennis and basketball court hours
  - ❑ Maximum community access and further meet the recreational demand
  - ❑ Aligns with the growing sport popularity and comparable cities'
  - ❑ Supports development of leagues, lessons, and expanded programming
  - ❑ Increased membership sales, member retention, and reservations due to additional court access, leading to approximately \$36,900 in additional revenue annually
  - ❑ Reduced court crowding and wait times

## Attachment 3



# • Proposed Operating Hours: Option 3

Commission recommended that City Council consider approval of maintaining the **facility hours as currently designated**, which are:

- Sunday and Monday: Closed
- Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The **Commission also requested**, if the recommendation was approved by City Council to maintain the current facility hours, staff report back to the Commission within 120 days following reopening with a report on complaints, community feedback, and court usage.

Commissioners expressed the following :

- The reopening of the two previously closed pickleball courts concern that this could potentially increase noise impacts to nearby residents.
- The close proximity of nearby residences to the pickleball courts compared to the location of pickleball courts in other local cities, where facilities may be situated farther from residential areas.



# DISCUSSION

In response to Commissions concerns, Staff notes:

- reopening of the two previously closed courts would restore the facility to its originally intended configuration of four courts;
- regarding the proximity of the courts to nearby residences, staff conducted a [review of comparable pickleball facilities in neighboring cities](#). The analysis found that pickleball courts in surrounding communities are generally located between approximately 60-350 feet (ft.) Local cities examples are provided in **Table 3**.

| City            | Pickleball Courts Location    | Approximate Distance to Residences |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Manhattan Beach | Heights Park                  | 190–280 ft.                        |
|                 | Manhattan Beach Middle School | 50–150 ft.                         |
| Redondo Beach   | Alta Vista                    | 60–180 ft.                         |
| Torrance        | Charles H. Wilson Park        | 140–350 ft.                        |
|                 | Walteria Park                 | 150–280 ft.                        |
|                 | Sur La Brea Park              | 140–210 ft.                        |
| El Segundo      | Recreation Park               | 100–190 ft.                        |
| Lomita          | Lomita Park                   | 70–160 ft.                         |



# DISCUSSION

In comparison, the Kelly Pickleball Courts in Hermosa Beach are located approximately 190–480 ft. from nearby residences, which places the facility within or beyond the range observed at comparable facilities in neighboring jurisdictions



# FISCAL IMPACT

Projected revenue would be as follows per each option:

- **Option 1** – Expanding hours to include Sundays (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) Thursday evenings is projected to generate approximately **\$14,000 in additional annual revenue**, bringing total estimated annual revenue to **\$46,900**, reflecting combined revenue from memberships and member reservations, and the **Adult Sports Pickleball League**.
- **Option 2** – Extending court hours to 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily is projected, along with the proposed to generate approximately **\$36,900 in additional annual revenue**, bringing total estimated annual revenue to **\$79,800**, reflecting combined revenue from memberships and member reservations.
- **Option 3** – Maintaining the court hours (Commission) is projected to maintain existing annual revenue from memberships and reservations, totaling approximately **\$42,900** annually.



# Recommendation

To further align with the department's mission of providing equitable recreational opportunities and services to the community, **staff requests City Council** to consider **approval of court use policy revisions**; including modifications to the hours of operation for the Kelly Courts – Pickleball Courts, designating courts 1 and 2 for reservation and open walk-on play while courts 3 and 4 remain open walk-on play only, and updating the language for equipment.

**Goal:** to enhance public utilization to the newly renovated facility invested by the City and incorporate objectives set-forth through the *Parks Master Plan*.

