
Quick Update - re Pickleball Courts in Redondo Beach

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Draft To: SUSAN HIGGINS <shiggins31@aol.com>, Kelly Orta <Kelly.Orta@redondo.org>, Cameron Harding <cameron.harding@redondo.org>, laura.emdee@redondo.org, Teri Carter <3dogpickleball@gmail.com>, Shannon Carter <bignavguns@yahoo.com>

Good morning everyone,

Thank you, Susan, for continuing your detailed updates with regards to advancing Pickleball for Redondo Beach. Hopefully our methodical steps forward are soon productive in terms of developing courts in this city. Unfortunately, it is distressing to hear that there could be backlash from tennis players with regards to development of courts at Alta Vista Park, as this is an excellent location. Several responses to negative feedback from this group would be:

1. Tennis players do not "own" this park. ALL the taxpayers of Redondo Beach are contributing to the development of Redondo Beach parks.
2. Many tennis players play both sports, and now must play at parks in other cities, or join private sports clubs at significant cost (eg. West End Racquet & Health Club) to play Pickleball.
3. An increasing number of tennis players, who are now physically unable to play tennis, are able to continue a racquet sport due to Pickleball. This provides physical and social benefits to this segment of players.
4. Other cities (eg. Manhattan Beach, El Segundo and Torrance) have generously developed their tennis facilities to include new and shared courts for Pickleball.

Pickleball is one of the most rapidly developing sports in the world. Attached is a recent article from NPR clearly illustrating the rapid growth of this sport.

In addition AARP magazine February/March 2022 has a focus article (pg 65) "Pickleball for Life".

We should not let naysayers deter us from our goal; especially in light of the Redondo Beach Parks and Recreation study and positive responses it elicited.

Regards,
Dallas Poffenroth
USPA Ambassador, Redondo Beach

On Wed, Feb 16, 2022 at 5:47 PM SUSAN HIGGINS <shiggins31@aol.com> wrote:

Hello Everyone,

Just got off the phone with Kelly Orta (Redondo Community Services Senior Mgmt Analyst responsible for pickleball project). She initiated the call and wanted to let me know that PICKLEBALL COURTS would not be on the City Council's Agenda for March 1st. They are working on getting it on the Agenda for possibly March 15th. Kelly will keep me posted once the actual date for the City Council meeting is set that includes "Pickleball Courts". Kelly said that at last night's Council meeting, Laura Emdee (District 5 Councilmember) made a pitch about pickleball courts and Aviation Park and setting aside \$600,000 of capital money to support pickleball court construction. The meeting last night involved mid-year budget review. Good for Laura Emdee! Since pickleball courts was not on the Agenda, don't know how this played out..... At least it was brought up so when Pickleball Courts is formally put on the Council's Agenda for discussion and a vote, all will have had a heads up.