

8/29/2023 | 6:30 PM

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES CENTER, LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM
3600 TREMONT ROAD**

If you are joining through Zoom, please click the link below to join the meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87383605075?pwd=UCtWVE9Pcm02R2tMRC94a3E2ZE1udz09>

Meeting ID: 873 8360 5075

Passcode: 562065

Join by Phone: 877-853-5257

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Approve May 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes
 - b. Approve July 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- 3. Old Business**
 - a. Northam Park Open Space Recommendation
- 4. New Business**
 - a. Bob Crane Community Center Update
 - b. Labor Day Arts Festival Overview
- 5. Directors Report**
- 6. Board Member Comments and Setting Future Agenda Items**
 - a. Reschedule October Meeting
- 7. Adjournment**

Wednesday, May 10th 2023
6:30 pm
Lower Level Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Christ at 6:31 pm

Members Present:

X Lindsey Christ

 Matt Petersen

X Mary Duchi

X Allison Thomas

X Caroline O'Donnell

X Brian Noble

X Sean Caine

Other Staff Present: Parks Development & Arts Superintendent Jeff Anderson, Recreation Superintendent Matt Leber, City Manager Steve Schoeny

Guests Present: None

Motion to excuse Matthew Petersen from the May 10th, 2023 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

Motioned: Duchi

Seconded: O'Donnell

Voting Aye: Christ, Duchi, O'Donnell, Noble, Thomas, Caine

Abstain: None

Motion Passed

Staff Present:

X Parks & Recreation Director Debbie McLaughlin

X Administrative Assistant Brooke Bowman

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board from the April 12, 2023 meeting.

Motioned: Noble

Seconded: O'Donnell

Board Discussion: None

Voting Aye: Christ, Duchi, O'Donnell, Noble, Thomas, Caine

Abstain: None

Motion Passed

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS- OLD BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM- Northam Park Tennis & Service Building Discussion

City Manager Steve Schoeny started off with reviewing the steps and processes taken thus far for the Northam Park Tennis Courts and service building renovations including feedback from the community and Council.

Parks & Recreation Director Debbie McLaughlin presented a PowerPoint regarding the tennis assessment that was shown to Council the previous week. (Attached hereto and incorporated in as exhibit A). The PowerPoint covered the research from Ballard King and the court reservations usage in the past years and how play could be adjusted with 8 & 9 courts. Overall the Departments recommendation is to have an 8 court system which will serve the demand and a reduction in the building size. A bid alternate would be a 9th court but that may exceed the renovation budget.

In response to Chair Christ's invitation to speak, the following speakers came forward:

- Steve Ball of 4314 Donington Rd, Resident for 47 years. Plays tennis at Northam every year. Believes some more time could be spent on finding a way to proceed with the improvement than shutting down for a year. Hopes some compromise can be reached.

Following the speaker the Board members proceeded with the following discussion topics and questions for the Department:

- What opinion does the Northam Park Tennis Advisory Committee have on the number of courts? City Manager Schoeny responded that the Committee wants 12 courts. Mr. Anderson showed an image that explained the site limitations for locating the building and why it can't be relocated on the site. Mr. Anderson then showed a second image that was a visual for the challenges with adding a 10th court.
- The cost, size of the shade structures and the lifetime of those.
- To review the comments about Northam Park from residents from the community survey during the Northam Park Vision Plan about use of gained space.
- What is the plan to share this with the public? Director McLaughlin stated she appreciates the Board direction on a public engagement opportunity on shared space and the Department will establish a process for community input.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS- Updates and Reports

AGENDA ITEM- Directors Report

New board member Sean Caine introduced himself to the board members and staff.

Director McLaughlin thanked Board Member Matt Petersen for his time serving on the board as tonight is his last meeting even though he was unable to attend.

Recreation Superintendent Matt Leber gave updates on the following items:

- Northam Tennis opened over the weekend, great turnout at the Open House
- Farmers Market begins on May 17th, location has moved to the Tremont Center parking lot and the hours are changed to 3-6pm
- Spring Fling is May 20th at Sunny 95 Park
- Pools open May 27th
- Seasonal staff training has started

Director McLaughlin gave an update on the following items:

- Concert series starts with Party on the Plaza
- Un-design the Redline exhibit at the Municipal Services Center
- Starting interviews for the Community Center Manager position and the Turf Specialist

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
May 10th, 2023

- Cancelling the June 14th PRAB meeting

AGENDA ITEM- Board Member Comments and Setting Future Agenda Items

- A Board member stated there's been lots of questions and confusion from the public about the 4th of July fireworks and the location and asked if signs and more communication could go out. Staff responded that some communication efforts in underway and they will work with Community Affairs on additional needs.
- Play UA Update.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned: O'Donnell

Seconded: Duchi

Voting Aye: Christ, Duchi, O'Donnell, Noble, Thomas, Caine

Abstain: None

Motion Passed

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm

Chairperson

ATTEST: _____
Secretary

Northam Park Renovation

Recap from May 1, 2023 Council presentation



Tennis Assessment

Level of Service

- UA offers 21 tennis courts (12 clay and 9 hard surface courts)
- Both 2018 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan and 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review indicate a level of service of 1 court per 5,000 residents
 - UA's 21 combined courts provides 1 court per 1,768
- Staff determined not best measurement for our community

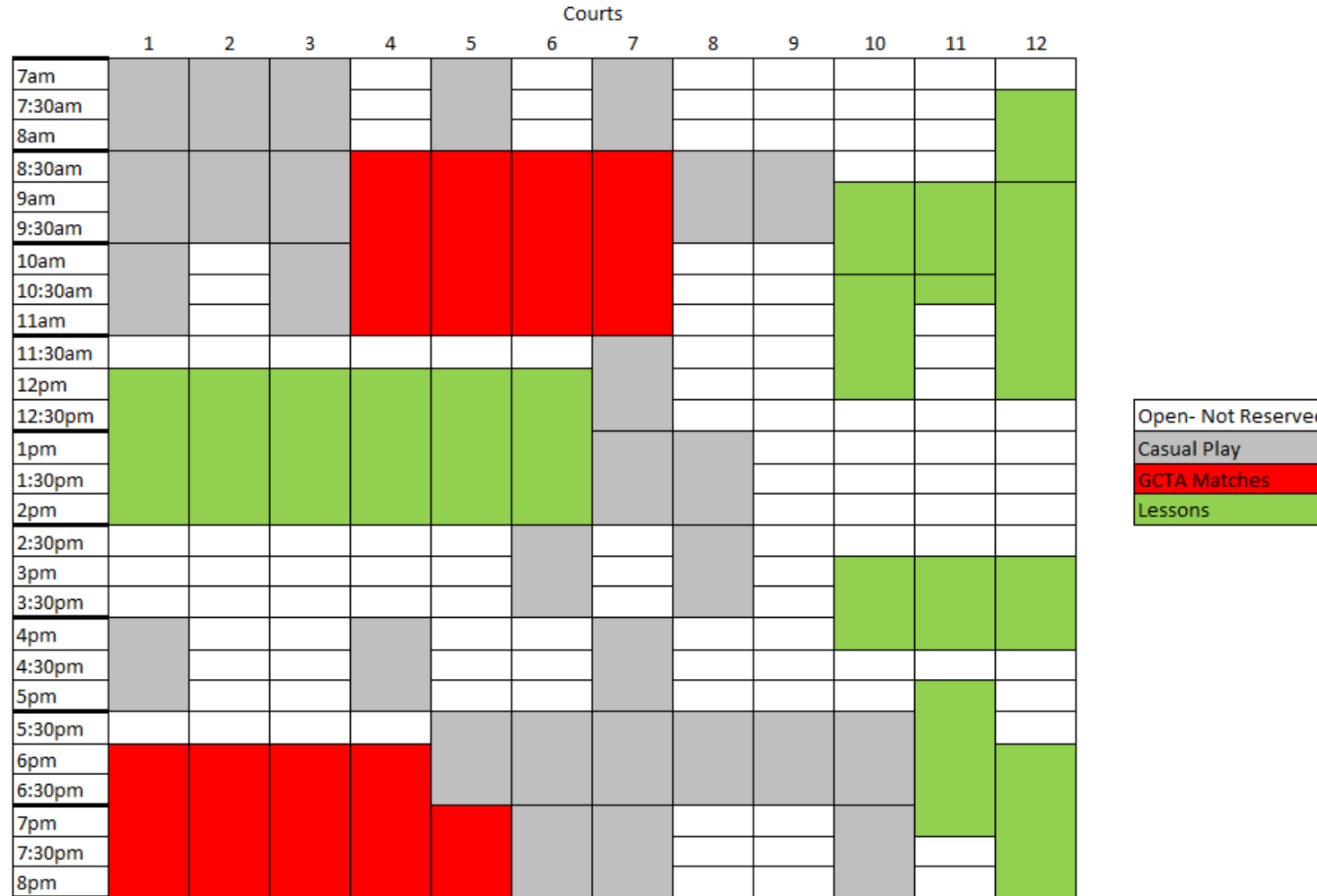


Quantitative Assessment – Available Time Blocks

- In 2022, there were 9,042 available court hours during June and July (high use months)
 - 49% of available time was reserved
- Does not consider player preferences for time of day
- Staff determined not best measurement for our community



Court Reservations - Peak-Usage Day



Shown:

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

63% Reserved

June/July Average = 49%

Reserved



Assumptions for Analysis

- Adjustments in play
 - League matches only adjusted within 30 minutes of original time
 - Lessons and casual play moved within 90 minutes
- Kept blocks of courts for league and group lessons
- Lessons reserved for more than 90 minutes were broken down into smaller and equal blocks
- Does not include court watering/maintenance time



Shown: Monday, July 18, 2022. 59% of 12 court time reserved

Shown: Monday, July 18, 2022. 59% of 12 court time reserved

[illegible]

Total Reservations
50

[illegible]

8 Court	Rescheduled	How many would not fit within one time block
	12	2

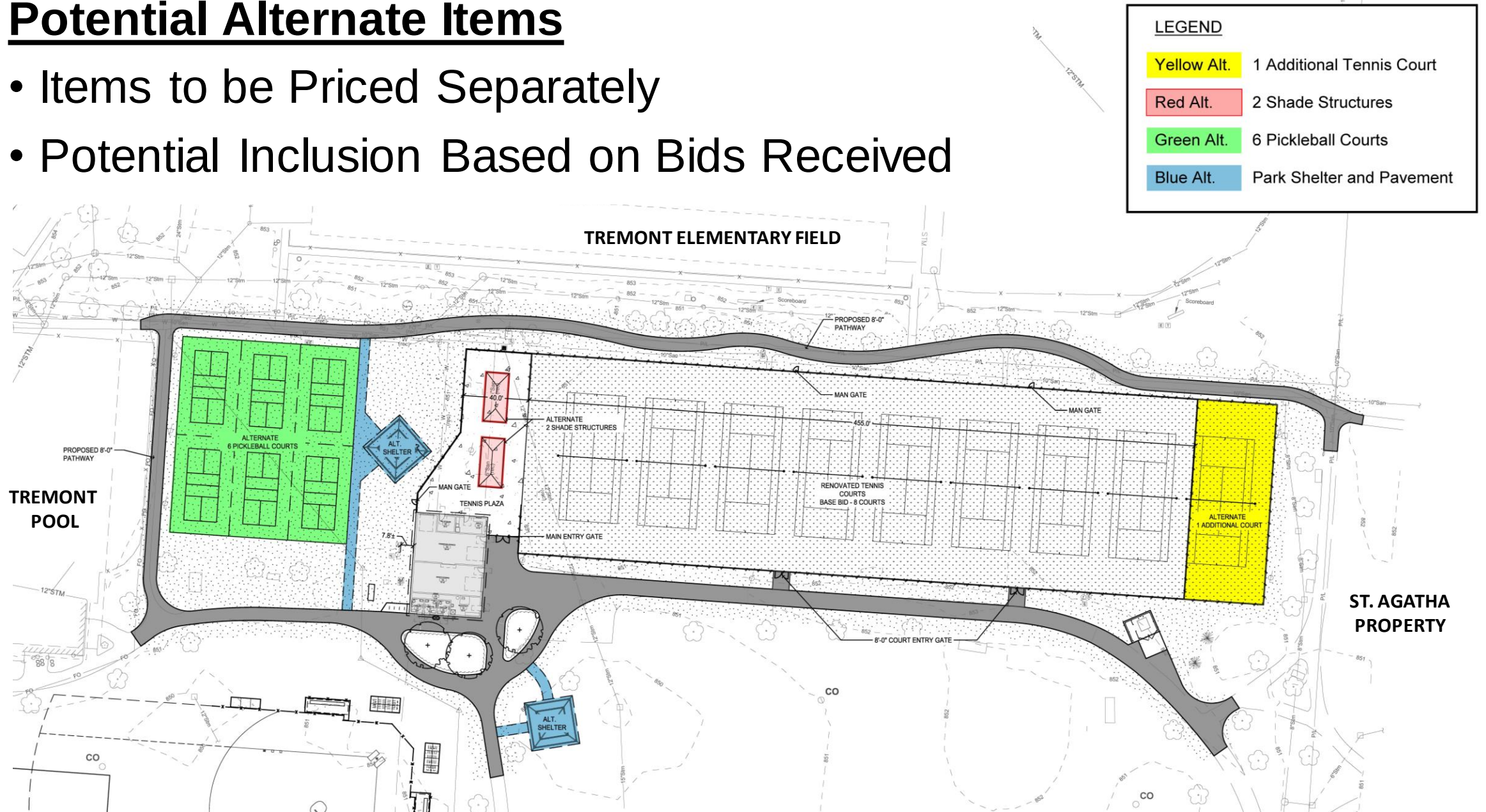
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9 Court	Rescheduled	How many would not fit within one time block
	10	0



Potential Alternate Items

- Items to be Priced Separately
- Potential Inclusion Based on Bids Received



Recommendation

- 8 court system will serve demand
- 9 courts may exceed renovation budget
- Staff recommends to continue to provide clay courts with a reinvestment in Northam Park Tennis Complex as an 8 court system



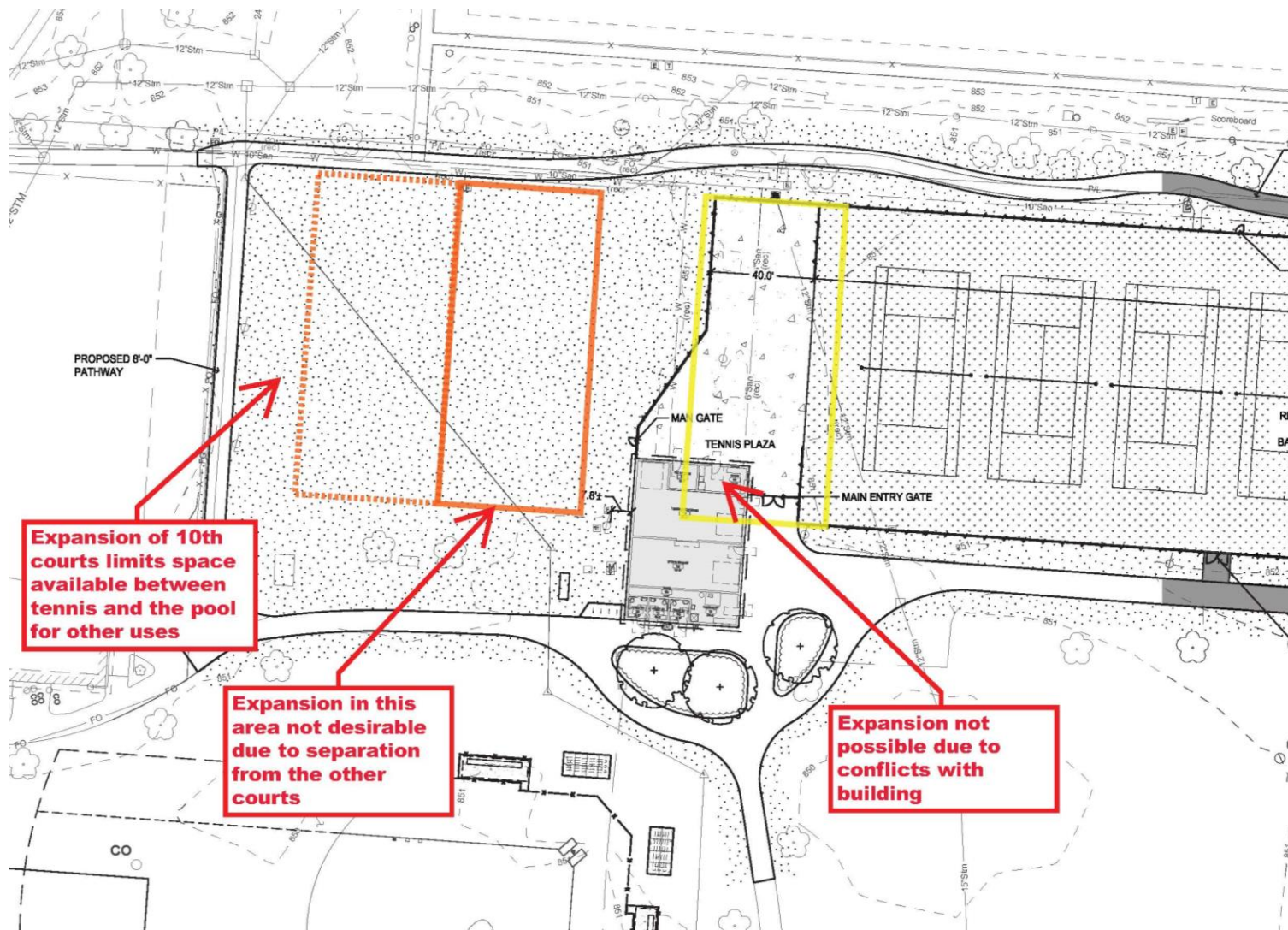
Discussion



Fundraising Options

- 9th Tennis Court - \$100,000
- Tennis Shade Structures - \$50,000 Each
- 6 Pickleball Courts - \$270,000-300,000
- Park Shelters - \$200,000 Ea.
- Funds needed by November





Challenges with Adding a 10th Court

- Building has been redesigned to fit between existing lights
- Building would need to slide south and central plaza eliminated
- Expansion to the west would limit space available for other uses
- Anticipate cost of expanding to the west to be about double the cost of expanding to the east due to utility relocation

Operating Budget - Non-Resident Fees

Heard non-resident fees are low for market
Typical Department upcharge is 50% to non-residents

Upper Arlington	Tennis	Tennis/Pool	Swim & Racquet	Initiation/Annual
Individual	\$421	\$502	Individual	\$625 / \$756
Family	\$557 - \$835	\$683 - \$1,010	Family	\$2,500 / \$1,358
Senior	\$371	\$430	Couple (age 18)	\$1,000 / \$1,035
Senior Couple	\$464	\$557	Senior (2 members)	\$1,000 / \$933
Junior	\$109	n/a		

Special Meeting
Monday, July 17 2023
6:30 pm
Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board Member Noble at 6:31 pm

Members Present:

☒ Sean Caine
☐ Lindsey Christ
☐ Mary Duchi
☐ Caroline O'Donnell
☒ Brian Noble

☒ Allison Thomas
☒ Craig Smith

Motion to excuse Lindsey Christ, Mary Duchi and Caroline O'Donnell from the July 17, 2023 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board special meeting.

Motioned: Smith

Seconded: Thomas

Voting Aye: Caine, Craig, Noble, Thomas,

Abstain: None

Motion Passed

Staff Present:

☐ Parks & Recreation Director Debbie McLaughlin
☒ Administrative Assistant Brooke Bowman

Other Staff Present: City Manager Steve Schoeny, Parks Development & Arts Superintendent Jeff Anderson, Recreation Superintendent Matt Leber, Community Center Manager T.J. Putnam, Parks & Forestry Superintendent Sam Simmons

Guests Present: None

Board member Noble welcomed new Board Member Craig Smith to his first meeting.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS- NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM- Northam Park Open Space

City Manager Steve Schoeny started the meeting recapping the process the City has taken on the refurbishment of Northam and rebuilding all the infrastructure at the park. The bid for the project came in over budget so council asked for the City to come back and redesign the project. Ultimately this resulted in taking the Northam clay court facility down to 9 courts. Council signed off on this approach in May and this leaves some open space in Northam that the City

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is now looking for feedback on what to do with that space. The 2018 Comprehensive plan was used to look for needs of the City and then used to develop a scoring system for the open space use ideas.

Parks Development & Arts Superintendent Jeff Anderson proceeded with the presentation on the Northam Park Open Space use study (Attached hereto and incorporated in as exhibit A). Based on the 2018 Comprehensive Plan the potential uses looked at include:

- Asphalt tennis courts
- Basketball courts
- Dog park
- Open Shelter
- Pickleball
- Playground
- Sand Volleyball
- Skate Park

Each potential use was then given a score based on a weighted evaluation criteria reviewed in the presentation.

Next steps are as follows:

- Online Community Engagement- July 18 to August 18
- Community Events
 - Summer Celebration- July 20
 - Northam Park Playground and Tremont Pool- July 21
 - Farmers Market- July 26
 - National Night Out- August 1
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting- August 29
 - Summary of Public Input Received
 - Staff Recommendation

In response to Board Member Noble's invitation to speak, the following speakers came forward:

- Scott Zanon is a member of the Tree Commission and a pickleball advocate for pickleball courts. The need is there for permanent dedicated pickleball courts in Upper Arlington. Upper Arlington has 0 courts while many surrounding Cities have a minimum of at least 2.
- Louise Potter is an advocate for dedicated Pickleball courts has been a member of the Northam park tennis courts and moved to UA for the amenities. Pickleball needs a place that is safe and can accommodate the number of players in the City. Permanent pickleball courts would foster community in UA and join the other communities with dedicated courts.
- Todd Jaquith plays tennis at Northam and has a problem with the whole process up to this point. The City hired a consultant who flew in and said we could get by with 8 courts; we already have a hard time reserving a court. Looked at every square inch of the facility and the foundation is below ground and there is no structural deficiency in that building. Lose kitchen in the new building and the trees are going in the new plan and it's fallen on deaf ears. The facility is not broken.
- John Toth tennis player at Northam and is opposed to taking away clay tennis courts for pickleball courts. Northam should stay the tennis center and turn Fancyburg into the pickleball location.
- Susan Caruso avid tennis player at Northam for 50 years but also a pickleball advocate. Pickleball is growing and a wonderful sport and a facility would be an asset to the City however Northam is not the right location for the facility. Think about a premier pickleball center at Fancyburg. Fancyburg could become UA's pickleball center. The noise of pickleball is loud and would have adverse effects on swimmers and tennis players. Pickleball next to the patio would most definitely be a steady frustration. Asking that the City look at putting in a pickleball center at Fancyburg and keep the tennis and pickleball community working together.
- Bonnie Lustnauer past tennis player and current pickleball player, loves both sports. The City needs more pickleball courts. Member at Brookside and none of the tennis courts are used while all of the pickleball courts are. Having a shelter by the pickleball courts would be great.

Following the speakers the Board members had the following discussions:

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- How will it be communicated to the community if there are dual uses options? For instance if a basketball court is chosen that a shelter could also be added. Mr. Anderson stated that a shelter would work with any of the court options and can add shelter option to images in the presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned: Thomas

Seconded: Caine

Voting Aye: Caine, Craig, Noble, Thomas

Abstain: None

Motion Passed

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm

ATTEST: _____
Secretary

Chairperson

Northam Park Use Study

July 17, 2023



PARKS & REC
City of Upper Arlington

What is the area being studied?





What uses are being considered?



Upper Arlington Level of Service Standards

2017 Inventory										2022 Facility Standards		
Item	UA System	Schools	Total Inventory	Recommended Service Levels; Revised for Local Service Area			Current Service Level based upon population			Meet Standard/ Need Exists	Additional Facilities/ Amenities Needed	
Park Type:												
Pocket Parks	0.42		0.42	0.01	0.00	1,000	0.01	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	-	Acre(s)
Neighborhood Parks	18.54		18.54	0.75	0.00	1,000	0.52	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	9	Acre(s)
Community Parks	156.39		156.39	5.00	0.00	1,000	4.37	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	30	Acre(s)
Specialty Parks	7.14		7.14	0.20	0.00	1,000	0.20	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	0	Acre(s)
Total Park Acres	182.49	-	182.49	5.96	acres per	1,000	5.10	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	40	Acre(s)
Outdoor Amenities:												
Shelters/Pavilions	9.00		9.00	1.00	site per	3,500	1.00	site per	3,977	Need Exists	2	Sites(s)
Dedicated Multi-Purpose Fields (Soccer, Football, Rugby, Lacrosse)	13.00	0.18	13.18	1.00	field per	2,000	1.00	field per	2,716	Need Exists	5	Field(s)
Overlay Multi-Purpose Fields (Soccer, Football, Rugby, Lacrosse)	8.00		8.00	1.00	field per	4,500	1.00	field per	4,474	Need Exists	0	Field(s)
Ball Fields	15.00	0.09	15.09	1.00	field per	2,000	1.00	field per	2,372	Need Exists	4	Field(s)
Basketball Courts	1.00	2.00	3.00	1.00	court per	20,000	1.00	court per	11,931	Meets Standard	-	Court(s)
Tennis Courts	21.00	0.72	21.72	1.00	0.00	5,000	1.00	court per	1,648	Meets Standard	-	Court(s)
Playgrounds	8.00	2.00	10.00	1.00	site per	2,500	1.00	site per	3,579	Need Exists	5	Site(s)
Dog Parks	-		-	1.00	0.00	40,000	1.00	site per	-	Need Exists	1	Site(s)
Skate Park	-		-	1.00	0.00	50,000	1.00	site per	-	Need Exists	1	Site(s)
Sand Volleyball	2.00		2.00	1.00	0.00	10,000	1.00	site per	17,897	Need Exists	2	Site(s)
Pickleball Courts	-		-	1.00	0.00	10,000	1.00	court per	-	Need Exists	4	Court(s)
Paved Multi-Use Trails	7.42		7.42	0.40	miles per	1,000	0.21	miles per	1,000	Need Exists	8	Mile(s)
Outdoor Pools	3.00		3.00	1.00	0.00	40,000	1.00	site per	11,931	Meets Standard	-	Site(s)

2022 Estimated Population = 37,311



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Potential Uses (Based on 2018 Comprehensive Plan)

- Asphalt Tennis Courts
- Basketball
- Dog Park
- Open Shelter
- Pickleball Courts
- Playground
- Sand Volleyball
- Skate Park



How are the different uses being evaluated?



Weighted Evaluation Criteria

Weighted Evaluation Criteria	Scoring Weight
Does the use fit within the available space?	8
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	8
Does the use enhance the offering of other existing uses in the park?	8
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	6
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	6
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	6
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	4
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2
Available Scoring Weight	50

Amenity Evaluation	Scoring Value
Yes	2
Maybe	1
No	0

Available Scoring Weight (50) x Amenity Evaluation (2) = 100 Possible Points



Open Shelter



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Open Shelter						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, a 30'x30' shelter can be accommodated with room left for other potential uses, shelter size is similar to those in Burbank and Northwest Kiwanis Parks
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, location is centrally located in the park with reasonable access to the parking area
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, the shelter would serve pool, tennis and athletic users in addition to casual park use
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Goal 2.3 specifically recommends the addition of a park shelter near the tennis complex
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study recommends 1 to 2 additional shelters
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, several other parks already feature an open or enclosed shelter
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	2	x	4	=	8	Yes, during the 2020 Northam Park Vision Plan process, several residents requested an open air shelter
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 2 shelters would be needed to meet national benchmarking standard of 1/3,500 residents
Total Score:					100	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Pickleball



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Pickleball Courts						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 7 courts would require ±15,000 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, area provides sufficient space for the proposed use, courts would be more than 600' from the nearest residence
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	1	x	8	=	8	Use would provide another option for paddle sport participants, some noise will be noticeable at adjacent uses
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Goal 1.2 recommends pickleball as a desired amenity, 2.4 recommends addressing needs based on the growth
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study indicates a need for 4 pickleball courts
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Northam provides more than 600' of separation from adjacent residences to minimize noise impacts, this is the greatest distance of any potential park locations
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	2	x	4	=	8	Yes, the City has received consistent inquiries since 2018 requesting dedicated pickleball courts
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, color coat will need maintenance every few years.
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 4 courts would be needed to meet national benchmarking standards of 1/10,000 residents
Total Score:					92	





Asphalt Tennis



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Asphalt Tennis Courts						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 2 courts would require ±13,000 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, area is easily accessible and provides sufficient space. Consistent with current use.
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	2	x	8	=	16	8 or 9 courts meet needs in Northam, but additional courts could open up opportunities elsewhere and may help address peak demand at Northam
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	1	x	6	=	6	Though not specifically addressed, the use generally supports 2.4 maximizing the use of City sport facilities
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study does not show a need for additional tennis courts
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	1	x	6	=	6	There are not many opportunities in other parks to provide additional tennis courts without changing uses
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	1	x	4	=	4	Desire for additional hard court tennis expressed during 2023 Conceptual Design due to pickleball use, but no prior inquiries
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, color coat will need maintenance every few years.
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	0	x	2	=	0	No, current Level of Service exceeds both national benchmarking standards of 1/5,000 residents
Total Score:					68	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No

*Note: If asphalt tennis courts are installed at Northam Park, staff would likely recommend that some tennis courts in other parks be converted to dedicated pickleball courts to meet community demand.



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Basketball



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City of Upper Arlington

Basketball						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 2 courts would require ±13,200 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	1	x	8	=	8	Use is complimentary to the swimming pool, but a location with better visibility would be more desirable
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	1	x	8	=	8	Use may be attractive to pool users, but may have less interest for tennis and casual park users
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Goal 1.2 recommends basketball as a desired amenity
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, the 2018 Level of Service Study does not show a need for additional basketball courts at 1/20,000 residents
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	0	No, other parks could provide opportunities for outdoor basketball, especially if set up as half courts
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	0	x	4	=	0	No, the City rarely receives inquiries for additional outdoor basketball courts
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, color coat will need maintenance every few years
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 6 basketball courts would be needed to meet higher national standard of 1/7,000 residents
Total Score:					52	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Sand Volleyball



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City of Upper Arlington

Sand Volleyball						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 3 courts would require ±12,000 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	0	x	8	=	0	Location is centrally located in the park but lacks visibility, sand could blow into the pool and tennis
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	1	x	8	=	8	Sand volleyball could be attractive to pool users, but would add minimal benefit to other park features
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, 2018 Comprehensive Plan goals do not specifically address sand volleyball
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study recommends 2 additional volleyball courts
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	6	No, other parks would offer better locations
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	0	x	4	=	0	No inquiries received regarding additional volleyball courts
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	1	x	2	=	2	Some increased maintenance cost to replenish sand on a regular basis
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 2 courts would be needed to meet national benchmarking standard of 1/10,000 residents
Total Score:					48	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Playground



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City of Upper Arlington

	Playground					
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, area could accommodate a large playground similar in scale to the Miller Park playground and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	1	x	8	=	8	Area is located near restrooms but poor visibility and proximity to tennis makes the location less desirable
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	0	x	8	=	0	No, since a playground already exists in the park, adding another would not enhance the existing use
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	1	x	6	=	6	Goal 1.3 recommends updating existing playgrounds, but does not address new ones
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	1	x	6	=	6	Yes, the 2018 Level of Service Study indicates a need for 4 to 5 playgrounds, but in other locations
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	0	No, other parks are further away from existing playgrounds and would be better locations for a new one
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	1	x	4	=	4	Some inquiries have been received but are usually related to specific locations
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, maintenance need would be similar to other playgrounds
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 7 playgrounds would be needed to meet national benchmarking standard of 1/2,500 residents
Total Score:					48	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Skate Park



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Skate Park						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, a skate park similar in size to the Tuttle Park facility can fit within the available area and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	0	x	8	=	0	No, poor visibility, limited access and proximity to other uses makes the an inappropriate location
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	0	x	8	=	0	No, use would not add appeal to the other existing park uses
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, 2018 Comprehensive Plan goals do not specifically address skate parks
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study recommends 1 skate park
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	0	No, other locations would be more appropriate for the use with better visibility and larger area
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	1	x	4	=	4	Occasional, limited inquiries are received requesting a skate park
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, but features may need repaired on a regular basis
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 1 skate park would be needed to meet national benchmarking standards of 1/32,000 residents
Total Score:					40	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Dog Park



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Dog Park						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	0	x	8	=	0	No, area is not sufficient to accommodate a dog park
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	0	x	8	=	0	No, size, location and proximity to other uses make this location not appropriate for this use
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	0	x	8	=	0	No, use has the potential to deter from existing park uses
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, 2018 Comprehensive Plan goals do not specifically address dog parks
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study indicates a need for one dog park
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	0	No, a larger location with better access would be more desirable
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	2	x	4	=	8	Inquires have been received requesting a dog park
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	0	x	2	=	0	No, dog parks tend to be very maintenance intensive to establish and maintain turf
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	1	x	2	=	2	Dog parks are not specifically addressed in national benchmarking standards
Total Score:					22	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No



What are the opportunities in other parks?



Five Year Capital Improvement Plan

- Thompson Park Playground (2024)
- Devon Toddler Feature (2025)
- Fancyburg Park Improvements (2027-28)
- Thompson North Shelter (2028)



What are the next steps?



Next Steps

- **Provide Feedback on Uses and Scoring - Tonight**
- **Online Community Engagement - July 18 to August 18**
- **Community Events**
 - **Summer Celebration - July 20**
 - **Northam Park Playground and Tremont Pool - July 21**
 - **Farmers Market - July 26**
 - **National Night Out - August 1**
- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting - August 29**
 - **Summary of Public Input Received**
 - **Staff Recommendation**



Northam Park Use Study

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Update

August 29, 2023



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Community Engagement Process



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Schedule

- **Evaluation System Introduced at PRAB Meeting - July 17**
- **Online Community Engagement - July 18 to August 18**
 - **About 50 emails received**
- **Parks & Rec. Staff at Community Events**
 - **Summer Celebration - July 20**
 - **Northam Park Playground and Tremont Pool - July 21**
 - **Farmers Market - July 26**
 - **National Night Out - August 1**



Communication

- Updates on Northam improvements webpage
- Postcard, mailed to 540 homes around Northam Park, and distributed at libraries, pools, etc.
- Flyer Connection (UA Schools resource)
- Sign at Park Service Building
- City Insight and Activity Link e-news updates
- Blogs – July 7, 26, August 23



Next Steps

- PRAB Update - August 29 (Tonight)
- Project Bid Award Ordinance reviewed by City Council
 - November 13 and 20 (Tentative)



Evaluation Process



Potential Uses (Based on 2018 Comprehensive Plan)

- Asphalt Tennis Courts
- Basketball
- Dog Park
- Open Shelter
- Pickleball Courts
- Playground
- Sand Volleyball
- Skate Park



Weighted Evaluation Criteria

Weighted Evaluation Criteria	Scoring Weight
Does the use fit within the available space?	8
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	8
Does the use enhance the offering of other existing uses in the park?	8
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	6
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	6
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	6
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	4
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2
Available Scoring Weight	50

Amenity Evaluation	Scoring Value
Yes	2
Maybe	1
No	0

Available Scoring Weight (50) x Amenity Evaluation (2) = 100 Possible Points

Open Shelter						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, a 30'x30' shelter can be accommodated with room left for other potential uses, shelter size is similar to those in Burbank and Northwest Kiwanis Parks
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, location is centrally located in the park with reasonable access to the parking area
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, the shelter would serve pool, tennis and athletic users in addition to casual park use
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Goal 2.3 specifically recommends the addition of a park shelter near the tennis complex
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study recommends 1 to 2 additional shelters
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, several other parks already feature an open or enclosed shelter
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	2	x	4	=	8	Yes, during the 2020 Northam Park Vision Plan process, several residents requested an open air shelter
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 2 shelters would be needed to meet national benchmarking standard of 1/3,500 residents
Total Score:					100	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No



Pickleball Courts						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 7 courts would require ±15,000 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, area provides sufficient space for the proposed use, courts would be more than 600' from the nearest residence
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	1	x	8	=	8	Use would provide another option for paddle sport participants, some noise will be noticeable at adjacent uses
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Goal 1.2 recommends pickleball as a desired amenity, 2.4 recommends addressing needs based on the growth
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study indicates a need for 4 pickleball courts
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Northam provides more than 600' of separation from adjacent residences to minimize noise impacts, this is the greatest distance of any potential park locations
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	2	x	4	=	8	Yes, the City has received consistent inquiries since 2018 requesting dedicated pickleball courts
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, color coat will need maintenance every few years.
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 4 courts would be needed to meet national benchmarking standards of 1/10,000 residents
Total Score:					92	



Asphalt Tennis Courts						
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 2 courts would require ±13,000 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, area is easily accessible and provides sufficient space. Consistent with current use.
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	2	x	8	=	16	8 or 9 courts meet needs in Northam, but additional courts could open up opportunities elsewhere and may help address peak demand at Northam
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	1	x	6	=	6	Though not specifically addressed, the use generally supports 2.4 maximizing the use of City sport facilities
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study does not show a need for additional tennis courts
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	1	x	6	=	6	There are not many opportunities in other parks to provide additional tennis courts without changing uses
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	1	x	4	=	4	Desire for additional hard court tennis expressed during 2023 Conceptual Design due to pickleball use, but no prior inquiries
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, color coat will need maintenance every few years.
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	0	x	2	=	0	No, current Level of Service exceeds both national benchmarking standards of 1/5,000 residents
Total Score:					68	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No

*Note: If asphalt tennis courts are installed at Northam Park, staff would likely recommend that some tennis courts in other parks be converted to dedicated pickleball courts to meet community demand.



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Other Uses

- Basketball - 52
- Sand Volleyball - 48
- Playground - 48
- Skate Park - 40
- Dog Park - 22



Community Feedback



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Feedback Received

- Limited feedback on evaluation questions, weights or staff scoring
- Concern expressed about providing large open shelter and open space in an area with limited visibility
- Recommendations for other potential uses
 - Ping Pong Table
 - Diving Well
 - Sprayground
 - Outdoor Stage
 - BMX Course
 - Beer Garden



Feedback Received

- Majority of feedback focused on pickleball, tennis and open space
 - Importance of green space and plantings
 - Importance of maintaining the neighborhood character of the park
 - Lots of support for an open shelter, but concern about character and location
 - Desire for a high quality pickleball complex with several courts
 - Desire to have pickleball courts constructed in the near future
 - Desire for a tennis hub with clay and asphalt



Assessment



Key Considerations

- Unique character of this specific space
- Potential future park development opportunities
- Mixed use character of Upper Arlington Parks and space limitations
 - Typical approach has been to provide smaller scale features in various parks instead of a single large venue

Examples: 3 Outdoor Pool Locations vs. 1 Large Aquatic Center
Multi-use Athletic Field Areas vs. Sport Complex

- This approach brings the amenity to the neighbors in various parts of the community without overwhelming a single location





Recommendations

- Enhance the connection between Tremont Elementary and Park
- Provide additional open space
- Expand the buffer between Tremont Pool and the Tennis Complex
- Improve the park loop path for casual park use
- Look for ways to provide shelter in key locations to meet user needs
- Provide pickleball courts in the near future to meet ongoing demand
- Continue to explore future opportunities to provide additional pickleball courts in other parks



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Alternate Consideration

Tennis Courts at Fancyburg or Thompson converted to dedicated pickleball

Pros

- Limits the number of different uses at Northam Park
- Asphalt tennis could compliment clay tennis

Cons

- There is not an overall immediate need for additional tennis courts
- Longer delay to providing dedicated pickleball courts
- Pickleball complex in other parks may need to be larger to accommodate overall demand
- Appropriate size, location and design of a larger complex would need additional study



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Design and Construction Schedule

- **Bid Advertisement - October 4, 2023**
- **Bid Opening - October 23, 2023**
- **City Council - November 13 & November 20, 2023**
- **Notice to Proceed - January 8, 2024**
- **Building Demolition - Winter 2024**
- **Tennis Court Demolition - August 2024**
- **Project Complete - Winter 2025**



Questions?

