



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: May 23, 2023

TITLE: Public Delegation - Parkland Pickleheads

DIVISION: Community & Protective Services

SUMMARY:

Due to the current lack of available land to construct additional pickleball courts within the City at this time, the Parkland Picklehead Pickleball Club (PPPC) have identified an opportunity within Parkland County where they are able to secure a long-term lease and permission to construct a 20-24 court facility. They are pursuing the submission of an updated, large-stream, Community Facility Enhancement Grant (CFEP) for this revised project. The deadline is June 15, 2023, for the grant submission. The PPPC is looking for a letter of support and financial contribution to the project. While the courts themselves will not be on City land, PPPC have identified that 35 per cent of the PPPC users of the courts are Spruce Grove residents and identified that the addition of these courts in the region's inventory will support the Club and increase the availability of the current City courts (located at Henry Singer) for spontaneous use and general public.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion is not required.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

Over the past several years, the PPPC has been advocating for the growth and development of pickleball and pickleball amenities. They have been identified as one of the top clubs in Canada and have demonstrated their commitment to the sport and creating a sustainable organization with a strong volunteer base. During that time, the current 12 pickleball courts were developed on water reservoir #2.

These courts are currently shared by the community and the PPPC. There are also pickleball court lines on the tennis courts at the high school for other spontaneous use.

City Council, members of the Recreation and Culture department staff, and other members of Administration have worked hard over the past five years to support the Club's growth and development, balanced with the need to provide for spontaneous use of court space by the general public. Unfortunately, at this time, the City is unable to identify a suitable location within the City limits for an additional 20-24 courts. With the anticipated update to the City's Indoor and Outdoor Recreation and Culture Amenity Plans, the need and opportunity for additional pickleball courts will be considered.

Over the past five years, the PPPC has grown significantly, putting pressure on the available time for spontaneous use at the current City Courts. Currently, the PPPC have approximately 40 per cent of the total court-time available per week scheduled for PPPC play and lessons, leaving 60 per cent of the time available for open and public play. While PPPC members have continued to work collaboratively to ensure public access is available at the current courts, the growth of the PPPC and increasing demand from the public is making this increasingly difficult.

The PPPC is looking for \$550,000 contribution for the newly identified, regional site.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

Council could consider the following motion:

THAT Council support the Parkland Picklehead Pickleball Club's project for \$XX pending the successful application of the Community Facility Enhancement Grant, large-stream grant and that Parkland Picklehead Pickleball Club be provided a letter of support for the Community Facility Enhancement Grant application, indicating the value of the project to the City's residents.

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

n/a

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

n/a

IMPACTS:

- Increased spontaneous use at the current City courts (Henry Singer).
- Increased opportunity for economic activity related to hosting larger pickleball competitions in the region.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

In February 2022, the Administration recommended completing an overall plan and updated cost estimates for additional courts at the Henry Singer/Water Reservoir site. At that time, \$675,000 was identified within the capital budget to support the PPPC to be used as a portion of the matching requirements of the CFEP large-stream grant submission. Initial cost estimates for construction of additional courts on Reservoir #3 were then confirmed to be higher than anticipated due to the enhanced structural needs to protect the water reservoir for this purpose. The CFEP grant application was unsuccessful and due to the increased costs and risks related to the proposed location, the project did not move forward.

The new project funding plan proposed by the PPPC is estimated at \$2 million with a funding breakdown as follows:

Funding	% of Overall Proposed Project Cost
PPPC - \$250,000	12.5%
Parkland County - Goods in Kind - \$200,000	10%
City of Spruce Grove - \$550,000	27.5%
CFEP Funding - \$1,000,000	50%

- The PPPC indicate that 35 per cent of PPPC membership are Spruce Grove residents, compared to 22 per cent from Parkland County, 15 per cent from Stony Plain, and 28 per cent other communities.
- The remaining unfunded project cost after allocating the proposed grant is \$1,000,000. The request from PPPC of the City actually equates to 55% of the unfunded project costs with 25% coming from PPPC and 20% from Parkland County. For reference, if the City were to consider matching a financial contribution in line with the percentage of users (35%) this would equate to \$350,000. The Town of Stony Plain is considering additional courts in their community and thus would likely not be providing funding to this project, although that has not been confirmed.
- As previously noted, the current use of the Henry Singer/water reservoir courts that is booked by the PPPC equates to 40 per cent of the total available court time weekly. While the facility will be located outside of the City, some contribution would be reasonable

considering the percentage of residents belonging to the PPC and the increased public capacity gained for the City's existing courts.

- If Council were to support this contribution, Council could approve reallocating the requested \$550,000, or another amount deemed by Council, from the \$675,000 that was previously approved for Pickleball and Henry Singer upgrades. Please note that for Quarter 1 Capital Reporting that project was reported as being put on hold and the funding was forecasted as not being spent.
- Administration is planning to bring an updated long-term capital plan to Council in July 2023.