

To: Tarpon Springs Board of Commissioners
From: Tarpon Springs Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Date: February 13, 2023
Re: Pickleball Courts Recommendation

Dear Honorable Mayor and Board of Commissioners,

We propose that the Board of Commissioners direct City Staff to build outdoor pickleball courts here in Tarpon Springs. Our belief remains that the “Fitness Park” property on Safford Avenue remains the most ideal location for additional courts due to its proximity to parking, restrooms, and the Pinellas Trail. Pickleball courts could be built without encroaching on the northwest corner of the lot to allow for the greenspace component to remain available.

The outdoor courts would add another amenity for residents and visitors alike to enjoy, and it would also alleviate confrontations between pickleball and tennis players who are currently competing against each other for time on the public tennis courts.

The sport is a very social activity and we believe users of the courts would take advantage of the City’s food and beverage establishments before or after playing.

Other sites within the City were considered, but issues such as limited parking, close proximity to residences, or lack of space became a reoccurring trend. Pickleball has continued to grow within the City and nationwide. The Recreation Division has increased its pickleball offerings, but the desire for outdoor courts continues to be a common request from participants.

Our previous proposals called for two courts to be built, but we now suggest the design process allow for more, as long as spacing allows.

Site Plan

