

**RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION OF MONTEREY PARK  
AGENDA**

**SPECIAL MEETING  
COMMUNITY ROOM, CITY HALL  
320 W. NEWMARK AVE. MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754  
7:00 PM  
Tuesday, October 15, 2019**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**The mission of the City of Monterey Park is to provide excellent services  
to enhance the quality of life for our entire community.**

Documents related to an Agenda item are available to the public in the **Recreation and Community Services Department** located at 320 W. Newmark Ave, Monterey Park, CA 91754, during normal business hours and the City's website at [www.montereypark.ca.gov](http://www.montereypark.ca.gov).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

You may speak up to 5 minutes on Agenda item. You may combine up to 2 minutes of time with another person's speaking. No person may speak more than a total of 7 minutes. The Commission Chair and Commissioners may change the amount of time allowed for speakers.

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please call City Hall at (626) 307-1359 for reasonable accommodation at least 24 hours before a meeting. Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**FLAG SALUTE**

**ROLL CALL – PAUL LEE, PHILIP CHANG, DAVID KWOK, AND GARY LAU**

**AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS**

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (Related to Items NOT on the Agenda). While all comments are welcome, the Brown Act does not allow the Commission to take action on any item not on the agenda. The Commission may briefly respond to comments after Public Communications is closed. Persons may, in addition to any other matter within the Commission's subject-matter jurisdiction, comment on Agenda Items at this time. If you provide public comment on a specific Agenda item at this time, however, you cannot later provide comments at the time the Agenda Item is considered.

**ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

**[1.] PRESENTATIONS**

**[2.] OLD BUSINESS**

**2-A. Pickleball Report**

It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission

- (1) Consider proposal from Commissioner Lau; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

**2-B. Exercise Equipment for Parks – Discussion**

**[3.] NEW BUSINESS**

**3-A. Recreation and Parks Commission Minutes**

It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission

(3) Approve the minutes for the special meeting of September 9, 2019; and

(4) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

**3-B. Alhambra Unified School District – Representative Report**

**3-C. Staff's Status Report**

**[4.] COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMISSIONER AND AGENCY MATTER –  
PARK CONDITIONS / STATUS**

**ADJOURN**



## RECREATION AND PARKS Commission Staff Report

**DATE:** October 15, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM NO:** 2-A

**TO:** Recreation and Parks Commission  
**FROM:** Inez Alvarez, Director of Recreation and Community Services  
**SUBJECT:** Pickleball Courts

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission

- (1) Consider proposal from Commissioner Lau; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Recreation and Community Services Department has introduced the sport of Pickleball to the community at Sierra Vista Park. There was an underutilized badminton court at the park site, which staff used as a Pickleball court. The overall goal was to introduce a new sport to the community and promote a fun, new physical fitness opportunity for all to enjoy. There was a community input meeting held on Saturday, September 21 at 9:00am in the Community Room at City Hall. There were approximately 30 people in attendance at the meeting. Please see attached proposal from Commissioner Lau for additional information.

Subsequently, the Department has received the attached suggestion and recommendations from tennis players that play primarily at Barnes Park along with a signature list of approximately 48 players.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Recreation and Community Services Department strives to provide no cost exercise and wellness activities at park sites for all to access during open park hours. There are six park sites that have tennis courts for a total of fifteen tennis courts. Park sites with tennis courts are listed below for reference.

| <b>Park Site</b>  | <b>Number of Tennis Courts</b> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Barnes Park       | 3                              |
| George Elder Park | 4 (plus a warm up court)       |
| Garvey Ranch Park | 2                              |
| Highlands Park    | 2                              |
| Sequoia Park      | 2                              |
| Sunnyslopes Park  | 2                              |

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

If pickleball courts are added to existing tennis courts, City staff will work to obtain cost estimates for adding pickleball courts.

**Respectfully submitted by:**



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Inez Alvarez  
Director of Recreation & Community Services

**Attachment:**

1. Memorandum from Commissioner Lau
2. Suggestions from Barnes Park Tennis Players

# Memorandum

**To:** Monterey Park Recreation and Parks Commissioners and Staff  
**From:** Gary Lau  
**Date:** October 10, 2019  
**Re:** Going Mainstream With Pickleball In Monterey Park

Pickleball was introduced in to the city about two years ago at Sierra Vista Park. Player participation was slow for the first year and half but has since more than doubled and growing due to word of mouth and pickleball clinics held by the city. The initial slow rate of growth can be attributed to:

- park's relatively hidden location in a residential neighborhood
- court was used for purposes other than pickleball (until recently when rules were posted)
- official pickleball play time was limited to staffing hours (M – F, 8am – 12pm)
- exposure to minimal vehicular traffic, almost no pedestrian traffic or park visitors during staffing hours
- court is in poor condition

The city hosted two pickleball clinics during the month of September. One was held on a Saturday morning and the second was on a Tuesday evening. Both clinics were well attended with over 30 participants at each of the sessions by my count. A number of participants (tennis players as well) have started to play pickleball on a regular basis now at Sierra Vista Park or Barnes Park gym (gym pickleball will terminate at end of Oct 2019). Subsequently, a community input meeting was held the following Saturday. There were close to 30 attendees consisting of tennis players and pickleball players with a slight edge going to the pickleball group. Opposition to having pickleball at Barnes Park tennis courts was voiced by the tennis group. However, it must be said that most of the members of the tennis group are not Monterey Park residents; whereas, the pickleball group consisted mostly of Monterey Park residents.

## Background

Pickleball was originated back in the 1960's and has become the fastest growing sport in the U.S., with more than 2.8 million players and a 12% increase in the past year according to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association. Pickleball is a mashup of tennis, badminton, ping pong, and racquetball. People of all ages can play the sport contributing to its popularity. The badminton size court can lend itself to intense games for young adults and teens by requiring quick hand eye coordination. On the other hand, seniors or people with degraded mobility can cover the court more easily due to the court's small footprint.

## Proposal

Offer Pickleball to the community at large at Barnes Park tennis courts. In order for this offering to have the greatest chance of success in the shortest amount of time, Barnes Park would be the ideal location for the following reasons:

- 1) exposure to numerous park visitors to the most popular park in Monterey Park
- 2) exposure to pedestrian and vehicular traffic on McPherrin Ave
- 3) exposure to active members of other sports
- 4) vicinity to heavily frequented recreational facilities (tennis courts, aquatic center, basketball gym, baseball field, walking track,...)

## Attachment 1

- 5) vicinity to major governmental resources (city hall, police department, fire station, other governmental offices) that is visited by residents as well as non-residents for governmental services
- 6) regular onsite staffing hours that can support pickleball play schedule
- 7) other park locations have little to no onsite staffing and that may require volunteers which would be hard to come by
- 8) the court facility is in good condition which is conducive to attracting more would be players and pickleball enthusiasts
- 9) court has lights for night time play
- 10) safe and secure location for night time play

### Implementation

- 1) Tennis court nearest Mc Pherrin Ave (hereby identified as court #1) would be converted to a dual use court between tennis and pickleball.
- 2) A single pickleball court would be established on each side of the tennis net.
- 3) The pickleball lines would be painted with a single color but not of the same color as the tennis lines or court colors.
- 4) The following pickleball play schedule (allowing for staffing considerations and court closures deemed necessary by the city) is as follows:
  - Tuesday evenings from 5pm to 10pm
  - Friday mornings from 8am to 12pm
  - Saturday mornings from 8am to 12pm
- 5) Establish priority play for court use during pickleball play schedule as follows:
  - Pickleball play has priority when 2 or more players are present to play pickleball
  - If less than 2 players are present to play pickleball then ball play will default to tennis
- 6) Signs of pickleball play schedule and rules on usage of dual use court would be posted inside fencing at court #1 and other locations deemed necessary by the city.
- 7) Pickleball nets to be setup and collected by staff according to pickleball play schedule.

## SUGGESTION TO INCORPORATE PICKLE BALL INTO A CITY FACILITY

Attention: Ms. Inez Alvarez,  
Director of Recreation and Community Services, City of Monterey Park

First of all, we want to thank you, the recreation department and the City for holding the community meeting on September 21, regarding the inclusion of pickle ball into a city facility. We do agree that pickle ball is a good sport and should be encouraged. However the undersigned hereby petition for the exclusion of Barnes Park's tennis courts be used solely or jointly as a Pickle ball facility for the following reasons:

1. Barnes Park tennis courts have been heavily and continuously used on a daily basis day and night for more than thirty years.
2. Many of the players are retired and the regular activity of playing tennis at these courts are their only means of exercise and social interaction. Any interruption or reduction of plays would be detrimental to their physical and mental health.
3. The three courts there are currently always well used with players often times having to wait their turns for over 30 to 40 minutes. Taking any of the courts away for pickle ball use would cause confusion and even longer waits.
4. Since there are three courts at Barnes Park, striping all three of them for pickle ball would be too much because each tennis court can accommodate at least two or even four pickle ball courts. But striping one or two of the three courts at Barnes Park would cause too much confusion caused by mixing of tennis players and pickle ball players. New rules and posted notices have to be made and installed to avoid arguments.
5. If the courts are striped to allowed for both tennis and pickle ball use, the lines would be too confusing for either the tennis players or the pickle ball players. Especially since many of our tennis players are over seventy and even eighty years old, they would have a hard time adjusting to so many lines and different colors.
6. Therefore to avoid unnecessary conflicts, arguments, confusion and enforcement, we would like to propose that the City survey amount their existing properties and see if they can give pickle ball a dedicated facility.
7. If that's not possible, then look at which two-court tennis facility is currently used least and convert it solely for pickle ball use. That way you can actually create at least six, may be even eight pickle ball courts out of two tennis courts with no confusion as to who's eligible to play on which day or what time or which lines are for which game.

We would hope that the City can take our suggestions into consideration and create a win-win situation for both tennis players and pickle ball players alike. If the city has any questions, needs clarifications or requires additional information, please contact Steve Leung at 213-453-8773 or email at skingleung@yahoo.com.

Thank you so much for your consideration. From Tennis players at Barnes Park



## RECREATION AND PARKS Commission Staff Report

**DATE:** October 15, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM NO:** 3-A

**TO:** Recreation and Parks Commission  
**FROM:** Inez Alvarez, Director of Recreation and Community Services  
**SUBJECT:** RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission:

- (1) Approve the minutes for the special meeting of September 9, 2019; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

None.

**BACKGROUND:**

None.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None.

**Respectfully submitted by:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Inez Alvarez  
Director of Recreation & Community Services

Attachment:

1. Recreation and Parks Commission Minutes

**MINUTES**  
**MONTEREY PARK RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Monday, September 9, 2019**

The Recreation and Parks Commission of the City of Monterey Park held a Meeting of the Commission in the City Council Chambers, located at 320 West Newmark Avenue in the City of Monterey Park on Monday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Lee called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**FLAG SALUTE:**

**ROLL CALL:** Paul Lee, Gary Lau, Philip Chang, and David Kwok

**ABSENT:**

**AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS**

**ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

**Oral Communications –**

1. **PRESENTATIONS** - None

2. **OLD BUSINESS** - All items for Discussion only

**2-A. Dog Park**

Director Alvarez informed the Commission that Mayor Liang had proposed a mobile dog park. Commissioner Lee inquired about which City Department would be in charge of the planning and park logistics. Director Alvarez explained that the Recreation, Public Works, and Police Departments are working together to determine an appropriate location and logistics for the mobile dog park.

**2-B. Pickleball**

Director Alvarez reminded the Commission that there will be free pickleball workshops held on Saturday, September 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and on Tuesday, September 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Director Alvarez also informed the Commission that on Saturday, September 21 a community input meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall to discuss the potential of adding pickleball courts to a tennis court site.

**2-C. Exercise Equipment at Parks**

Commissioner Lau explained that residents had approached him to request exercise equipment to be added at park sites. Director Alvarez informed the Commission that funding is available in this fiscal year's budget to put a fitness

court at Barnes Park. Staff anticipates installing the fitness court by the end of the year and Director Alvarez will provide photos of the fitness court to the Commission.

### **3. New Business – All Items for Discussion Only**

#### **3-A. RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES**

Approve the Recreation and Parks Commission minutes from the regular meeting of July 1, 2019.

**Action Taken:** The Recreation and Parks Commission approved the Recreation and Parks Commission minutes from the meeting of July 1, 2019.

**Motion:** Motion by Commissioner Lau and seconded by Commissioner Chang.

Motion carried by the following vote:

|          |                                          |
|----------|------------------------------------------|
| Ayes:    | Commissioner: Kwok, Lee, Philip, and Lau |
| Noes:    | Commissioner: None                       |
| Absent:  | Commissioner: None                       |
| Abstain: | Commissioner: None                       |

#### **3-B. Alhambra Unified School District**

Representative Gin provided an update and explained that a newsletter is being introduced in the Alhambra Unified School District to share updates and school news. Representative Gin informed the Commission that AUSD partnered with the City's Recreation Department for potential grant funds from Prop 68 for the renovation of the Barnes Park Pool. Director Alvarez informed the Commission that the City has applied for a grant to renovate the Barnes Park pool and locker room facility and results should be available by the end of 2019.

#### **3-C. Director Status Report**

Director Alvarez provided the date for Patriot Day which will be held in front of City Hall on September 11 at 8:30 a.m. with guest speakers sharing stories from first responders who perished on September 11, 2001.

The Geranium Festival will be held at Barnes Park on Saturday, October 12 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event will feature local artists as well as organizations promoting STEAM interactive activities. The Monster Mash and Movie Bash event is on Friday, October 18 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and will feature a costume parade, carnival games, and the movie *Coco*.

Director Alvarez informed the Commission that the City has begun a Census 2020 outreach campaign to educate the community about the importance of completing the questionnaire to obtain an accurate count of Monterey Park residents.

**4. Commission Communications and Commissioner and  
Agency matter – Park conditions / status**

Commissioner Lau requested that a bench be anchored to the ground at Beth Ryan Park.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51p.m.

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Inez Alvarez, Staff Liaison

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_ at the Recreation and Parks Commission Regular Meeting