
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Supplemental Information Packet

**Public Communications and Agenda Related Items
Received by 2:00 p.m., January 12, 2022.**

Meeting of January 12, 2022

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the Commission after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available in the Parks & Recreation Department, 501 Poli Street, Ventura, during normal business hours as well as on the City's Website – www.cityofventura.ca.gov/agendacenter

Public Comment Form

Disclosure:

Providing your name/contact information is optional to participate in a Public Meeting. However by providing, it will allow staff to follow-up with you on your item. All emails submitted to any Legislative Body are Public Records. Copies of forms submitted are posted online, with name and contact information redacted. You may only submit one comment form per agenda item. You may submit more than one form per agenda to address additional topics.

Submission Deadlines:

Submit your Comment Form at least 2 hours prior to the scheduled/posted start time of the meeting, as stated on the posted Agenda. If submitting a comment during a meeting, please submit before the Agenda Item concludes, during a Live Meeting, to be considered part of the record. Select the Legislative/Hearing Body below to ensure your comment is emailed to the correct body.

Name Trevor Gotsman

Address

Phone Number

Email Address

Select Legislative/Hearing Body Parks and Recreation Commission

Meeting Date 1/12/2022

Select a Topic: Public Comments

Recommendation *Field not completed.*

Written Comments Parks and Recreation Commission January 12, 2022

Dear Parks and Recreation Commission.

I am writing on behalf of the residents I see daily at Arroyo Verde dog park. Harry A Lyon park hosts many others, as does West Park. All over our fair City I see the need for places to release the leash, park and recreate.

Please work with us residents to open up our local parks and paths and trails for periods of off-leash all animal play. We all need to keep ourselves healthy, and our parks are the public

places we can exude and express and practice living fully with our fellows or every ilk.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Trevor Gotsman

Upload Files

Field not completed.

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Name	Scott Powers
Address	
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Select Legislative/Hearing Body	Parks and Recreation Commission
Meeting Date	1/12/2022
Select a Topic:	Public Comments
Recommendation	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Written Comments	I would like to address the committee to discuss the conditions of the tennis courts at Camino Real Park.
Upload Files	Ltr to Council - Camino Real Park Tennis Courts Upgrade.pdf



Ventura Tennis Club
P.O. Box 3005, Ventura, CA 93006

Eight Lighted Courts located at Camino Real Park

January 5, 2022

Honorable Council,

We are writing this on behalf of our project team, the Ventura Tennis Club (VTC), and the citizens of Ventura and its thriving tennis community. The tennis courts at Camino Real Park are heavily used by local tennis enthusiasts including the Ventura Tennis Club, the US Juniors Tennis Association, the USTA, the Ojai tennis tournament, the City-sponsored Corporate Games, as well as providing beginning and intermediate youth/adult tennis classes sponsored by the City. They serve as the sole tennis facility in the City of Ventura and serve as the focal point of organized and sanctioned tennis activity in the community.

The tennis courts have rapidly deteriorated over time and have now become a safety hazard for the community. The courts are in such a state of disrepair we strongly encourage the Council to approve the construction of new tennis courts and consider adding additional courts for pickleball enthusiasts as well.

COVID-19 has had a direct impact to the condition of the courts. With few other recreational options in 2020, the pandemic brought in many new users to the facility. And while that is something to celebrate, it also invited new users who didn't treat the courts with the care and respect they require (skateboards, hoverboards, roller skates, etc...). Due to the condition of the courts, there are no longer any USTA/USJTA-sanctioned matches played at Camino Real Park. Both organizations have deemed the courts unsafe. This affects the local players who reside in Ventura because now we have to identify with another city's tennis courts as our home court.

The Camino Real Park Tennis courts are in dire need of repair/resurfacing. Additionally, their condition worsens at a greater pace now due to the lack of attention to the deferred maintenance at the courts.

The rehabilitation of the Camino tennis court is well overdue and now it has become a safety hazard. The last full resurfacing occurred in 1989 while cosmetic repairs were done in 2014 and began to show cracks almost immediately. Since that time cosmetic repairs have been limited and have resulted in just being a band-aid for a larger, systemic problem.

Our estimated project cost is between \$1 million and \$1.5 million. We defer to city staff for more accurate estimates. To save the City's general fund dollars, we strongly request your

Council considers applying the federal funds the City received through the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA).

The courts at Camino have stood as a long-time paramount resource and since the pandemic began, has served as a vital recreational resource for the community. They increasingly become a stain on the City of Ventura's great reputation for supporting quality community parks (Westpark, Kimball, Arroyo Verde, etc...). Camino Real Park has been overlooked in terms of improvements to which means this is long overdue. Because of that and limited maintenance, the wear and tear on the courts has gotten increasingly worse and more dangerous.

We also recognize that there are other tennis courts within the City of Ventura at our local middle and high schools and junior college. These courts controlled by the school districts are rented out by a private company for profit. The hourly cost, along with the \$50 insurance fee leaves this option expensive and untenable. Additionally, there isn't an opportunity to schedule tennis events at these courts such as the USTA Juniors events. Ventura College no longer allows for public play on their tennis courts since they closed them at the start of the pandemic.

A new vision for the courts is greatly needed. With new courts comes enhanced revenue opportunities such as an online reservation system, expansion into pickleball and a new fee schedule encompassing various types of uses of the court (private instruction, gatherings, lights, etc...). In addition, the Ventura Tennis Club (VTC) has offered to conduct fundraising in cooperation with the Recreation Foundation, if warranted.

In short, the courts have become a stain on the City of Ventura's reputation and a hazard to the public. We wish something better for our community, with your support we can make that happen.

We look forward to a continued dialogue and your Council's consideration on the matter.

For any Questions, the VTC contact is Marv King, kingme419@aol.com. Additional contacts include Terry Lynch tmlynch2@aol.com, and Scott Powers scott.powers@sbcglobal.net.

Respectfully,

The Fix Camino Courts (FCC) Committee

Attachment 1 – Pictures of safety concerns at the tennis courts

Attachment 2 – Pre-COVID statistics of tennis court usage by the community



Ventura Tennis Club
P.O. Box 3005, Ventura, CA 93006

Eight Lighted Courts located at Camino Real Park

Attachment 1 – A Sample of Tennis Court Conditions

Light Pole Base (COURT 8)



COURT 1



COURT 4



COURT 6



COURT 7



COURT 7



Attachment 2 - Camino Real Park Tennis Courts usage – Pre-COVID

I. USTA Teams:

* Winter :12 teams - 46 home matches -194 courts used

* Spring: 13 teams - 54 home matches - 234 courts used

* Summer: 7 teams - 27 home matches - 81 courts used

* Fall: 10 teams - 48 home matches - 144 courts used

Totals for 2017: 42 teams - 175 home matches - 701 courts used

II. Ventura Tennis Club:

* Every Monday night uses 3-4 courts for group tennis. (Doubles = 4 people per court).

* Two Community Tennis Days hosted each year in conjunction with The City of Ventura. Using all 8 courts all day long.

* Nine to twelve group events throughout the year, usually held once a month using 5-8 courts for each event.

III. Corporate Games: Usually held for one weekend each spring and uses all 8 courts.

IV. Junior Tennis League Tournaments: Facilitated by Nelson Emery each year, using all 8 courts. Winter, Spring and Summer of 2017 for a total of 5 tournaments over 11 days.

V. The Ojai Tournament: Held each Spring, utilizes Camino Park for 2 days, all 8 courts. A famous local event that has lasted for well over a century and attracts people from all over the country.

VI. USTA North Area Playoffs: This USTA sponsored event was held at Camino Park for a three day weekend this summer and brought in hundreds of visitors from all over Southern California who stayed in local hotels over the weekend, shopped in local stores and ate at our local restaurants.

VII. Teaching Courts for The City of Ventura Beginning and Intermediate Tennis classes: Uses several courts throughout the week by instructors Nelson Emery and Hoss Solehi.

VIII. Non-Competitive and Recreational Playing: Various groups of players occupy most of the courts every weeknight Monday-Thursday 6:00 p.m - 10:00 p.m. and during the weekend mornings year round. These include non-VTC members and non-USTA players who are just looking for some recreational fun and exercise.