

From:
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 10:51 AM
To: Clerks Richmondhill <clerks@richmondhill.ca>
Subject: Community Pickleball Hub Planning

Can you please add my letter below to the public record for this meeting.

Many thanks
Melvyn Strang
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Meeting-Wednesday July 12th 2023 @ 12pm
Agenda Item 15.2.3- Community Pickleball Hub Planning

I have been playing Pickleball for approximately 5 years now. I have taught & inspired many people over these years, including my non sporty wife & many of our non sporty friends, and with the huge explosion of this sport in North America there are sadly never enough courts or places to play near or far which is why we were so excited to hear of the proposed new courts that are to be built in Richmond Hill.

To hear from our Pickleball playing community that there is a possibility that these courts may no longer go ahead is both very disappointing & crazy with such a high demand to play this sport, especially after there was a unanimous approval by the previous city council in July 2022 for the proposed 16 court pickleball hub at David Dunlop Observatory Parks.
We need dedicated pickleball outdoor courts!

Although outside tennis courts in community centres are slowly having Pickleball lines painted on them, it is difficult in the summer to compete for these courts with tennis players, so having dedicated Pickleball courts would be advantageous & amazing.
Indoor Pickleball courts at community centres are being made more readily available using badminton courts but too often there are too many people wanting to play for the courts & they cannot get court times! There is also not quite enough space to play indoors with the possibility of running into each other with problems of injury & are mostly inadequate.
We need better indoor facilities & more pickleball court times!

It is not only a great way for every generation young & old to get their bodies & minds moving & to get fitter, but also a great way to socialise & especially for the older generation to be less isolated in our communities.

This rapidly growing sport is not going to disappear anytime soon & we need better & more readily available courts & facilities indoors & outdoors sooner rather than later!

We need more dedicated Pickleball courts indoors & outdoors.

Yours sincerely
from a very concerned pickleball player

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