



# WILDWOOD

May 21, 2019

## MEMORANDUM

To: Planning and Parks Committee Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: **Resident Requests for Facilities (Wards - All)**

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor  
 Administration and Public Works Committee Members  
 Economic Development Committee Members  
 Steve Cross, Co-Interim City Administrator  
 John A. Young, City Attorney  
 Gary Crews, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation  
 Amanda Horstmann, Recreation Specialist

Over the course of 2018, and now, this year, several residents have made appeals to the City for certain active facilities they would like constructed within the City’s parks. The first request was for sand volleyball courts and the other has been for pickleball courts. Both sports are popular outdoor activities, while needing limited space to construct, and not exceedingly expensive. As these requests have been made, Department staff has discussed potential locations, funding, and the best approaches to proceed with addressing these needs.

The Department’s first step is to discuss these items with the Committee Members to determine if there is a level of interest in providing these types of active facilities. If the members are interested in pursuing these projects, the first decision to be made is the appropriate location. In evaluating the City’s park-holdings, the Department determined the following:

Park	Overall Acreage	Types of Use	Available Space
Al Foster Memorial Trailhead/ Glencoe City Park	14	<u>Active &amp; Passive</u> These facilities include a number of pavilions, restrooms, a playground, parking areas, and are connected by acres of flat open space.	The topography in this area lends itself well to court-type improvements. There is ample parking in the vicinity and two (2) restroom locations, which would be necessary accessories to any court additions.

Park	Overall Acreage	Types of Use	Available Space
Anniversary Park	14	<u>Active</u> This facility includes a playground, pavilion, restrooms, parking, and a multi-purpose court on 1-acre. The remaining 13 acres are within Caulks Creek.	The majority of the usable space in this facility is developed, with built improvements in place. A substantial buffer from the creek should be retained.
Bluff View Park	100	<u>Active</u> This facility is utilized with trails for hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian uses. The area near the parking lot was recently approved by this Committee to allow mountain biking improvements, with the Gateway Off-Road Cyclists (GORC) organization.	While one of the largest park spaces within the City, the topography is steep and does not lend itself to court construction.
Community Park	66	<u>Active &amp; Passive</u> Improvements include pavilions, playgrounds, restrooms, parking, trails, and a dog park. The Great Meadow is a passive area, not intended for court-type activities.	This facility has an approved Master Plan that governs its existing improvements and those of future projects, which does not include either of these proposed type of courts. This facility has also reached the Charter governed threshold for expenditures, which would require any additional improvements to be considered by a vote of residents.
Kohn Park	3	<u>Undeveloped</u> Facility is bounded by a roadway on its south and an active railroad on its north.	The topography of this facility is flat, but the orientation of the property (a thin strip), and the proximity to the adjacent roadway and railroad tracks, does not lend itself to development for court-type activities.
Old Pond School Park	1	<u>Active</u> Facility includes a restored one-room schoolhouse, parking, pavilion, and a playground.	The only available space on this property is to the front of the historic one-room schoolhouse and is not an appropriate location for active court play facilities, such as requested.

Based upon the Department’s analysis, it would recommend the Glencoe Area be considered for the installation of any court type improvements. This analysis found this area to be flat in topography, have existing open areas for the courts’ construction, available parking, and restroom facilities. This area’s existing conditions lend it to be a logical location, with minimal other additions required.

The final consideration, once a location has been selected, would be design and cost. If the Committee Members wish to pursue further investigation into these types of improvements, the Department would

seek a motion allowing it to begin the effort of determining appropriate layouts and the ultimate costs of construction. The funding of the layouts and designs would come from the Department's line item set aside for consultant fees.

If any of the Committee Members should have questions or comments in this regard, or need additional information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. A presentation is planned at tonight's meeting on this matter. Thank you for your consideration of this information and direction on the same.