



WILDWOOD

June 20, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Planning and Parks Committee Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: **Hardcourt Area in Town Center – Updates (Ward Eight)**

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
Thomas Lee, Interim City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works
Melanie Rippetoe, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
Kristin Naeger, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Travis Newberry, Senior Planner

BACKGROUND >>> As the Committee Members will recall from the City Council Meeting on June 12, 2023, the Planning and Parks Committee presented to it a schematic of how a larger set of pickle courts, with other facilities, might be accommodated as part of the planned mixed-use development that received zoning approval at this same meeting. This schematic indicated the design that was approved by the City for Community Park, i.e., four (4) pickleball courts and one (1) tennis court, which can be converted to two (2) half-court areas for basketball, could be accommodated on the parcel of ground that has been indicated for use by two (2) pickleball courts. However, the schematic did indicate impacts on the availability of parking and the stormwater management facility identified there as well. This design was presented to the property owner/developer before this June 12, 2023 meeting.

The City Council did discuss the matter at its Work Session on June 12, 2023 and sought answers to a number of questions. **These questions focused on access for the public to the court areas, restrictions on use, costs to the City, and timing/next steps.** Some of the City Council Members included as part of this discussion the preference of Community Park as the location for this hardcourt area. However, it is important to note that, regardless of location of the court area, the intent is to provide an active, multiple-use space that is available to residents for their enjoyment.

DISCUSSION TOPIC/REQUESTED ACTION >>> The Department believes that, to address these questions that have been identified and answers requested, the development of an engineered plan for this parcel of ground in Town Center Area is essential. With the engineered plan, the Committee will be

better able to understand the relationship of the improvements to the site, the characteristics of the property and its availability for increased use, and how to accommodate the property owner/developer's needs and the City of Wildwood's goals at this location. The Department would like to contact the firm that has prepared the plans for the mixed-use project and seek an understanding how might this larger court area be accommodated and utilize the City's park designer to assist in the specifics of pickleball courts and how best to create a safe and fun environment for users. Once these discussions have occurred with the engineering/design firms, the proposal would then be submitted to the Committee for its consideration of its content and cost. This submittal would be intended to occur at the Committee's July meeting, so the work on the plan documents could begin still this summer. Accordingly, the Department is respectfully requesting authorization to begin these discussions with the engineering/design firms on this project and associated opportunities and constraints, thereby obtaining the needed information to provide this recreation amenity to City residents.

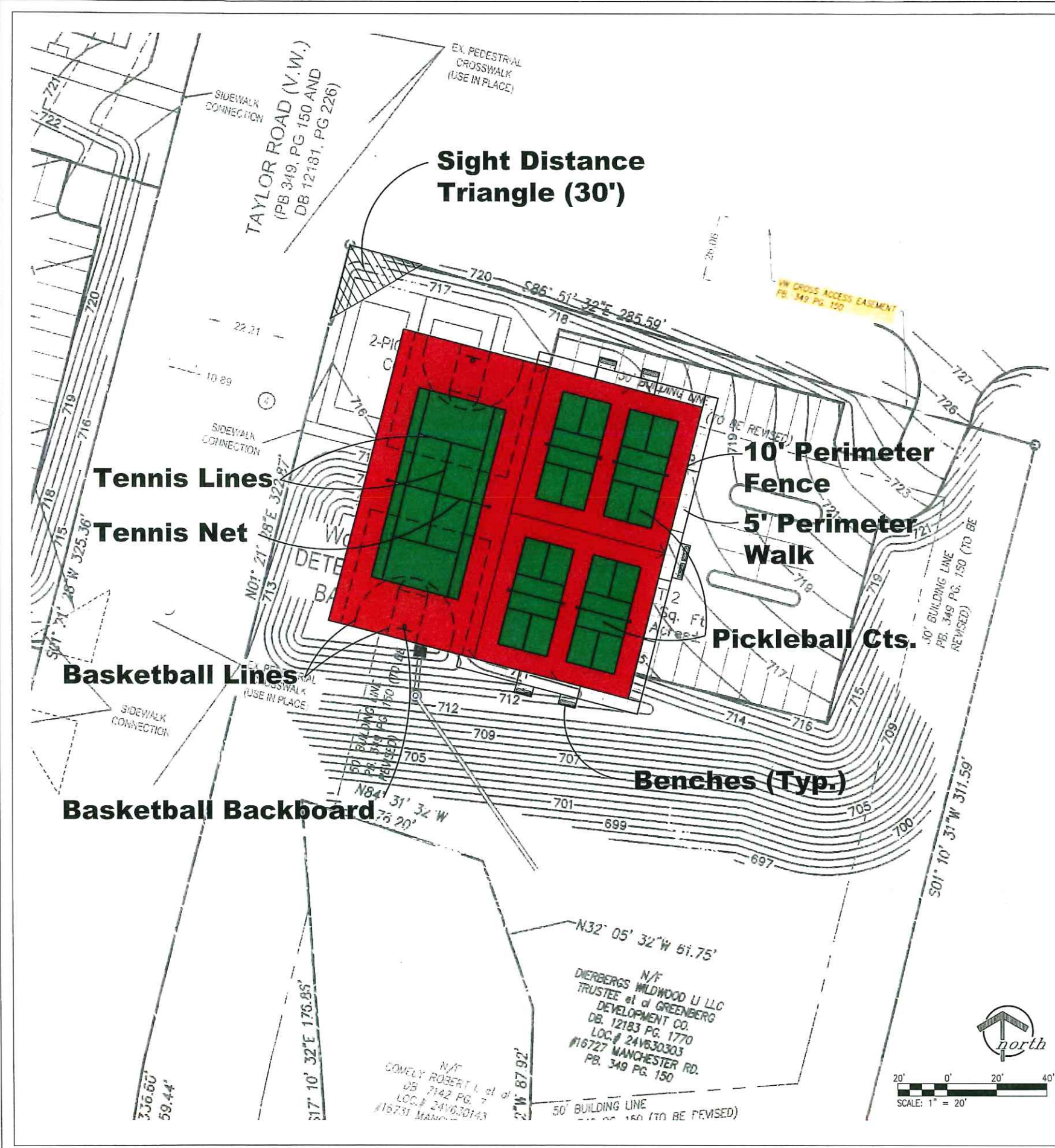
CONTACT INFORMATION >>> If any of the Committee Members have questions or comments regarding this process, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning at (636) 458-0440. A presentation on this matter is planned at tonight's meeting. Thank you for your review of this information and the requested direction the Department is seeking upon this matter.

TOWN CENTER Sports Courts CONCEPT PLAN

- (4) - PICKLEBALL CTS.
- (2) - HALF COURT BASKETBALL CTS.**
- (1) - TENNIS COURT**

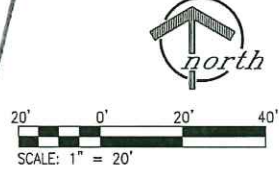
**** COMBINED COURTS**

Note: Courts should be held back from street curb line at least 50' to prevent wayward balls from interfering with vehicular traffic. In addition, enough greenspace should be provided between courts and public way to permit landscape/screening. Court Lights, if proposed, should be designed so as to minimize light spilling onto adjoining properties and/or public ways.



PREPARED BY:

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