

Proposed Pickleball Court at Mason District Park

Project Engagement

VIEWS	PARTICIPANTS	RESPONSES	COMMENTS
735	110	0	111

Dear FCPA,

It is recommended to build 2 separate pickleball courts away from the tennis courts, not directly next to them. There is an open field on the right before the parking and shelter, that's where the 2 should be.

The current proposed area is where parents are able to sit to view their kids compete for High School tennis competitions for the underprivileged National District. These are the "home" courts for Justice High School.

Building the pickleball significantly away will keep pickleball noise away from tennis, as well as provide a necessary physical barrier to discourage pickleballers from not following the rules and attempting to use single purpose tennis courts for pickleball.

Ps. We have witnessed how people use tennis courts for baseball groundballs batting practice, cricket, personal dog parks, boxing lessons, skating, soccer, dodgeball, roller hockey, etc. Individuals like this depend on lax enforcement, and the same goes for pickleballers who try to use tennis only courts.

FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS

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8/10/2025

Proposed Pickleball Court at Mason District Park

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) is seeking public input regarding the proposed addition of a pickleball court at Mason District Park, located at 10111 Columbia Pike in Alexandria. Public comment will be accepted for 30 days, starting February 13, 2025. Comments can be submitted [online](#) or via [email](#) until 5 p.m. on March 13.

Background

As demand continues to grow in popularity across Fairfax County, the Park Authority is exploring ways to enhance recreational offerings and provide additional facilities. The Park Authority is now seeking community feedback on the proposed addition of a dedicated pickleball court at Mason District Park.

Proposed Concept

The proposal includes the placement of two new pickleball courts adjacent to the tennis courts at the southeastern corner of the park. The proposed location is suitable for additional required site work to be done for the existing tennis and adjacent to the existing tennis court lighting to be installed to light the pickleball court as well. The project would require the modification of an existing curb and relocation of existing utility lines.

Images:

- Aerial view of the site with a red box highlighting a 'Sportsman waiting for his tennis' area.
- Site map showing the court location.
- Aerial view of the tennis courts.


a minute ago

See attached.

 [2025-02-28 Mason District PB Butler Letter.pdf](#)

2 minutes ago

See attached.

 [2025-02-28 Mason District PB Carpenter Letter.pdf](#)

2 minutes ago

See attached

 [2025-03-17 Delaney Letter Mason District.pdf](#)

3 minutes ago

We are against the proposal to locate a pickleball court next to the tennis courts at Mason District Park. Our home borders the park and we are concerned about the noise that pickleball produces. We have every reason to believe that moving the court to another location, close to the baseball field and basketball courts, as proposed by [REDACTED] will resolve this issue.

Thank you.

6 days ago

My public comment is published in the pdf document below.

 [Reject the Current Pickleball Court Construction Proposal for Mason District Park \(Robert Latham\).pdf](#)

6 days ago

Fairfax County Park Authority,

Please adjust the location of the Pickle ball Courts to the East Side of the Tennis Courts. There is: 01) A current Storm Water Management issue that needs to be addressed in the area. If the Design simply includes Buried Reinforced Concrete Pipe the Drainage issue can be resolved while putting the pickle ball courts on top of the remediated Storm Water Drainage area. 02) If Fairfax County Parks gets AT&T involved with the project they could tie into the "Communications Easement" to include a Cellular Tower (with the brown paint and fake branches) with the project to potentially PAY for the project rather than sticking the cost to the Fairfax County Tax Payer. If you include the "Meta Non-profit branch" of : "Meta/ Facebook" they might also be another form of Revenue for the project. If Fairfax County Parks works with us (the neighbors) a best practices can be achieved. If Fairfax County Parks disregards/ DISCARDS our input then YOU (Fairfax County Parks) might be constructing an adviser-serial relationship with the neighbors.

[REDACTED]
7 days ago

Great idea to add the pickleball courts at Mason District Park.

7 days ago

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) has asked for public comment regarding the proposed addition of a pickleball court next to the tennis courts at Mason District Park.

As a homeowner living on Oak Hill Drive adjacent to the park for many years, I do not support the proposal as currently conceived because of well-documented sound issues that affect the quality of life and enjoyment of our homes, especially for those of us whose homes border the park.

Last year, after many years of after-hours loud music, several homeowners on Oak Hill Drive and others, asked the Fairfax County Park Authority to enforce its regulations that Amphitheater renters shut down their music /programs by the specified regulations. For many years, homeowners have had to contend with amplification of music or other types of programs, sometimes lasting until 10 or 11 pm because there was little or no enforcement. We are very pleased that the Fairfax County Park Authority is trying to get this problem under control.

I would, however, support the construction of the pickleball court at a site further away from our homes - on the first level of the park, close to the other sports fields, as indicated as an option in a proposal submitted to you by [REDACTED]

Sound Impact On Residential Areas

Yes, pickleball has become popular, but so have disagreements over the noise and other issues caused by it. When wooden pickleball paddles hit plastic balls, the decibel level of a pickleball game can be about 70 decibels (dBA), with the noise typically falling between 45 and 70 decibels. Even a 300-foot buffer does not necessarily mitigate this type of sound enough. The problem is much more complex than that.

Pickleball Noise Impact Assessment and Abatement Planning

The City of Centennial Colorado faced a similar situation vis a vis the siting of its pickleball courts. The City hired a sound consultant, Spendiarian and Willis Acoustics & Noise Control, LLC, which compiled an informative document that I want to bring to the attention of the FCPA and other interested parties. The study is entitled Pickleball Noise Impact Assessment and Abatement Planning which scientifically measures the sound impact. It discusses other elements surrounding this issue. The study can be found at: <https://www.centennialco.gov/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/documents/city-projects-and-initiatives/centennial-pickleball-noise-assessment.pdf>.

Sound Impacts

A Seattle organization also dealing with bothersome pickleball sound issues summarized the Centennial Colorado report which helps us understand why the pitch of pickleball play is so bothersome.

"The typical sound made by a pickleball being hit by a paddle creates a sharp noise in the range of about 1,000 cycles per second, or 1 kilohertz — the midrange of our hearing and the part we are most attuned to. That is a higher pitch than tennis, and in the range that tends to draw our attention, so many people find it an annoyance. But to fully understand pickleball noise, we also need to understand how far the noise travels. The answer to that is a combination of several factors. First, the pitch of the noise itself: it turns out we perceive higher-pitched noises as being louder than lower-pitched ones. So a pickleball hit seems louder to us than a tennis hit, even if they are really the same loudness. We can see that in the graph below: We perceive a 60-decibel noise at a pitch of 1 kilohertz to be just as loud as an 80-decibel noise at a pitch of 100 hertz."

You can read this summary of the key findings done by another city facing the same problem at: <https://southseattleemerald.org/feature/2024/07/20/weekend-reads-pickleball-noise-pollution-and-the-science-behind-it>.

Social Impacts

In June 2023, the New York Times published an article that highlights why it is important to site these courts carefully. The article title speaks for itself: "Shattered Nerves, Sleepless Nights: Pickleball Noise Is Driving Everyone Nuts- Pickleball has brought on a nationwide scourge of unneighborly clashes, petitions, calls to the police, and lawsuits, with no solution in sight." One of the featured examples is from the pickleball courts at Walter Reed Community Center. A link to the article is below. https://www.nytimes.com/2023/06/30/sports/pickleball-noise-complaints-lawsuits.html?unlocked_article_code=1.004_7Cm.L70gM2CqNxEw&smid=url-share

The FCPA had a similar experience and had to take down the pickleball courts at Kendale Woods Park. I am sure that no one wants to have a repeat of that incident. It points to a need for the FCPA to study and understand the complexity of this issue as it continues to evaluate sites near residential areas.

Congestion and Competition

In our well-used park, there are other issues to consider including auto congestion and competition for usable space should the court be placed close to the tennis courts on the second level of the park. How does the Fairfax County Park Authority accommodate even more cars that pickleball will bring since parking is already inadequate - especially when other activities (especially at the amphitheater) are taking place? In many cases, participants resort to parking their cars on the one green grass space left in the park near the tennis courts. This leaves no options for those residents who do not necessarily want to participate in sports or need to reserve a picnic area but enjoy the park by putting a blanket down to play with their children, enjoy the sun, or read a book.

Some might say, "It is only one court, how bad can it be?" Fairfax County already has a policy that specifies that some tennis courts can be used for pickleball as well tennis. The Fairfax County "dual use courts" have inevitably favored pickleball. Once the pickleball court is built next to the tennis courts and close to our homes as is currently proposed, you can expect many of the tennis courts to be used for pickleball, designated or not. Some might advocate designating certain times for pickleball. My question is "And who is going to enforce that?"

Recommendation

The Fairfax County Park Authority is trying very hard to satisfy multiple constituencies. I urge the FCPA to reconsider the impacts of this pickleball court location; and site the pickleball court on the Columbia Pike street level of Mason Dixon Park near other sports activities. This will help avoid amplification, congestion, and other issues on the upper level of the park. In this way, the sound/amplification problems for residents whose homes border the park and other issues for parkgoers will be most and

the upper level of the park. In this way, the sound/impediment problems for residents whose homes border the park and other issues for parkgoers will be fixed, and pickleball players will have their court - a win-win for all.

7 days ago

This is a great idea! Pickle ball is a rapidly growing sport and court at this park would be in the public interest,

7 days ago

One pickleball court to replace the courts that were wastefully and unjustly removed from Kendale Park in the Broyhill Crest neighborhood. What a great use of my taxpayer dollars. Why not give the community more bang for our buck and use the funds to create numerous pickleball courts by adding lines and nets to the already existing tennis courts at Mason District. You can save further funds by using the pickleball nets you took from Kendale Park to use at Mason District. Tennis and pickleball sharing the courts and lights would save a huge chunk of change and provide more than one additional pickleball court. Check out the courts at Meridian High School - it totally works there. This would also save in having to redirect the trail in the process. Take the funds that you would spend creating one separate pickleball court at Mason District and use it to add lighting to the Roundtree Park courts. Creates even more additional courts in the area and you can hold Rec classes at Roundtree Park in the evening without Daylight Savings Time being an issue. Just a thought - but what do I know - I am only a taxpayer who thinks logically. Thanks for asking for my opinion - but I am sure the ONE dedicated pickleball court at Mason District Park is already a done deal and I am wasting my time/breath by trying to provide a better solution that would meet the needs and wants of the community.

8 days ago

We live at [REDACTED] close to the courts. I think where you are planning to put the pickleball courts is perfect. only concern is you will need to double the number in the very near future.

Looking forward to playing on the courts when they are opened.

8 days ago

I am against the proposed pickleball court in Mason District. The county has a budget shortfall and my taxes keep rising. We should allocate funds to necessary projects versus recreational. The county should be fiscally responsible and manage this as one would a household decision. If basic needs require more attention, there is no room for a recreational project that most will never use. We can't afford it and seniors are exhausted by rising county taxes to fund similar projects.

8 days ago

Excellent! If there's any way to build 2 pickleball courts, that would be helpful. I live across the street from Mason District Park and am unconcerned about the noise implications of the proposed location for the pickleball court. And I fully support retaining all 6 tennis courts, without pickleball lines/modifications. Those tennis courts are also used as the home court for Justice High School which does not have enough courts on site to support practice or matches for boys and girls tennis teams. They need 6 courts for each match.

8 days ago

Pickle Ball should be placed FURTHER into Mason District Park. For THIS design it is the intention of Fairfax County to ENCROACH upon the surrounding neighborhood WITHOUT cause. Please, Mason District Park, be a good Neighbor and place the Pickle Ball courts FURTHER INTO THE PARK!

8 days ago

Creating a small pickleball court will provide a limited number of players access to a new sport but clearly at the expense of the neighbors of Mason District Park. Noise pollution is a serious issue.

Fairfax County should NOT approve this design plan. There must be other location options in the county that can accommodate both players and residents. Property taxes for this neighborhood are considerable and this plan will diminish the values of the homes without any benefits for the nearby taxpayers.

8 days ago

Build it.

8 days ago

Hi, Great idea to build pickle ball courts instead of taking away tennis courts like in other parks. Am I reading this correctly that you would build 1 court? I would think multiple courts would make more sense. Please consider expanding your concept to include at least 2 courts. Thanks

9 days ago

Relocating utility lines isn't easy or inexpensive. I would be up for pickle ball courts if it didn't require such a complicated and expensive (tax payer money) modification to the existing park. Why not turn a section of the existing tennis courts into pickle ball courts?

9 days ago

Why only one court? The up front costs of surveying, getting equipment in, etc could be mitigated if multiple courts were built. There is a huge amount of land there on both sides of the current courts, more than ample for at least 4 courts in my estimation. The courts that were removed at Kendale Woods were constantly full -- the courts at RoundTree are booked solid with groups reserving them en masse. Many of the groups are larger and want to have multiple fields at play at once. I strongly recommend that multiple courts (minimum 2 - 4) be considered. As a part of our local community organization, we hear how important this issue is and hope that you will make an effort to meet the needs and desires of the homeowners and not just a one-court bandaid.

9 days ago

I am strongly in favor of more pickleball courts EVERYWHERE. Two courts are not enough. Do you see the demand. I have several groups that I play with and we need at least 2 and usually 3 or 4 courts to accommodate the players. Only two courts restricts the larger groups from playing at the small facility. This isn't like tennis where 2-4 people can play together for an hour or two. With pickleball a game takes about 15 minutes then you switch. In order for everyone to be able to play we need 2-4 courts located side by side. I feel that the decision makers are thinking like tennis not pickleball.

9 days ago

I support the new pickle ball courts whole heartedly. Thank you

9 days ago

I appreciate the Fairfax County Park Authority's (FCPA) initiative to add a pickleball court at Mason District Park. To enhance accessibility and inclusivity for families, we propose incorporating the following family-friendly features:

1. Family-Oriented Amenities:

Enough benches & Shade Structures (Provide resting areas for families), Water Fountain.

2. Community & Multigenerational Engagement

Clear Pathways & Signage: Ensure pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Family Pickleball Lessons: Offer beginner-friendly sessions for parents and children.

Community Events: Host tournaments and family-friendly activities.

9 days ago

Pickleball court s at Mason District park would be a wonderful and needed addition for the community near Mason District.

9 days ago

Please build this court and more if you can. There are so many people in this area who love to play pickle ball and there is a big need for more courts. This is what our taxes should go to.

10 days ago

I'm concerned with the noise from pickleball distracting from tennis matches (those tennis courts are the home base for justice high school). Could the times be limited? I do prefer this over using the current tennis courts

10 days ago

I am in agreement for the pickleball court. Why can the tennis court have pickleball lines drawn. It's more efficient

10 days ago

Why not go for at least two courts?

10 days ago

Regarding the proposed pickleball court at Mason District Park:

1. The proposed location is immediately behind the homes on Oak Hill Drive This will generate more noise pollution and adversely impact privacy for us and our neighbors.

2. If you must have a pickleball court in the Park, please locate it on the opposite side of the tennis courts and/or beside the sports fields, and away from the Wynfield homes.

3. However, we prefer that you do not pave over any more park land. Save the Park's greenspace. Once paved over, it is likely lost forever.

4. If you have money to spend on the Park, please spend it on cleaning up the Park, in particular by felling dead trees that overhang our houses on Oak Hill Drive.

12 days ago

Would be nice that there's a pickleball court closer to me! Adding only one court would mean it would always be busy and I would hate to show up only to see 6 other people already. I think it's a good idea if there's plans for a second court in the works or if some lines are painted on one of the tennis courts

12 days ago

I think it is a fantastic idea! We should encourage people to be outside in as many ways as possible.

12 days ago

Hooray! A pickleball court is a great addition, but only one? Pickleball is wildly popular.
Could we convert a tennis court to mixed use?
Of course there will be reservations and a time limit on usage, yes?

12 days ago

As a resident near the park we are concerned about the potentially noise that will be generated with the increased traffic

13 days ago

No. One pb court is not worth the effort. There are many public pb courts in the area and on is usually done in larger groups where many can gather. Good dedicated tennis courts are hard to find— especially with lights. Thank you for the upgrade!!

15 days ago

As the residents of the house in Oak Hill Drive, which one of the closest to the proposed pickleball court, we strongly oppose its location. The court would generate consistent noise disturbances both during and outside of daylight hours, severely impacting our daily lives. We urge you to consider alternative locations within the park.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

16 days ago

I am a resident of Wynfield, a neighborhood that borders Mason District Park; and I would welcome the opportunity to play pickleball in this neighboring park. It's a wonderful sport for everyone, young and old alike; and I strongly support your proposal. Thank you to the Park Authority for making this happen!

17 days ago

Many thanks for allowing folks to weigh in on the proposed pickleball court at Mason District Park. As a long-time Annandale resident and avid pickleball player, I applaud the FCPA's willingness to support what remains the fastest growing sport in America.

That stated, my sense is that a single court at Mason District is short-sighted and that the current proposal misses the mark in a couple of areas. I believe that a more cost-efficient solution is to convert an existing tennis court into two purpose-built, permanent pickleball courts. Doing so would avoid the costs associated with utility work and re-routing of the walking path. In addition, there would be minimal site prep costs, since the pickleball courts would replace an existing tennis court. In a similar vein, only minimal changes to the current lighting set-up would be required. This alternate proposal doubles the number of planned pickleball courts, while only reducing the number of tennis courts from six to five.

(As an aside, I'm curious as to the tennis courts' current usage? There's anecdotal evidence that they are not being used nearly as much as they have in past years...)

The one additional enhancement to this arrangement would be the addition of a 4' chain-link fence (with numerous gates) between the two pickleball courts and between the pickleball courts and the adjacent tennis court. The additional fencing would significantly reduce errant balls—both tennis and pickleball—from interfering with game-play.

In closing, thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts regarding pickleball at Mason District Park. Regardless of how many courts are built and where they are located, I fully support the FCPA's willingness to invest in pickleball at Mason District, especially in these fiscally-challenged times.

17 days ago

Yes, I support this pickle ball court development!

18 days ago

Hello FCPR,

While I love the idea of a pickleball court, I feel the proposed location is not an ideal choice.

- 1) Tennis spectators enjoy watching matches from the proposed location -a preferred '50 yard line' location with the sun more to the back when watching.
- 2) Pickleball has a higher noise level, so proximity to the tennis courts is not ideal.
- 4) A covered shelter with two tables would be a better solution for the currently proposed pickleball location and move the pickleball courts 25 yards to the right (when facing from bathroom facilities) -and you can probably fit in two pickleball courts!
- 5) With that said, homeowners may not like new location proposed above due to noise; if true, I would then recommend the location to the left of the courts, and once again, the parks could probably fit in two courts in some fashion. Tennis would simply have to deal with the noise.
- 6) Thank you for considering public opinion.
- 6) Last, unrelated, thank you for the recycle bin!

18 days ago

I am in favor of Pickleball courts at Mason District park. The demand and need is there certainly. Thank you for considering this.

18 days ago

I believe there are other sites around the park where these pickleball courts could be located like on the east side of the tennis courts. Having pickleball courts near the tennis courts will greatly impact the available parking at this location. Down by the playing fields near the football/soccer/baseball fields makes more sense as there's more parking and the sound of the playing will not impact nearby homeowners. I understand that half the parking spots on the lower level of the park will be taken up once a week in the spring and summer by the farmer's market, but there are always spots available when I visit the market. Besides, it's only once a week in the morning.

18 days ago

We live on Oak Hill Drive and are one of several houses that will be most impacted by the proposed placement of the pickleball court at Mason District Park. We do not object to building a pickleball court, but believe that there are better locations in the park than the proposed site on the northwest side of the tennis courts. John Carpenter has submitted a thoughtful and thorough proposal to the Park Authority, which we fully support. Moving the location of the pickleball court to the lower section of the park completely eliminates the noise issues that will result for residents of Oak Hill Drive under the Park Authority's proposed location. If the Park Authority is unwilling or unable to move the court to the lower section of the park, we strongly encourage the Park Authority to move the court to the northeast side of the tennis courts. This location would provide an additional 100 to 200 foot buffer between the pickleball court and the houses on Oak Hill Drive.

If the court is not moved to the lower section of the park, we have these additional points:

1. Since the proposal indicates the existing tennis court lighting will be modified so that the pickleball court will be lit, we strongly suggest that the lights be allowed on only at certain times. They should not be allowed to be lit before 8:00 AM and should turn off automatically at 9:00 PM. These hours are in keeping with the stated hours of the park, which are sunrise to sunset. In addition, these hours will ensure that the court would not be used as residents either are still sleeping or are going to bed.
2. We also would like to know what steps the Park Authority will take to restrict pickleball players from using the tennis courts as pickleball courts. We are aware that the tennis courts are not lined for pickleball, but we are concerned that once a pickleball court goes up then pickleball players will start to use the tennis courts as pickleball courts. The nearest tennis court to Oak Hill properties is well under the Park Authority's 250 foot limit for pickleball courts.
3. Is the Park Authority going to hold a public hearing on this topic?

19 days ago

Since the elimination of the Kendall Woods pickleball courts in 2024, it has been very difficult in finding pickleball courts that are not either reserved or being used. The park closed the KW courts versus finding a time restriction of use of the courts. During the discussions with the park authority, they confirmed they would be adding at least 6 more courts at Mason District in the short term with more to come. Now we see they are only adding 1 court at mason district and no other courts on the table. Other local jurisdictions seem to be able to add courts and try to meet the needs of the residents. This is very disappointing

20 days ago

Please, please add a sound barrier between the Pickleball courts and the tennis courts. The noise generated by the paddles is quite loud and distracting to many tennis players.

Also, I see room on the north of the Pickleball court proposal for what could be a backboard area for tennis/pickle ball players to practice on. This was long neglected to be added to the wonderful tennis court layout. Other park centers such as Audrey Moore tennis courts do have back boards to accommodate as many as six players. Please add this backboard function to the proposal. Thank you very much.

20 days ago

Mason courts are used for high school training and matches. Building pickle ball courts this close to tennis courts will hinder and prevent good flow at the matches and will create competition. It will also interfere with practices because of how different this games are. On weekends this facility is used for USTA tournaments and it will be hard for pickleball players to interact and will interrupt them.

I would suggest building pickleball courts away from tennis courts and building at least four or six courts so there is enough room for the pickleball players to train and play properly.

20 days ago

I would recommend building 2 separate pickleball courts away from the tennis courts not directly next to them. There is an open field on the right before the parking and shelter, that's where the 2 should be. The current proposed area is where parents are able to sit to view their kids compete for High School tennis competitions for the underprivileged National District. These are the "home" courts for Justice High School.

Building the pickleball away will keep pickleball noise away from tennis, as well as provide a necessary physical barrier to discourage pickleballers from not following the rules and attempting to use single purpose tennis courts for pickleball.

20 days ago

My wife and I fully support this endeavor. And we are Mason District residents, not some online trolls.

20 days ago

What happened to the other five pickleball courts?

20 days ago

When you closed the pickleball courts at Kendale Woods we were offered as an alternative 6 soon to be courts at Mason District Park. Now you are offering one court that doesn't even meet your own criteria. Pickleball is growing in popularity as you have noted. This sport is accessible to people of all ages and abilities. More people today are playing pickleball than tennis. Other locations you have marked pickleball courts but provided fewer nets than courts. Not really an effective court that way. We need more pickleball courts!

20 days ago

Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) needs to add more than one court. It needs to also modify 3 of the existing tennis courts to add another six pickleball courts. This would be minimal cost. As stated this is a fast growing, popular sport. Currently there are not enough courts to meet the demand. One court is not enough!!!

20 days ago

I support the addition of MORE THAN ONE dedicated pickleball court at Mason District Park. The Park Authority has removed the former pickleball courts located at Kendale Woods Park - even after our efforts to keep these courts. We now must drive to the Annandale Park which has only two nets and is in high demand. The county allows us to reserve times - for a FEE - which I am absolutely disgusted that I have to pay to play. This area requires more pickleball courts. There are a large number of players. We were unable to get a court at Annandale Park just this week and we had to find another park to play. Please provide more courts - bring it back to Kendale Park; and bring MORE THAN ONE to Mason District Park.

20 days ago

I am in favor of as many additional courts at Mason District Park as are needed to satisfy public demand.

20 days ago

We definitely need more pickleball courts in the area, especially since Kendale Woods was taken away, much to the community's displeasure. Having only one court seems insufficient, however. Could one of the tennis courts also be repainted to accommodate both tennis and pickleball?

20 days ago

We are thrilled about the idea of new pickleball courts to Mason District Parks! It's such a fantastic sport for people of all ages and skill sets. The more opportunities for people to get out there, have fun, and maybe even spark some friendships would greatly benefit the community.

21 days ago

Thank you, Park Authority, for following through on efforts to bring pickleball to Mason District Park! Upon hearing last February that the tennis courts were due to be resurfaced, my husband and I had reached out to Adam Wynn of your Planning & Development Branch requesting consideration of converting one or more tennis courts to dual use tennis/pickleball but were informed that planning for dedicated pickleball courts was already under way. We are thrilled to learn that the project is advancing and enthusiastically support your proposal, although we do think a dual use court would be perfectly adequate and moreover, would allow for two pickleball courts, unlike the current proposal.

As residents of Wynfield, a neighborhood adjacent to Mason District Park, we are aware of concern on the part of a few residents of Oak Hill Drive which abuts the park. We believe that their concern is based primarily on hearsay, given the recent publicity over the Kendale Woods controversy and the Arlington County/Walter Reed brouhaha, the negative attention given pickleball noise nationwide, and clearly a lack of understanding of the sound mitigation provided by placing courts a minimum of 250' from residential properties. It would be very useful if the Park Authority could somehow highlight for the community the effectiveness of a 250' minimum buffer zone, point out its success in other areas and parks of Fairfax County and clarify measures that can be taken to reduce the noise impact (designated hours of play, acoustical fencing, etc.). It truly would be a travesty if a few ill-informed, opinionated individuals were to persuade the Park Authority from bringing pickleball to Mason District Park.

Concurrently, perhaps consideration could be given to locating the court elsewhere in the park, for example, on the east side of the tennis courts, creating an even wider buffer zone between the pickleball court and residential housing. Might that (or elsewhere in the park) be a location that would also allow for construction of two dedicated pickleball courts, as originally planned? Although one court is better than none, given the sport's ever-increasing popularity, one has to question how accessible a single court will be to players. Should the Park Authority reconsider its position on court conversion and give thought to restriping a Mason District Park tennis court to allow for dual use and the creation of at least two pickleball courts? The tennis court in the back east corner would appear to be an excellent candidate for such conversion.

Bottom line, without question more public pickleball courts are needed in Fairfax County; and Mason District Park is an ideal location for this extraordinarily popular, fun, cross-generational sport. We strongly support the Park Authority's efforts to bring pickleball to Mason District in the near future!

21 days ago

Pickleball courts added to Mason District Park is a wonderful idea. The sport of pickleball is rapidly growing and there is a tremendous need for courts. Some places have long waitlists of people trying to get to play. These courts would get lots of use and will be an addition that supports people's physical, emotional, and social needs. Thank you.

21 days ago

We are in dire need of more public pickleball courts. I am in favor of this proposal. Thanks so much!!

21 days ago

I am very much in favor of adding a pickleball court to this park. It is hard to get a court because there are not enough around and this would be very helpful. Pickleball has really taken off and there are MANY people who are playing it now and looking for courts. I hope you go through with this. Thanks.

21 days ago

I am concerned about noise from the new court at the residences nearby. Pickleball has a thumping sound that is different from a typical tennis play. There should be a noise impact study done.

22 days ago

Has an acoustic study been conducted for the property in question? Although noise from pickleball play does not exceed Fairfax County Noise Code, the code fails to quantify the annoyance from the short duration, random impacts from pickleball. Although the level of annoyance perceived is determined by the background noise level (which is likely unknown at this point) since the nearest properties are less than 800 feet from the courts, sound mitigation from the courts will likely be required. An acoustic consultant should be hired to perform the noise studies and propose mitigation (akurtz@ceramiassociates.com)

22 days ago

Dear Srs.,

While we applaud the idea of adding these facilities, the proximity to the selected location to the houses close to the park is not adequate. It would bring a lot of noise. I witnessed the same, in our previous neighborhood close to the Cora Kelly park in Alexandria. When the Pickleball practice started within the Tennis Courts, the noise to the houses became disturbing.

I am more concerned about the maintenance of the forest in the park. There are tons of trees down, mostly cut, and the debris are not removed. There are that many that the beauty of the Mason District Park is being compromised.

Thanks,


22 days ago

Support! Pickleball is getting popular and popular and it's healthy

22 days ago

As a Wynfield resident (adjacent to park near current tennis courts), I'd approve but request consideration for building court closer to current basketball court where residents aren't so close. If that location isn't possible I'd be ok with them closer to current tennis but further from the houses.

I was the president of SHRA club 2024 and we had courts lined for pickleball. Houses were closer (but distance still compliant) and we didn't have problems from neighbors with playtime rules we put in place. Thank you for public comment period and all you do.

23 days ago

We keep losing tennis courts to pickleball courts. Certainly it is cheaper to take a tennis court and turn it into a pickleball court, but that is not fair to the tennis players.

23 days ago

Pickleball is a fun amenity I would love to see included in the Mason district park. I like the idea of making a separate court from the tennis courts to prevent interference with tennis players.

23 days ago

If there are available space elsewhere, it is better to have the pickleball courts have its own dedicated space. There are already limited tennis courts with lights. We need more space for tennis players.

23 days ago

One new pickleball court is not sufficient for the number needed in the county. The 3 Mason District tennis courts are not heavily used. How about making the 3 existing tennis courts into pickleball and adding a new tennis court?

Usually people come individually to a pickleball court and find other players there, rotating in and out for hours. It is very different than tennis players coming with their partners and playing with a set group for 1-2 hours. Fairfax City and Prince William are way ahead of Fairfax County. Also consider building a pickleball complex at the Lorton Workhouse. It's a good central location and could also drive some tournament revenue dollars. Time for FX County to get up to speed on the explosion of pickleball players.

24 days ago

What a joke. One pickleball court added to the entire county. You need to face reality, this sport is not going away and you need to come up with more options than this!

24 days ago

I'm all for pickleball courts. Why just one? How about multiple?

24 days ago

No! We want more trees and less hardscape.

25 days ago

Pickleball is growing fast - it's inclusive, easy to play and fun. However, more courts are needed. Pickleball players like to gather (open play) and change partners after every game. Four pickleball courts can provide the courts needed to attract pickleball players. One regulation tennis court can be converted to four pickleball courts. Thus, I recommend that converting one of the existing tennis courts into four pickleball courts.

26 days ago

This is good news. It'll be interesting to see if groups adhere to playing for one hour and then give up the one court.

On a different note, Annandale Community Park has two tennis courts and both are lined for pickleball - a total of four pickleball courts. BUT, there are only two pickleball nets there. I've suggested this in the past, the two pickleball nets that were at Kendall Park, which was closed to pickleball. could be moved to ACP. Not a sermon, just a thought. :)

26 days ago

no, spend money on sth. else

26 days ago

I appreciate that you are constructing a pickleball court at Mason District Park. I live in the Wynfield neighborhood. I am a pickleball player. I walk my dog in the park almost daily. It is a wonderful park with its combination of family friendly amenities, sports fields and courts, and natural areas. To be honest, I would prefer to leave all undeveloped areas of the park undeveloped. However, if one must put in a pickleball court, I prefer it to be on the other side of the tennis courts, further away from the Wynfield neighborhood homes. I know the area well, and there is a nice flat area on the other side of the path that runs along the eastern side of the tennis courts that would be fine for the new court. Wynfield residents already deal with sounds of the amphitheater, parties in the public areas, traffic on our neighborhood streets at times, and that is the consequence of living near this beautiful and busy park. By placing the pickleball court further from the neighborhood, we can assure access to a court while ensuring that the Wynfield neighborhood does not bear the brunt of the incessant bouncing and whacking ball noise generated by pickleball. (And it will be INCESSANT because there are A LOT OF pickleball players in Fairfax County!!!) Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss further.

26 days ago

We in favorare

26 days ago

Please relocate the proposed courts to the eastern side of the existing tennis courts where they would create much less noise pollution for residents of the Wynfield residential community located immediately to the west. Otherwise, please consider deferring construction altogether in favor of the new indoor pickleball courts presently under construction nearby at 4312 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, VA.

26 days ago

I think it's a great idea to add the pickleball court, also maybe add pickleball making on three of the existing tennis courts. I live in the Wynfield neighborhood.

26 days ago

It would be great to have a pickleball court, two would be even better, at Mason District Park. I vote for it.

26 days ago

I am in favor of the proposed addition.

26 days ago

I support the building of pickleball courts at Mason District Park. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country and attracts people of all ages. While it was initially viewed as a sport for seniors, it is now growing in popularity with all ages. It would be a great addition to facilities currently offered at Mason District Park.

26 days ago

I live within walking distance of the park and would like to see these courts built.

26 days ago

Please relocate the proposed courts to the eastern side of the existing tennis courts where they would create much less noise pollution for residents of the Wynfield residential community located immediately to the west. Otherwise, please consider deferring construction altogether in favor of the new indoor pickleball courts presently under construction nearby at 4312 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, VA.

26 days ago

There is no need to waste money on building a new court. Repurposing one of the existing tennis courts is more logical.

26 days ago

I see that the Park Authority's Pickleball Study (2021) did not identify Mason District Park for new pickleball courts, and in the associated community survey, not a single one of the 1,803 respondents said they wanted pickleball here. As you know, new courts and trail realignments are expensive. It's a better use of public funds to convert an existing tennis court to pickleball here, or at a different nearby location, such as Backlick or Annandale Parks. Both of these locations offer at least two lighted courts.

26 days ago

It's great news that Mason District Park will be adding space for Pickleball courts. Instead on one dedicated court where utility lines need to be moved along with park trails, why not just add Pickleball lines to the existing tennis court lines. You can fit two pickleball courts on one tennis court. This is what was done at Van Dyck Park in Fairfax City. You will be amazed at the number of folks on any giving morning with stacks of paddles waiting to play. This is truly an unscheduled meetup of new and existing players who rotate in as one match finishes. The same thing happens at Green Acres Senior Center where there are five outdoor dedicated pickleball courts. Starting at 8am, the pickleball players start arriving and the count can well surpass 50 players before dwindling down around noon time. It's just show up and play, with the average person playing and socializing for about 2-3 hours before heading out. It's unlike tennis where 2-4 folks show up together to play for about an hour, so one dedicated pickleball court does not work for Open Play Pickleball.

27 days ago

Hello, in general my feeling is one pickleball court is better than none. However given its popularity and the nature of its customary "open play" concept where folks can just show up to play during the open play timeframe, one court would be totally insufficient. The wait time would discourage people from coming to this location for sure. Is there a reason why one of the existing tennis courts cannot be refit for multiple pickleball courts? Much more cost effective than building new I would think. Every time I am near a public tennis court it is empty, yet all the pickleball courts are occupied!

Also, please consider courts in more western area of the county! I live in Herndon and we would love some county courts! In general it seems Fairfax County lags far behind other localities when it come to providing pickleball courts. My two cents!

27 days ago

YESSSS!!! MORE PICKLEBALL!!!!

27 days ago

I support efforts to build more pickleball courts in Mason District, provided that community concerns regarding noise and stormwater management are fully addressed.

27 days ago

PLEASE LINE THE COURTS AND GET NETS FOR PICKLEBALL!!

27 days ago

Please add MORE than two pickleball courts! It is getting harder and harder to find places to play. Or at least mark one or more of the the existing tennis courts for pickleball as well so both can be played. This dual system with pickleball markings and nets works quite well at both the Annandale and Roundtree parks/courts. Thank you so much for doing this, EVERYONE loves pickleball

27 days ago

I think pickleball courts in this park are an excellent idea!

27 days ago

Re-line the tennis courts to include pickleball courts. Provide at least 2 portable pickleball nets to use when needed. That way there will be more usage of the facilities.

27 days ago

I love this idea, and why not paint blended lines (stripe for pickleball) on the tennis courts to make them multi-use?

27 days ago

Yes we need more pickleballcourt

27 days ago

Pickleball is low impact fun. Only one court is a bit limiting, but better than nothing. Is dual-lining of some of the tennis courts out of the question? It's certainly cheaper...

27 days ago

New court would increase noise pollution. The noise generated by pickle ball is greater than tennis balls and would be heard through out the park. Would ruin the peace while walking the trails. I lived 200 ft from a court so.i have 1st hand knowledge of the noise.

27 days ago

I live near Mason district and would love to get some pickleball courts available in Annandale where there are very few. The noise is not much different than tennis and there is equipment that makes it less loud.

27 days ago

Love the idea to add the pickleball courts! I'm not a player but certainly the need is there and that will be money well spent.

27 days ago

Yes, please add courts where they are far enough away from residential homes to not be a noise issue. Residents need options to stay fit and build community, both major pros to pickleball courts!

27 days ago

I think the noise would be distracting to the Justice High School tennis team during practice and matches

27 days ago

People NEED more pickleball spaces not just to keep active but to boost their morale and confidence in a day and age where even their jobs are at risk and find this as an escape to help destress. Kindly please protect our pickleball courts and help bring up our community especially in times when the going gets tough. Thank you!

one month ago

As pickleball rapidly gains popularity across Fairfax County, building dedicated courts at Mason District Park is a valuable investment in the community's recreational infrastructure. The sport's appeal spans all age groups, promoting physical activity, social engagement, and overall well-being. Dedicated pickleball courts will reduce scheduling conflicts with other sports, ensuring players have consistent access to appropriate facilities. Moreover, adding these courts can attract local tournaments and events, stimulating the local economy and fostering community pride. By supporting the construction of new courts, the Park Authority demonstrates its commitment to meeting residents' evolving recreational needs while encouraging a healthier, more connected community.

one month ago

I really like the idea of adding PB courts to Mason District Park and expect they would be very popular. If the tennis courts are not all in regular use, one could be converted to two PB courts.

I think the County needs to use its funding better however, instead of regularly increasing taxes. It should identify and implement ways to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness.

one month ago

Great decision and hopefully more courts to come!

one month ago

Instead of spending money on a pickleball court that a small % of County residents would use, i would prefer you add a County Parks-sponsored shredding event for residents in your parking lot, this would be available for 100% of residents to partake in. Isn't that more equitable? Yes it is. Surrounding Counties all have shredding events except Fairfax County. FCPA could do this for the residents.

one month ago

Yes we need Pickleball

one month ago

As a pickle ball player, I certainly support more courts devoted to pickle ball. But I'm not in favor of adding more man-made structures with impervious surfaces at Mason Park or any other FC park. I would prefer that FCPA convert one of the existing tennis courts (there appear to be 6) to two dedicated pickleball courts. Given the huge FC budget deficit for FY 2026 of \$300 million or more, this would also save money for other crucial needs like tree planting and invasive management projects.

one month ago

Putting in pickleball courts while raising our taxes 6.65% is insane behavior. Absolutely not. There are private courts where people can pay to play their sport of choice.

one month ago

I think that the addition of the pickleball courts would be a benefit to the area's residents (myself included) who greatly enjoy the game of pickleball. I note that the project does not take away playing space from tennis players, a common issue with mixed-use proposals.

one month ago

more is better...growing interest in Pickleball has made it harder and harder for me and my wife to find an inexpensive option to play.

one month ago

I think it's great that they are putting in a pickleball court at Mason District, but one court is not sufficient. I think at least 2 courts and the option to use 1 or 2 tennis courts as combined tennis/pickleball would be a better option (this is done at Wakefield.) There are going to be a lot of angry pickleball players waiting for a court, especially if the tennis courts are empty. I walk through the park regularly and the tennis courts are often empty. The space on the other side of the tennis courts could be a second option, or the land behind the amphitheater, towards the playground could also be an option for two courts.

one month ago
