

Recreation Committee Community Update May 2024

The Recreation Committee continues to analyze the viability of installing two pickleball courts in the green space located across the street from the Village Hall near the traffic circle.

In response to a recent request from the Board of Directors, the Committee requested a sound mitigation study from Pickleball Sound Mitigation (PSM). The request was made due to concerns raised by the Board regarding noise disturbance in the community from the striking of the pickleball. The report from PSM was received on April 29th.

On May 7th the Recreation Committee met to review the report which contains a detailed analysis of the level of sound from striking the ball based on the planned location of the courts. PSM also made recommendations regarding how to further mitigate that sound. In summary, with the installation of a 12 foot sound mitigation barrier on the east side of the courts, the sound pressure levels are calculated to be well below the Virginia Beach noise ordinance guidelines.

The Committee members in attendance at the meeting unanimously agreed that the volume of sound should be amenable to properties surrounding the courts based on the information and sound mitigation recommendations provided by PSM.

The Committee also agreed that we should pursue several “next steps” to further confirm the viability of constructing courts in our community. Those steps are:

1. Contact the sound barrier vendors listed in the report to determine the cost of the barriers and possible wind issues.
2. Create and send a survey to our West Neck residents to determine the expected use of pickleball courts. The plan is to send the survey via eNews using the survey tool available through our new website.
3. Determine the estimated cost of building Pickleball courts by obtaining 2 or more price proposals.

Once these action items are completed, the Committee will be in a better position to make a final recommendation to the Board regarding construction of pickleball courts in our community. The goal is to make a recommendation at the July 17, 2024, Board Meeting if these action items have been completed.

If you would like more information regarding the sound study provided by Pickleball Sound Mitigation (PSM) the full report is available on the West Neck resident website. It can be located in the Documents folder/Recreation Committee.