From: Kodiak O"Neill

To: Parks Commission

Subject: December 8th meeting

Date: Sunday, December 7, 2025 8:17:26 PM

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Dear Santa Cruz County Parks Commission,

I am writing in regard to the item on the agenda for Dec 8th, 2025. My name is Kodiak O'Neill; I'm 16 years old and I live directly across the street from Floral County Park. I look directly at this park from my house and have been for over ten years now. I have always enjoyed playing basketball with friends. Our local park lacks a dedicated space for kids my age and community members to engage in this fantastic sport. Basketball is not only a great physical activity that keeps us healthy, but it is also a joyful pastime that fosters inclusion and teamwork. I have raised the funds to pay for the construction of a half basketball court at the park, so it is fully funded. I have reviewed the Master Plan for the park and there is a already a designated space for a swing set which I would like to swap for a half basketball court. A swing set was constructed in the already remodeled part of the park and a half basketball court fits perfectly in the spot on the current master plan. A half court would also not take up that much space and even less space than the designated dog park on the master plan. A half court allows for the use of basketball but keeps the use small. I started a petition on change.org that has 93 signatures of support in addition to a paper petition with an additional 99 signatures totaling a 192 people that support the half basketball court addition at Floral Park. Many of those signatures are kids my age.

Parks should have a space for everyone, and this park is my park in my neighborhood where I own a house and will eventually be raising a family when I get older. I have worked hard to raise the money to pay for the addition for everyone in our community to enjoy. I hope you look at my petition and consider the half basketball court addition to Floral Park.

https://c.org/Gg4SX4mVmW

Sincerely, Kodiak O'Neill