



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

979 17TH AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940 TDD: (831) 454-7978

JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Monday, April 4, 2016
7:00 pm
Regular Meeting

Simpkins Family Swim Center
979 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR LATE ADDITIONS

III. CONSENT AGENDA (Action)

- A. Approve minutes from February 1, 2016 Page 1
- B. Consider Reports:
 - 1. Maintenance Section – Status Report..... Page 2-3
 - 2. Facilities Section – Status Report Page 4
 - 3. Recreation Section – Status Report Pages 5-9
 - 4. Aquatics Section – Status Report..... Pages 10-12
 - 5. Planning Section – Status Report..... Pages 13-14

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Opportunity for persons to address the Commission on matters which are within the scope of responsibility of the Commission but not on today's agenda. Presentations must not exceed three (3) minutes in length, and individuals may speak only once during Oral Communications.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VI. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items

- 1. Will Fourt to present report on potential options for Pickleball at Brommer Park (Pages 15-21)
- 2. Tricia Potts to update the commission on LEO's Haven playground at Chanticleer Park

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

- 3. Direct the Commission Chair to write a Letter of Support regarding the Live Oak School District's Parcel Tax renewal

VIII. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING (Page 22)

IX. ADJOURNEMENT



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of February 1, 2016, 7:00 p.m. meeting 979 17th Avenue Santa Cruz, California

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Steven Bennett, Kate Minott, Mariah Roberts
Absent: Dave Mercer, Jim Lang
Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Jennifer Mead, Will Fourt

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS:

Motion to accept the agenda as presented. (Minott/ Bennett 3/0)

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Approved minutes from December 7, 2015 and accepted and filed reports.
(Minott/ Bennett 3/0)

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (none)

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Director Jeff Gaffney gave his report to the Commission.

VI. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items

1. The Commission supports Director Gaffney's recommendation to not acquire the 1920 Maciel property. (Minott/ Bennett 3/0)
 - Motion made to move agenda item #2 to #3. (Bennett/Minott 3/0)
2. Direct Parks staff to work with the Commission Chair and report back on breakdown of cost and public notice planning for Pickle Ball courts at Brommer Park. (Bennett/ Minott 3/0)
3. The Parks Commission will consider changes to the mission statement at their next workshop strategy meeting and Commissioners with suggested changes will submit them to Jessica Wolf prior to the meeting. (Minott/ Bennett 3/0)

VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Informational Items (None)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 p.m. (Bennett/ Minott 3/0)



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

979 17TH AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940 TDD: (831) 454-7978

JOHN J. PRESLEIGH
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: March 28, 2016
TO: PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
ARTS COMMISSION
FROM: GRETCHEN ILIFF, MAINTENANCE DIVISION
RE: STATUS REPORTS ON CURRENT PROJECTS

PARKS, BUILDING, AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

NORTH COUNTY PARKS (Highlands, Ben Lomond, Felton Covered Bridge, Probation, Michael Gray Field, Quail Hollow Ranch and the North Coast)

Staff have constructed a wooden bulletin board for educational postings at Scott Creek Beach. Additionally staff will be installing Snowy Plover protection fencing and signage this month.

The baseball fields at Highlands Park and Michael Gray Field received new infield mix and were leveled and groomed for opening day.

Staff removed mud and debris from Ben Lomond Park after high river water moved through the Park

Staff are in the process of re-landscaping the area around main house at Highlands Park. The new landscaping will include more native and drought tolerant plants

MID-COUNTY PARKS (AJC, Government Center, Emeline Complex, Twin Lakes, Brommer, Felt, Floral, Coffee Lane, Soquel Lyons, Jose Avenue, Winkle Farm, Moran Lake, Santa Cruz Gardens, Heart of Soquel Plaza, The Farm, Mid-County beach access areas)

The soccer fields opened at Anna Jean Cummings this month and they are fully booked until closing day in November. Staff will be busy keeping the fields green and clean for the next 6 months.

Staff repaired several sections of wooden beach stairways after large surf caused damage.

Staff attended training related to rural road maintenance and a sports field maintenance seminar.

SOUTH COUNTY PARKS (Polo Grounds, Valencia Hall, Hidden Beach, Seascape, Aptos Village, South County Beach access areas, Scott Park, Scott Estate, Aldridge Lane, Mesa Village, Maplethorpe, Willowbrook Lane, Pinto Lake, Freedom Government Annex, Seacliff Village Park)

Staff is beginning to test and repair irrigations systems this month.

Five new memorial benches were installed this month at the Seacliff Village Park.

A bit of trail/road work was completed at Pinto Lake Park. The heavy rains created problems but staff has been able to keep the roads and trails open for public use.

SIMPKINS FAMILY SWIM CENTER

The swim center is in full swing and staff re-built a few pumps, cleaned the cells on the chlorine generator, purchased and installed new lane lines and did a general clean-up of the landscaping.

One Maintenance Supervisor attended the California Parks and Recreation Conference in Long Beach this month.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

DATE: April 4, 2016
TO: Parks & Recreation Commission, Arts Commission
FROM: Mary Chavez, Program Coordinator
RE: Facilities Division Status Report- March/April 2016

Summary for reservations and Facilities operations in the Parks (excluding SFSC):

Attendance at Reserved Facilities:

March and April have seen an increase in use of reservable areas with parties, weddings, memorial services and sports taking place at park centers, picnic areas and athletic fields. Staff estimates that approximately 60,000 park visitors attended events in reserved facilities at County Parks in these two months, an increase of 50,000 from January and February attendance.

Center and Meeting Room Rentals in March and April 2016:

March and April hosted 19 weddings, receptions and family events held at various Park Centers with rental revenues totaling \$16,125. 52 meeting room rentals also took place during these two months, with revenues totaling \$1,475.

Picnic Area Rentals in March and April 2016:

Use of the reservable picnic areas have increased during the months of March and April, with 47 rentals for parties and family events taking place so far, as compared to 13 rentals that took place in January and February. Anna Jean Cummings picnic areas continue to book months in advance and typically rent to capacity on weekends each month. Revenues for March and April total \$7,000.

Athletic Fields in March and April 2016 (includes February info for baseball fields):

The season for athletic field use began late February for baseball and softball fields, while soccer fields were opened between the end of March and beginning of April in an effort to provide for a longer renovation period. The athletic season is now in full swing and has become very busy, for both baseball and soccer fields, with over 665 individual field bookings in 18 athletic fields (548 bookings in baseball fields and 167 bookings in soccer fields). Revenues totaled \$35,800.

Special Events:

The special event season has kicked off during these past few months with a number of events having already successfully taken place. The **Off Road Ramble "Shamrock Run" 5k/10k Race** was held at Pinto Lake County Park on March 13th. This is the first of four races in the Run the Bay Race Series 2016 series hosted by Fleet Feet Sports, two of which are held in County Parks. The race raised proceeds for Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks. Coast Chapel hosted a free **Easter Egg Hunt** for the community at Brommer Street Park on March 26th, which was well attended. Activities included a free BBQ, jump house, and photos with the Easter bunny. April events include: **Earth Day** on April 16th at the San Lorenzo Park, with use of the Government Center Parking lot for festival parking or for event activities as back-up plan for weather; Team in Training/ Leukemia & Lymphoma Society will host the **Spring Fun Run for Team Coco** at Pinto Lake County Park on April 16th. This race commemorates the 13th birthday of Coco Lazenby, a civic-minded, young community activist, who was killed by a distracted driver in 2015; Aptos Park will host Mar Vista Elementary's inaugural **Move For Mar Vista** on April 17th and the Fallen Officers Foundation's second annual **Never Forget Relay** on April 30th. This memorial relay race is open to teams of first responders in honor of our fallen heroes. The Big Stick Surfing Association will host the annual **Big Stick Log Jam** retro surf board contest at Pleasure Point Park on April 23rd and 24th, which fundraises for the community and ocean-focused non-profits. 2016 is proving to be another busy year of special events.



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Jeff Gaffney
Director

DATE: March 25, 2016
TO: Arts Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Kathy DeWild, Program Coordinator
RE: Recreation & Cultural Services Division Status Report – February/March 2016

MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS

The 2016-17 Santa Cruz County Parks activity pamphlet was mailed to over 51,000 county residents on March 18; staff will distribute copies of the pamphlet to local libraries and business. Swim lessons, summer camps, preschool programs, activities for older adults and seniors, and more fill the pages, showing the many programs offered to the public by the Parks Department. Advertisements will also be placed in local papers, highlighting summer recreation opportunities.

ARTS AND CULTURAL

Art Exhibitions

Melinda Vahradian's watercolor paintings are on exhibition at the Simpkins Family Swim Center / Parks office through May 23.

Traffic Box Art

Vanessa Stafford, a local artist, approached Parks Department staff for approval to paint the exterior of three traffic controller boxes located at the intersection of Paul Sweet Road and Soquel Drive, near the Highway 1 north on-ramp. Ms. Stafford had received a \$1,000 grant for her Project via a "Create Grant" from the Arts Council of Santa Cruz County. The three traffic boxes Ms. Stafford wishes to paint are within the Caltrans right-of-way, so could not be included as part of the County's traffic box art program, Outside the Box. Fortunately, Caltrans provides a way for local communities and artists to create public artwork in the State right-of-way through their Transportation Art Projects program, which requires an application for approval so an encroachment permit may be issued. Parks staff worked with Ms. Stafford to complete the application, which has been sent off to Caltrans for review.

Community Public Art Projects – Just in Time (JIT) Panel

Two community-initiated public art projects were recently given the green light by the Arts Commission's JIT Panel. Both projects, initiated, funded and installed by community members, will beautify retaining walls on Soquel Ave. which have been frequent targets of graffiti.

The first project will feature a colorful, floral mosaic mural created by Aptos Junior High students, under the direction of teacher Susan Megorden. Neighborhood resident Denise Elerick has for years been working diligently to keep the graffiti off the wall. Having seen the beautiful mosaics produced by Aptos Jr. High's Public Art Club, she had the idea to ask the county to allow a mosaic to be installed on the wall at the foot of the road leading to Vienna Woods, across from

Mar Vista Elementary. The plan is to cover the wall with a 4x20 foot mosaic design of wild flowers on a grassy field. The cost estimate for the project is \$1,000, which will pay for the supplies. To raise money for the project, a GoFundMe campaign has been started. https://www.gofundme.com/aptos-mosaic-art?utm_medium=wdgt.

The second mural project was initiated by Haley Turner, Program Manager of the Graffiti Removal Project (a program of the Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz County). She contacted a local artist, Steven Rankin, who is also a dedicated volunteer with the Graffiti Removal Project. He plans to paint the long retaining wall at Soquel Ave. and Cunnison Lane, which is behind the Farm Park bus stop, with pop-art style imagery inspired by patterns found on a farm.

ADULT AND SENIOR PROGRAMS

March is very busy as a new batch of trips has just been published and trip-goers are responding by registering for their favorites!

We will be implementing three trips in April. On April 7, trip-goers will experience the 31st annual design showcase *Bouquets to Art* exhibition at the de Young museum as well as a guided tour of the world premiere *Oscar de la Renta: The Retrospective* exhibition. Then on April 14, we will journey to the Almaden Quiksilver Mining Museum where we will learn about the history of mercury mining in the area and tour other areas of historical interest in New Almaden. On the way home, participants will enjoy wine-tasting in Morgan Hill and a stop at Chitactac-Adams Heritage Park. Lastly, on April 30, we will take a natural history cruise on the Suisun Marsh while enjoying lunch on board. The trip will conclude with a visit to the Suisun Wildlife Center.

May will feature the following trips: 5/11 – San Francisco Giants game, 5/14 – Sacramento Great Train Robbery with Lunch & Old Town Sacramento, 5/24 – Discover Sausalito.

YOUTH RECREATION PROGRAMS

Mar Vista ACE - February was a festive month at ACE. We began with Theme Week, during which each day featured a different theme including: Kids' Choice Day, Groundhog Day, Superhero/Villain Day, Twin Day & Balloon Day. The most fun had was definitely on Balloon Day, as kids of all ages just can't seem to get enough of them and they can be used for a multitude of fun activities! Next was Valentine's and Chinese New Year (Year of the Monkey)

Week. Participants made Chinese lanterns and Valentine's cards, and played games like Monkey Field Ball, Yes-Let's, Beckon and more. The highlight of the week was a Valentine's themed potluck party. During World Week, programming was developed in order to teach participants a bit about life in New Zealand, Japan, Russia & Africa. Games were played such as Hanaichimonme, Otedama games, Island Tag, Fipe and more. Projects included rice panda-shaped snacks, cherry blossom tree art, Matryoshka dolls, African Pancakes and more. We also did the Hokey Pokey, limbo and more during a field trip to the Roller Palladium!

March began with Dr. Seuss Week, during which participants made silly hats, Seuss-inspired pancake character creations, wrote their own Dr. Seuss stories and more. They also played games such as Seuss Nation and Seuss character charades. Next was Health & Fitness Week, which featured activities such as My Food Plate collages, Ants-on-a-Log, dental health relays, Active Ball and more. We were also joined by Brenna from the SPCA, who brought her special canine friend to help teach the children about dog safety. During Leaping Leprechauns Week we searched for "gold", built leprechaun traps, made shamrock dough, played Rainbow & Pot of Gold, and cooked "Leprechaun" cookies. During Spring Into Spring Week, participants played games such as Shower Ball, Line Tag and Flag Battle. They also made wind socks, craft stick chicks and more. The highlight of the week was a visit from a Deputy Sheriff who presented on making choices to help ensure safety. Spring break begins on March 25 and we will offer a Spring Camp at Aptos Village Park.

April will feature the following themes: Love-N-Pandas, Monarch Week - Kings, Queens & Wings, Mad Science Week, and Transportation Week. Special events will include a field trip to Marianne's Ice Cream & Seacliff Village Park (staff are *so* excited to be taking our first field trip to our new County Park!), a carnival and petting zoo, a visit from The Science Guy, and an on-site Wheels Day.

Spring Day Camp - This year's Spring Camp is themed Ports of Call. Participants will take an imaginary discovery cruise to a different country each day and learn about the culture. Campers will get outdoors, explore, make new friends, play and create. Wednesday features a field trip to the Boardwalk for a day of rides and fun in the sun!

Mar Vista Kinder Enrichment - February was such a gratifying month for us in Kinder Enrichment. Fellow lead staff, Oscar Arroyo, shared his passion for basketball with the children during Super Sports week. We also squeezed in cute pop-up puppets for Groundhog Day. We had a very red potluck party for Big Heart week, as well as making heart-y animals. The next week of the month, Mardi Gras week, found us visiting the children's version of the zany traditions of New Orleans; the big hit of the week was creating masks with sequins and lots of feathers. For the last full week of the month we explored different modes of transportation .

Now in March, we have planned themes that promote imagination. In our first week we will celebrate the Dr. Seuss's birthday and accomplishments by reading some of his popular books. We will make a pair of "sox for fox," bookmarks, and taste green eggs and ham. After Dr. Seuss week we plan on reading some myths and legends of Shamrocks and Leprechauns for Green of Our World week. We'll also play a fun running game called "rainbow tag," marble-paint some shamrocks, do a science experiment with flowers and green food die, and watercolor rainbows. The week of Leaping Leprechauns we'll share stories of the folklore of the wee people. We had a green gathering in honor of St. Patrick's Day and the children were served green and gold food with greenish lemonade.

La Selva ACE – La Selva Beach After-school Childhood Enrichment is headed towards a super spring as we recently wrapped up a wonderful winter. Recent weekly themes included Green & Growing, which included brand new art activities such as a lucky rainbow necklace craft, a shamrock bouquet, a paper Irish Dancer and lucky charm necklaces. Green & Growing week also included fun activities such as pillow polo, a game of Kaos, a top leprechaun obstacle course, musical chairs, four corners and silent ball. The highlight for Green and Growing week was our St. Patrick's Day Potluck Party. The following week's theme was Leaping Leprechauns which included exciting activities such as a new scrunchy shamrock art, a game of rainbow tag, a game of elves vs. leprechauns, green shamrock shakes, a game of capture the gold, a game of beckon at triangle park, a new rainbow wands craft and more! The highlight for Leaping Leprechauns week was a pajama & movie day, and the kids enjoyed the movie *Alpha and Omega*. Currently, our weekly theme is Rad Rabbits with activities such as spring flowers craft, egg relays, belly bumpers, a steal the egg game, a decorating eggs, and a rabbit obstacle course. The highlight for Rad Rabbits week is a field trip to the Santa Cruz Roller Palladium. We look forward to a sensational spring and we return to field trips to the Simpkins Swim Center and Manresa Beach.

QUAIL HOLLOW RANCH INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

Recent Interpretive Programs and Activities:

- Eric Feuss from the Santa Cruz Bird Club led a Beginning Birding walk on Sunday, March 6 from 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.
- Paul Haskins came out for In Search of Herps – Reptiles and Amphibians on Sunday, March 6 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- On Saturday, March 12 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. the Fungus Federation led a Fungus Foray with 24 people attending.
- Twelve people camp out to help pull French broom at the Broom Bash on Saturday, March 19 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Linda Brodman and Chuck Baughman led the work party.

Two new extra-help Recreation Specialists have been hired to work at Quail Hollow: Christian Schwarz and Jeremy Lin. Christian is an excellent naturalist and Jeremy an excellent interpreter. Their ideas will help add a new dimension to the park's programs.

Park staff, Kathy DeWild, Will Fourt, Lee Summers, Christian Schwarz, and Jeremy Lin along with volunteer, Al Keuter met with County Planer, Matt Johnston on Thursday, March 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to walk a flag line for a possible trail from the top of the Sunset trail to the Pace Family Wilderness and to determine the requirements needed to begin construction. California Department of Fish and Wildlife biologist, Terris Kasteen was unable to attend so another meeting will be scheduled to show her the prospective trail. That date is to be determined.

The nest box season is underway with a number of nest starts but no eggs laid as yet.

Upcoming Interpretive Programs and Activities:

- The Santa Cruz Astronomy Club will be back for a star gazing event, A Stellar Experience – Star Gazing at Quail Hollow on Friday, April 1 from 7:30 p.m. – midnight
- On April 3 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Lee Summers, Park Interpreter will lead a Running with the Wildcats birthday party for 10 kids ages 6 & 7.
- In Search of Herps – Reptiles and Amphibians at Quail Hollow will take place on Sunday, April 3 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. with Paul Haskins leading the program.
- A History Hike field trip will take place on Sunday, April 3 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in which Lee Summers, Park Interpreter will lead members of the SLV History Museum on a tour of the trails and ranch house.
- The first of the Treks to the Forbidden Sandhills will take place on Sunday, April 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Other dates include Sundays, April 17 and 24. Volunteer, Sean Warton and Interpreter, Lee Summers will lead hikes.
- Candice McLaren will offer a program called Chicks in the City, Hens in the Hood – Raising Chickens at home on Sunday, April 10 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Lee Summers, Park Interpreter will lead a Creepy Crawly bug hunt field trip for 17 Kindergarten children on Monday, April 11 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- Birding through the Habitats with Alex Rinkert will take place on Sunday, April 17 from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.
- Renee Shepherd from Renee’s Garden will offer a class on Great Seed Gardens for Busy People on Sunday, April 17 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.



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Jeff Gaffney
Director

DATE: April 4, 2016
TO: Parks and Recreation Commission, Arts Commission
FROM: Margaret Ingraham, Aquatics Supervisor
RE: Aquatics Division Status Report

AQUATIC PROGRAMS

Our spring schedule runs through June 10th and is as follows:

Lap Pool Hours:

Monday thru Friday: 6:00 am to 7:30 pm

Saturdays: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sundays: 9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Warm Water Pool Hours: (Hour will vary May 29th – June 10th due to School Parties)

Monday, Wednesday and Fridays: 6:00 am – 10:30 am
3:00 pm – 5:00pm
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Tuesday and Thursday 6:00 am – 5:00 pm
6:30 pm - 7:30pm

Saturday 9:00 – 10:30 am (Adults only)
10:30 am – 12:30 pm (Adults and children 6 years and under)
1:00 – 4:00 pm (All ages)

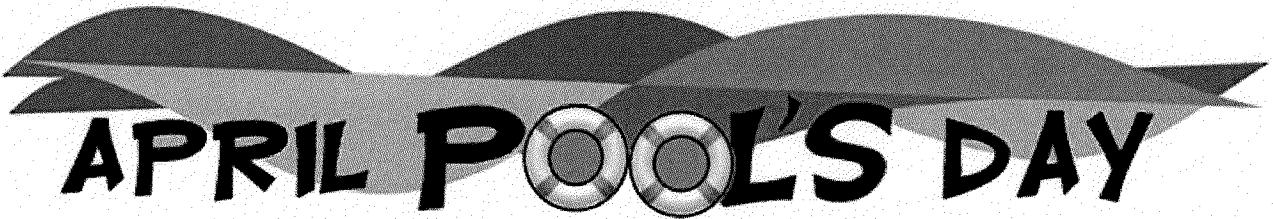
Sunday 9:00 am – 12:30 pm – (All ages)

NEW THIS YEAR

**Join us on April 1st for our first annual April Pool's Day!
Friday April 1, 3:00 - 5:00pm**

The Mission of the Santa Cruz County Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services is to provide safe, well designed and maintained parks and a wide variety of recreational and cultural opportunities for our diverse community

FREE entry for Recreation Swim on April Pool's Day when you register for any summer youth program!



APRIL POOLS DAY

Also FREE on April Pool's Day for all who enter:
FREE Stand-Up Paddle Board Lessons
FREE Treading Water Clinics for Kids
FREE Swim Lesson Assessments

Swim lessons – spring lessons are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:30am – 12:30pm; Monday/Wednesday/Friday and Tuesday/Thursday evenings from 4:00 – 7:00 pm.

Summer Program Registration started **March 28 at 9am** and the Junior Guard programs are filling up quickly with some sessions completely full.

Water Polo - Sundays from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Participants must be a member of USAWPA to participate in the program.

Spring Break Pool Junior Lifeguard Program – The Spring Break Pool Junior Lifeguard Program will be running April 4 - 8 at Simpkins Family Swim Center, Mon – Fri from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm with the option for participants to stay for Recreation swim from 2:00 – 5:00 pm free of charge. The spring program follows similar schedules and activities as our very popular Summer Pool Junior Lifeguard Program and has a special activity day on the last day.

Lifeguard Training Classes - Lifeguard Training Classes are being offered and will continue through the end of April. Most classes will be held on Friday evenings and Saturdays; fees are \$310 for residents and \$341 for non-residents. As well, Simpkins Family Swim Center will also be offering limited courses in First Aid for Public Safety Personnel (CA Title 22). Interested candidates can find more information on the parks website at www.scparks.com. All course materials are included in the course fees.

Aquatic Staff Recruitment

The following positions are currently open; Lifeguard, Head Lifeguard, Aquatic Specialist. The recruitment ends April 22nd.

Special Olympics

On Friday evenings through April Special Olympics has rented 4 lanes in the 50 meter pool for training and coaching.

Private Pool Parties – Private Pool Parties are available on Saturdays & Sundays. A variety of aspects of the facility may be rented for Private Pool Parties, from just the warm pool to aspects accommodating up to 110 people. Private Pool Parties are scheduled on weekends, spring, summer and fall, after the facility has closed to the public.

School Parties – Once again local schools will be renting the facility for their end of the year parties starting the last week in May and continuing into June.

Adult Fitness Swimming - Adult Fitness Swimming is very popular at the Simpkins Family Swim Center. The best-attended workouts are Tuesday and Saturday mornings; up to 35 swimmers fill the 50-meter pool at these times. Fitness swimmers may choose from several different workout times: Monday's 6:00 am; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday workouts are at 6:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Water Aerobics & Exercise - The water exercise classes this year continue to reach their highest capacity to date. Water exercise is an excellent way for people to meet their fitness goals without impact on the joints. Classes are designed to appeal to all levels of ability including, healthy, pre-natal, seniors, and rehabilitating or cross training fitness enthusiasts. A monthly calendar is available with dates, times and instructors names. Previous swimming or water-exercise experience is not required for participation in any of the water exercise classes.

Lifeguard Training Exercises –

The lifeguard in-service in March was a swim condition check; shallow water spinal rescues, and a swim lesson review.

In April the topics scheduled to be covered are:

Emergency action plans

In May the topics scheduled to be covered are:

Victim recognition, skills review, and pool rules discussion.

Swim Teams - The Cabrillo Threshers and Santa Cruz County Aquatics swim teams continue to rent lanes in the 50-meter pool. The swim teams offer school-age competitive swimming programs Monday through Friday from 4:00-7:30 p.m.

Pool Closures and Holiday Schedule

There are no scheduled pool closures in April, June, or July.

The pools will be closed on Monday May 9th for a major maintenance project to the pool filters.

Live Oak Community Rooms - The Live Oak Community Rooms at the swim center are rented out regularly throughout the year for meetings, small events and classes.



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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

DATE: APRIL 4, 2016
TO: PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: SHERYL BAILEY & WILL FOUNT, PLANNING DIVISION
RE: PARKS PROJECT PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS ON CURRENT PROJECTS

NORTH COUNTY PARKS (Highlands, Ben Lomond, Felton Covered Bridge, Probation, Michael Gray Field, Quail Hollow Ranch and the North Coast)

Quail Hollow Brook Restoration Project was completed in October 2016. The stream and trail restoration are still functioning as intended despite all the recent heavy rains. A Notice of Completion was approved by the Board of Supervisors on March 22, 2016, for Conley General Engineering, Inc. Conley General Engineering Inc. did an exceptional job!

Felton Library: The Friends of Felton Library have contracted a consultant to prepare a community concept for the Felton Library grounds. The focus of the community concept will be creating outdoor natural explore space for children. County Parks staff is working with the Friends of Felton Library, who is leading the project.

MID-COUNTY PARKS (AJC, Government Center, Emeline Complex, Twin Lakes, Brommer, Felt, Floral, Coffee Lane, Soquel Lyons, Jose Avenue, Winkle Farm, Willowbrook Lane, Moran Lake, Maplethorpe, Santa Cruz Gardens, Heart of Soquel Plaza, The Farm, Mid-County beach access areas)

Brommer Park: Staff has prepared a preliminary report on potential options for adding pickleball courts at Brommer Park.

Chanticleer Avenue Park: Staff submitted a grant application for Phase I Park Improvements at Chanticleer Avenue Park to the Land Water Conservation Fund. Staff and community members met the grant administrator at the park in March. As required by the federal grant application, staff worked with an archaeologist to complete National Environmental Policy Act review of the project and required consultation with interested Native American groups. The State Parks Office of Grants and Local Services will make a recommendation on funded projects to the National Parks Service in May.

Staff has worked with the Santa Cruz Playground Project, Shane's Inspiration and the County's consultants on the site plan and fundraising plan for LEO's Haven, the inclusive playground at Chanticleer, and other related park improvements that will be part of the first phase of development at Chanticleer.

Farm Park Pedestrian Bridge (Phase 2): A design team was selected to develop conceptual plans, a preliminary cost estimate, provide related services for an upcoming community meeting, and detailing outside agency permit requirements for installing the pre-purchased pedestrian bridge. A design kick-off meeting was completed on March 18th and preliminary sketches are anticipated in mid April. The community meeting is scheduled for April 26th 7:00 pm – 8:30pm and will be held at the Soquel Congregational Church within the Parish Hall.

Heart of Soquel- Park and Parking Improvement Project (Phase 1): A Notice of Completion is pending resolution of a drainage issue located within the western parking lot. The Parks staff and consultant team recently replied to the 2nd draft plan submitted by the contractor. The second draft plan was considerably closer in meeting the County's objectives and we are hopeful that a resolution will be implemented soon.

Heart of Soquel Park- Pathway Extension (Phase 2): Parks staff has been working with SSA Landscape Architects Inc. to develop a scope of work that will produce conceptual sketches for real property negotiations and a draft conceptual plan for permitting purposes. The goal is to connect to the existing pathway at the Heart of Soquel Plaza area and continue the trail to the south and up and around to connect to the pedestrian bridge by the Lyons Park on Main Street.

SOUTH COUNTY PARKS (Polo Grounds, Valencia Hall, Hidden Beach, Seascape, Aptos Village, South County Beach access areas, Scott Park, Scott Estate, Aldridge Lane, Mesa Village, Pinto Lake, Seacliff Village Park, Freedom Government Annex)

Polo Grounds: County Planning approved the development permit for the construction of new restroom/concession and maintenance buildings. The Cabrillo Lions and County Parks have signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding Lions' contribution to partial construction of the project. The electrical work is currently out to bid and a pre-bid walkthrough has been completed. Staff has set up contracts with Cabrillo Lions' contractor, the building manufacturer, geotechnical engineer, and building inspector. The buildings and site have been designed and are being plan checked by the State of California. The project will break ground this spring.

Pinto Lake: The Resource Conservation District (RCD) has prepared designs for two sediment catchment basins in the park, located on Amesti Creek and the CCC Creek. County Parks staff is working with the RCD on final design, maintenance requirements, mitigation, match requirements and legal agreements for the projects.

Seacliff Village Park (Phase 1): The contractor is still in the process of finishing up some minor improvements and providing the Park with an acceptable irrigation pump and enclosure. Parks staff has requested potential change orders, including adding more large rocks and mortaring the bioswale rocks to prevent vandalism, adding additional erosion control measures and installing gopher baskets where plants have died and are under warranty for the contractor to replace. It has been determined that Parks Maintenance staff will complete this additional work, excluding the gopher basket installation.



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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JEFF GAFFNEY
DIRECTOR

April 4, 2016

Parks and Recreation Commission
County of Santa Cruz
979 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz CA 95062

SUBJECT: Pickleball Courts at Brommer Park – Staff Report on Potential Options

At the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on February 1, 2016, members of the Santa Cruz Pickleball Club presented a proposal to add four permanent and four shared pickleball courts to Brommer Street Park. As an outcome of this presentation and at the direction of the Parks and Recreation Commission, staff has prepared this brief informational report summarizing options for future study for adding permanent pickleball facilities at Brommer Street Park. This report summarizes the proposal presented by the Picklball Club at the February meeting, describes three general options for how pickleball courts might be added at Brommer Street Park, and summarizes potential next steps.

The Previous Proposal

The proposal presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission in February would involve resurfacing and restriping the existing tennis and basketball courts, and converting one of the tennis courts to a permanent set of four pickleball courts. The other tennis court would be shared between tennis, pickleball, and basketball. The proposal is summarized and redrawn in the context of the park in Figure 1. Upon looking into the dimensions of the proposed striping with the size of the court area at Brommer Park, staff has determined that the proposal as presented is not feasible as shown, as the basketball hoops would have to be located within the shared pickleball courts. Additionally, the basketball relocation to the Brommer Street side poses a higher risk of overthrown basketballs interfering with traffic on Brommer Street which is a safety concern.

Potential Options

Without expanding the court area, there is no way to add more than two permanent pickleball courts without having some level of impact to the other tennis court, or to the basketball courts. To consider some of the potential options with varying levels of impact, staff has summarized three options for the addition of permanent pickleball courts that may be feasible. There are other potential options, or combinations of these options that could be considered as well.

Option 1: Four permanent courts and two shared courts

It would be feasible and relatively inexpensive to convert the south tennis court to four permanent pickleball courts, as shown in Figure 2. The north tennis court could remain as a shared space for tennis, pickleball and basketball. However, with the addition of permanent pickleball courts on the south court, the distance between the sides of the north tennis court and adjacent obstructions (pickleball on the south and basketball backboards on the north) would not be the standard 12 feet, but would be reduced to 8 feet, which would be substandard and would have an impact on the quality of the tennis courts.

Option 2: Four permanent courts plus four shared courts with basketball relocated

As shown in Figure 3, it would potentially be feasible, and slightly more expensive to convert the south tennis court to four permanent pickleball courts, and to relocate the basketball hoops on the north tennis court to allow four shared pickleball courts, one shared tennis court, and two shared half court basketball courts. However, this scenario would have four implications on the basketball hoops:

- It requires slightly smaller safe space between basketball backboard and fence (8 feet instead of 10 feet).
- The basketball hoops would be overhanging the back of the tennis and pickleball courts. The backboard would be roughly even with the back pickleball line.
- One basketball hoop would be located near the playground, which means basketballs that accidentally go over the fence would land in the playground which could be a safety concern for small children.
- This scenario requires longer (8-foot) extended basketball hoops to keep post out of the way of tennis and pickleball courts, which is more expensive and requires a larger footing for the post.

Option 3: Expanding court area and providing four permanent courts and four shared courts

As shown in Figure 4, County Parks could investigate the feasibility and cost of expanding the court area by about ten feet, to accommodate four permanent pickleball courts on the north side. There could be a potential seating area built as well. The basketball courts would have to be moved to the south court, which may require a higher fence to address safety concerns with overthrown basketballs rolling onto Brommer Street. The feasibility of expanding the court is not known, and the cost would be relatively high. This option would require additional funding, design, engineering, and permitting prior to construction.

Next Steps

County Parks plans to hold a community meeting on April 18th, at 7:00 PM, at the Community Room at the Simpkins Swim Center at 979 17th Avenue, Santa Cruz, to discuss options with interested members of the community. Pending interest and available funding, County Parks could pursue any of these potential options.

Sincerely,



Jeff Gaffney
Director of Parks, Open Space & Cultural Services

Attachments

- Figure 1: Proposal from Santa Cruz Pickleball Club, February 1, 2016
- Figure 2: Option 1: Four Permanent and Two Shared Pickleball Courts
- Figure 3: Option 2: Four permanent courts plus four shared courts with basketball relocated
- Figure 4: Option 3: Expanding court area and providing four permanent courts and four shared courts

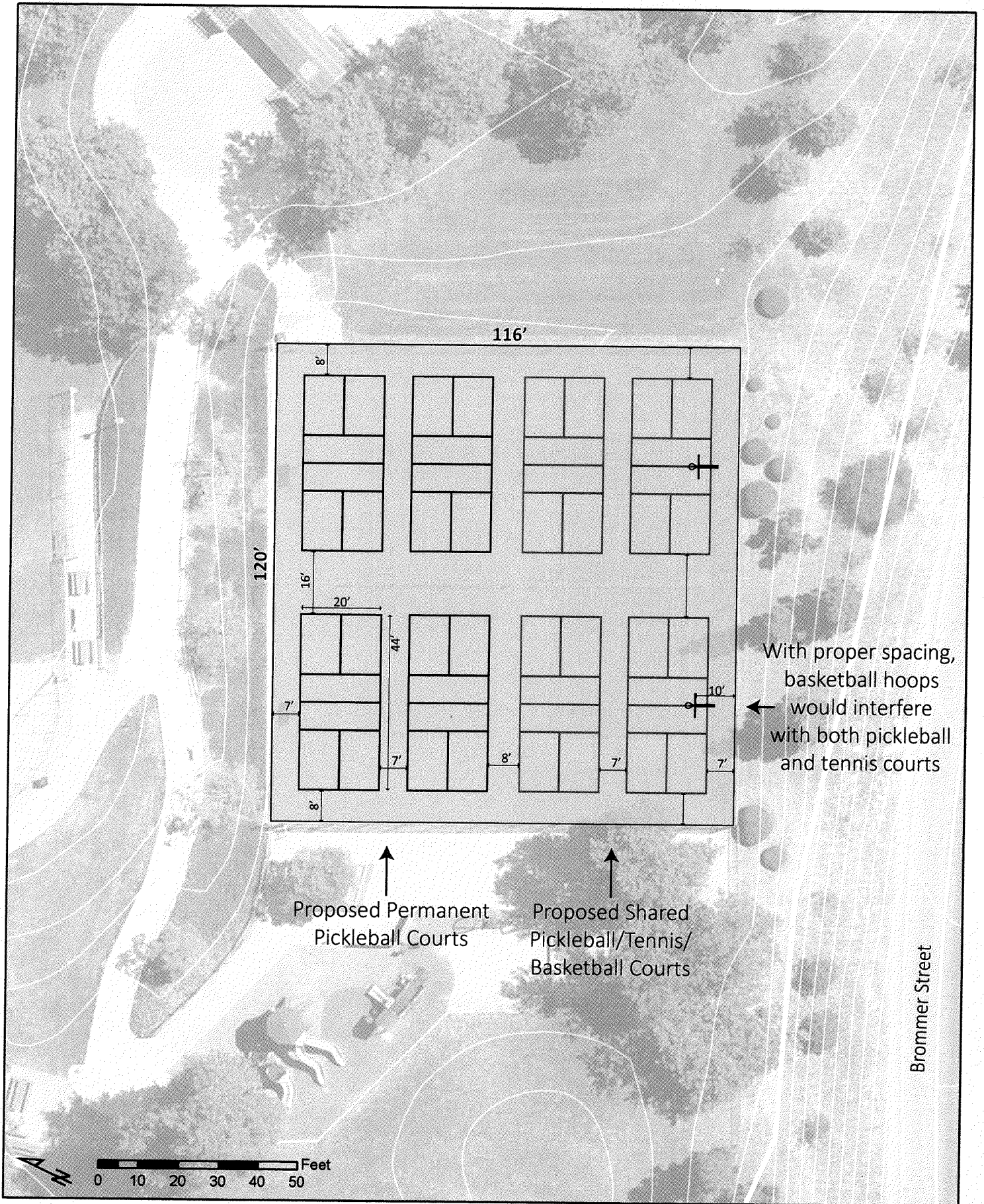


Figure 1
 Proposal from Santa Cruz Pickleball Club, February 1, 2016

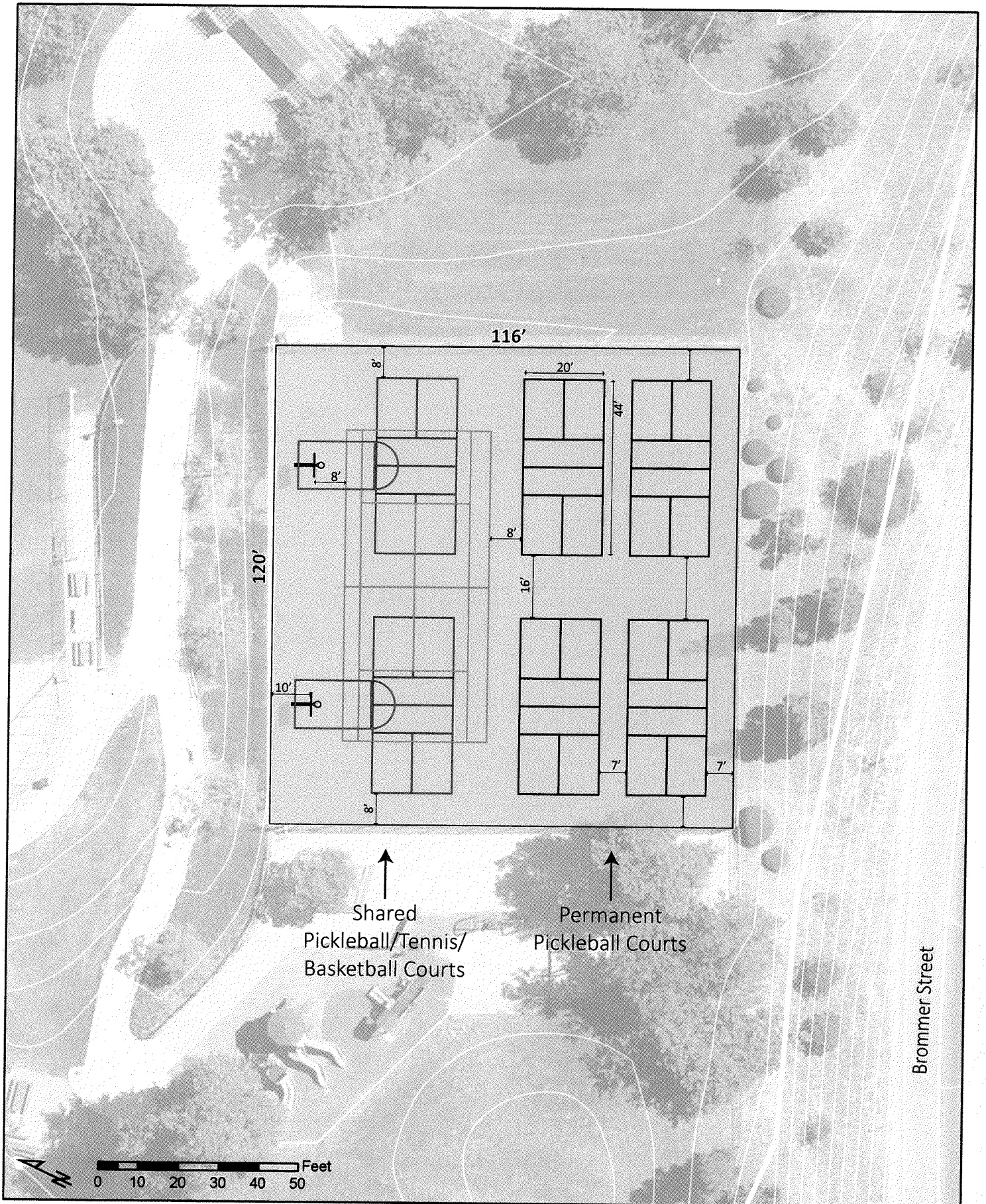


Figure 2
Option 1: Four Permanent and Two Shared Pickleball Courts

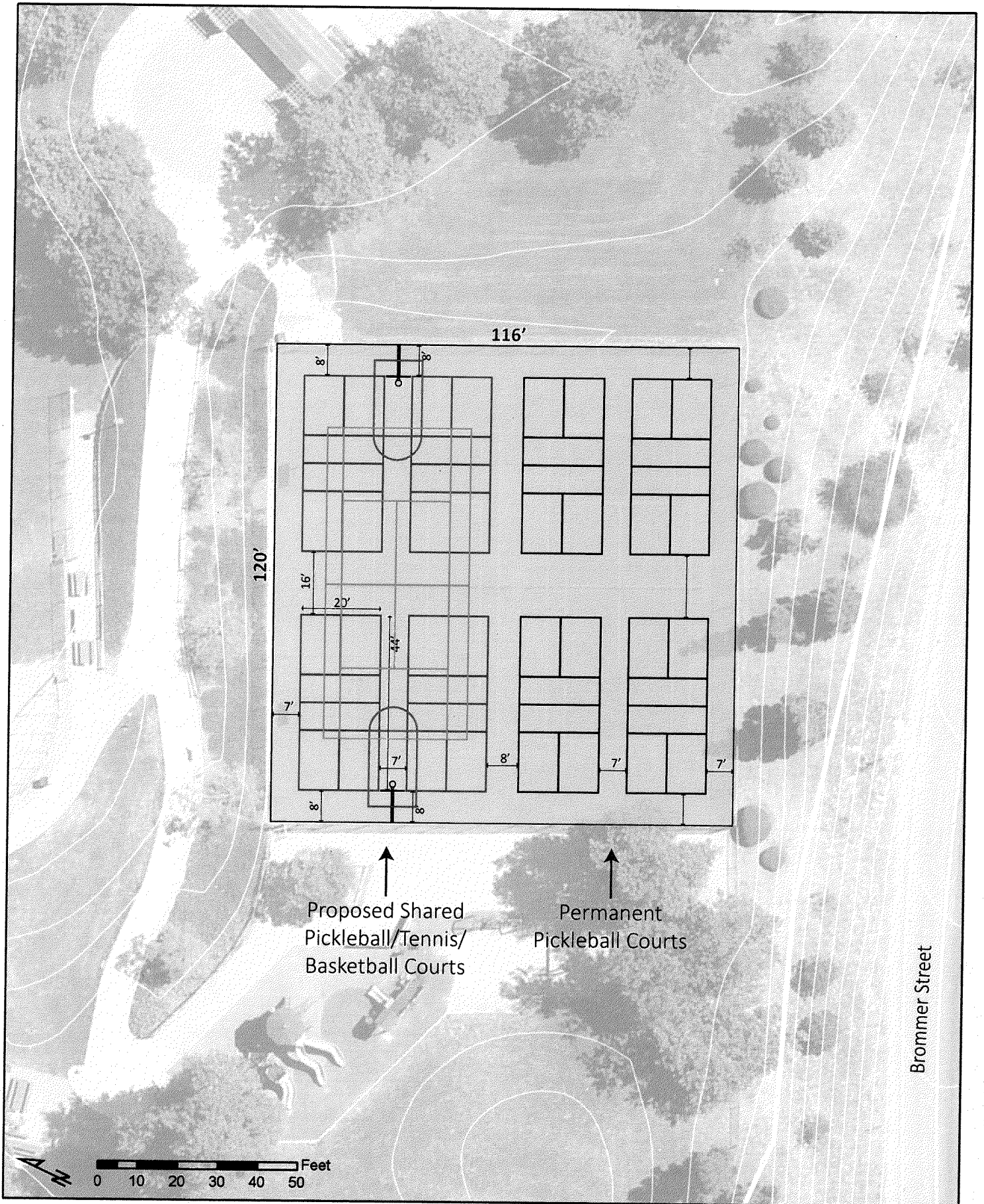


Figure 3
 Option 2: Four Permanent and Four Shared Pickleball Courts with Basketball Relocated

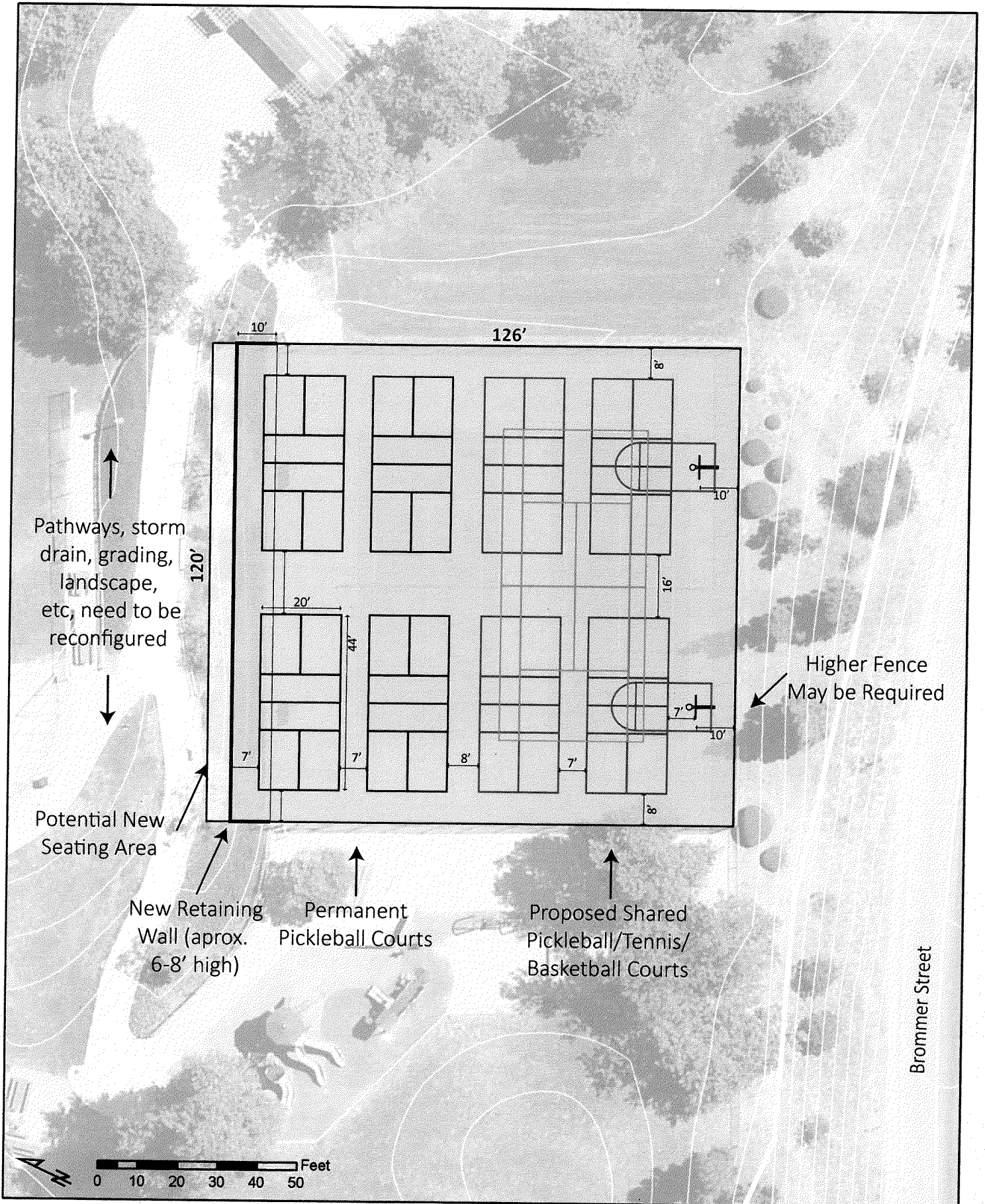


Figure 4
Expanded court area with four permanent courts and four shared courts

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING:

The Written Correspondence Listing is established to act as a report of materials received by the Commission as a whole, but may also include items requested for inclusion by individual Commissioners.

The Parks and Recreation Commission has received the following items of correspondence which require no official action by the Commission at this time:

Sample format below– delete and enter actual correspondence received:

1. Email from Maree Creed dated February 2, 2016, in support of reconfiguring the Brommer St. Park courts to include permanent pickleball courts.