

Carey Certo

From: Robert Maul
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 10:27 AM
To: Carey Certo; Yvette Sennewald
Subject: FW: Inquiry about tennis courts

From: Jennifer Betcher <jenniferbetcher@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 4:52 PM
To: McEathron, Jasen M. <Jasen.McEathron@camas.wednet.edu>
Subject: Re: Inquiry about tennis courts

Thank you for taking the time to explain how it works. I just wish that what little funding exists could go toward academics rather than athletics, but I understand the situation and appreciate how difficult this budget crunch must be for students, teachers and administrators alike.

Thank you,
Jenny

On Tue, Mar 18, 2025 at 3:43 PM McEathron, Jasen M. <Jasen.McEathron@camas.wednet.edu> wrote:

Hello Jennifer:

I believe you called earlier today, my apologies I've had several meetings today. For this project we are using Capital Projects funds that are restricted for capital use only and cannot be used to fund general operations. It is fairly common for government entities to manage various funds that have explicit legal purposes. That said, your question is commonly asked because home/private business finance typically does not have the same restrictions. This project is further unique with the private-nonprofit USTA willing to fund two-thirds of the project, which is a rare opportunity. Again, I understand it seems odd to make operational budget cuts and spend money on capital construction at the same time. These are just two legally separate funds. Hopefully this helps address your questions. Thank you for reaching out.

Best Regards,
Jasen McEathron
Director of Business Services
Camas School District No. 117
841 NE 22nd Ave.
Camas, WA 98607
360-833-7412 office direct
360-607-3413 cell

From: Robert Maul <RMaul@cityofcamas.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 3:21 PM
To: jenniferbetcher@gmail.com
Cc: McEathron, Jasen M. <Jasen.McEathron@camas.wednet.edu>; Carey Certo <CCerto@cityofcamas.us>; Yvette Sennewald <YSennewald@cityofcamas.us>; Anita Ashton <AAshon@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: FW: Inquiry about tennis courts

Good afternoon, Jennifer.

Your questions have been received and will be part of the record. As a matter of process, the City's role is to oversee permitting for the proposed use, building and fire safety issues. The city has no say in school funding, spending, or capital improvement projects. The hearing this week is to see if the proposed redeveloped tennis courts can meet city code for zoning, engineering, building and fire. The hearing examiner presiding over the hearing also has no role in school funding, spending, and capital plans.

I have copied Jasen McEathron from the Camas School District who can speak to district financial planning and investment.

I hope this provides some clarity for the process at least. Please let us know if you have any additional questions or need any additional information.

Regards,
Robert



Robert Maul
Planning Manager
Desk 360-817-7255
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From: Community Development Email <communitydevelopment@cityofcamas.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 2:11 PM
To: Yvette Sennewald <YSennewald@cityofcamas.us>
Cc: Robert Maul <RMaul@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: FW: Inquiry about tennis courts

See email below from Jennifer. I will add it to the record.

She left me a voicemail and when I called her back she just wanted to make sure I received her email and would like to have her questions answered prior to the hearing on Thursday. She will also be attending the hearing on Thursday.



Carey Certo
Administrative Support Assistant

Community Development
Office: 360-817-1568 x 2
www.cityofcamas.us | ccerto@cityofcamas.us

The permit center is closed daily 12-1pm

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From: Jennifer Betcher <jenniferbetcher@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 2:06 PM
To: Community Development Email <communitydevelopment@cityofcamas.us>
Subject: Inquiry about tennis courts

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I have two questions for the meeting on Thursday:

- 1) Would Camas School District still have to shutter their Odyssey Middle School campus if this project wasn't happening?
- 2) Doesn't it look bad for CSD to be spending \$1 million on this project when they are doing budget cuts that eliminate teacher jobs? Is there any harm in waiting to see how education funding shakes out before we do this project?

I'm not against improvements to our recreational opportunities here in Camas. My concern is that we are losing one of the most amazing campuses our school district has to offer its children for the sake of covering tennis courts. If you saw firsthand how well Odyssey Middle School works in the building it currently uses, you would question the timing of this project, too.

Thank you,

Jennifer Betcher

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