



## **COBURG CITY COUNCIL ACTION/ISSUE ITEM**

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### **TOPIC: Pickleball Court at Norma Pfeiffer Park**

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**Meeting Date:** September 13<sup>th</sup> 2022

**Staff Contact:** Brian Harmon Public Works Director

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### **REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION**

INFORMATION ONLY

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### **BACKGROUND**

In October of 2021, a member of the Community came to the Parks and Tree Committee meeting and talked about Pickleball and the idea of bringing the game to Coburg. Parks and Tree Committee loved this idea and discussed options. At the time, the discussion centered around utilizing one side of the Basketball Court at Norma Pfeiffer Park. After some research, we discovered that we would need to use the entire court for this activity. After looking at the options for resurfacing the Basketball Court compared to a tile court we went with the cheaper option of a tile court.

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### **PROCESS**

We had the Pickleball Court update in every Parks and Tree Agenda throughout the winter and spring of 2022, and was in the Public Works Reports provided to City Council as the project progressed. It was also mentioned in the 2021 Annual Report to City Council given by the Parks and Tree Committee. In the spring of 2022, Public Works met with community members including the Emerald Valley Pickleball Club, and determined the size and look of the court. In June of 2022, after sharing information with community members interested in Pickleball, as well as the Park & Tree Committee on the Versa Court tile product, and gaining approval, we ordered the tile court.

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### **BUDGET**

There was a budget of \$20,000, and we spent roughly \$17,500 on the court and net system.

## **ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS AND PROCESS**

We wanted to make sure that we could move the net system in order to utilize the space for events. In August 2022, at the Parks and Tree Committee Meeting, the Public Works Director informed the Committee that it might be difficult to relocate or move the court for events, and that alternative areas for events that utilized the court area such as the Car Show and the Antique Faire, may need to be determined. At that point, it did not seem to be a problem for to do so.

More research was completed to determine if the new tile court could be driven on. It was discovered that you could drive on this court. It was also discussed that since there doesn't seem to be any full court basketball games being played on the court, that we would leave the nets up, and the basketball nets could still be utilized. We should have the new court installed by late September or early October.

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## **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The Parks and Tree Committee heard testimony on the benefits of having a pickleball court in Coburg from two citizens. These included a year-round exercise activity that is for all ages. Additionally, it is the fastest growing sport in the Country and many surrounding Cities were installing or retrofitting courts. It has proven to bring people of many backgrounds and demographics together.

The Public Works Director is very apprehensive of having anyone drive on these tiles. However, it does appear that it can be done. Some of the concerns discussed at the Committee were:

- Basketball games would be impacted by the new Pickleball Court
- The Courts may have an impact on events going on in the Park.

The Committee also discussed the impacts to the events, and it was determined that it would have a little impact, and that we may be able to move the court off during those events. After the court was delivered, it was concluded that it may be time consuming to install or reinstall, but it could be done if needed.

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## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

This has been part of the Park & Tree process for over a year, and community members came to their meetings to discuss this project.

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## **NEXT STEPS**

- Install the courts and nets

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**Reviewed by:**

**Anne Heath, City Administrator**