



Agenda Item Report

Meeting Type: Committee of the Whole & Council

Meeting Date: January 20, 2026

Item Title: Pickleball Court Design

Submitted By: Matt Amundson, City Administrator

Detailed Description of Subject Matter:

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on discussions with the Columbus Country Club regarding the proposed pickleball court project at Fireman's Park, outline the planned next steps, and summarize financial considerations related to the 2026–2027 Capital Improvement Plan.

On January 6, I met with the Board of Directors for the Columbus Country Club to discuss the potential construction of new pickleball courts in Fireman's Park. The Country Club views the addition of these courts as an asset to the community as well as a benefit to both the park and the Club.

During this meeting, we reached general agreement regarding the City's interest in moving forward with project design and preparing the project for bidding in 2026.

As part of the planning process, staff will begin working with the Country Club on an amendment to the current lease. The amendment would:

- Remove the area designated for pickleball courts from the Country Club's leased area, and
- Include a proposed **10-year extension** of the existing lease agreement.

The current lease was last renewed 10 years ago and is structured as a **25-year lease**. Any amendment or extension would be brought forward to the Council for formal consideration.

The projected construction cost for the pickleball courts is **\$225,000–\$250,000**.

Funding to date includes:

- **\$45,000** raised by the Recreation Department
- **\$36,000** allocated in the **2025 Capital Improvement Plan**

This results in an estimated additional funding need of **approximately \$170,000**.

At the Council's discretion, staff can prepare additional **sponsorship and donation opportunities**, including potential naming rights for the courts or the complex. These options would be brought back to the Council for review and potential approval at a future meeting.

As part of planned 2026 borrowing, this project has been incorporated into the financing strategy.

To maintain responsible debt levels and reflect project readiness, I have removed the following from the planned borrowing schedule:

- **Kiwanis Park parking lot**, and
- **Public Works parking lot**

Both projects require additional design and discussion that can be completed in 2026. This will position each for more thorough consideration in the **2027 CIP**.

List all Supporting Documentation Attached:

Ruekert Mielke Task Order 2026-02

Action Requested of Council:

Approve task order 2026-02

Strategic Planning Objective(s):

#15 Enhance our focus on quality of life services