

## **Albert-Oakland Park Phase II Improvements**

IP Meeting Held on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

At Albert-Oakland Park Shelter #3

**Please Comment on what you like about the proposed potential improvements. Please be concise.**

- Make sure middle walkway is wide enough to accommodate waiting players and spectators and enough room to swing open the court gates. More concrete around outside perimeter for more room for spectators.
- Really grateful for more pickleball courts. Will be much more useful with lights.
- Like the center walkway on the new pickleball courts and that they are individually fenced.
- I like the center lane for court access.
- Love it!
- Seating around the new 10 courts not enough space just between the courts.
- Court walkway. Lights very important when courts initially go in!
- I like the redoing of the upper pickle courts to be like the bottom ones and getting rid of the tennis courts.
- Addition of pickleball courts. Espec including the fences; makes huge difference.

**What would you change about the proposed potential improvements? Please be concise.**

- Only four light poles on the corners?? Is that adequate lighting for the middle areas to prevent shadows on the court?? Water spigot close to pickleball courts. Sidewalk from upper to lower courts. Add defibrillator station. Bulletin board for posting communications.
- Lights as part of phase 1
- Add water fountain near pickleball courts. Add a path from upper to lower courts. Add a board of some sort on a fence or structure for notices, etc.
- Multiple water stations. Court lights asap.
- We need a defibrillator! Please. And would love a water fountain near the courts. An announcement board would also be great. And a path between the lower and upper courts! Thank you!
- Add a water station and a second bathroom.
- Water fountains near the courts. Improved lighting on the upper courts because the ball gets really hard to see when standing on large fence side at night. Slats for wind.
- Explore/research heating options to help extend the season for the outdoor pickleball courts. Maybe include tarps block the wind. Please add bathrooms at LAN golf course and LOW golf on back nine- please! More and more ladies are playing golf. As a nurse/ and medical professional- info. Is that anatomically women's bladders are a lot smaller so have to go more often than men. It's not hygienic/safe to think people go out in the woods to relieve themselves. And it will often stink in hot weather at "popular" pee site opportunities. Love the new electric golf cards. Thank you!

### Questions/comments from BeHeardComo website

- I am unable to attend the meeting-what are the proposed additional renovations to the courts?
- Would it be possible to add a drinking fountain to the pickleball courts?
- Are renovated or additional restrooms part of the plan? The current single, one-stall restrooms are woefully inadequate for the number of people using the park for tennis, pickleball, disc golf, and picnics.
- Please design the middle walkway (between the pickleball courts) wide enough for waiting players and spectators to stand and sit and walk through. And allow extra room for the court gates to swing open without obstruction. Maybe concrete walkways around the outside perimeter for more area for spectators. Will there be any outside gates to access each court? Or is the plan to only allow access through that middle walkway?
- Shelter replacement and playground improvements should take priority over more pickleball courts. With the increased costs of construction materials and labor, this budget is far from enough to complete all these improvements. The shelter and the playground severely lack accessibility and safe park lighting. Focusing more of the budget on universal surfacing, lighting and accessibility is much more needed than pickleball courts.
- Can't wait until the improvements start. We need more courts so bad. Water fountain would be great and access from uppercourts to the lowercourts especially during ShowMe games and other tournaments.
- Please don't remove the last tennis court at AO. I live in the neighborhood and use the sole remaining tennis court. I am not supportive of removing this for more pickleball courts. I appreciate not having to drive somewhere to do so-the other 2 tennis courts have already been removed, can we keep this one please?

### Questions/Comments from direct email

- Would like to request that the City allow an adequate budget to provide maintenance to the court's surface (cracks) and provide other upkeep on the fencing, nets, etc. The clips securing the fences break periodically (deterioration due to normal climate conditions). If not replaced in a timely manner, the fence will bend out of shape. Lack of maintenance will shorten the lifespan of the fence, create gaps which would allow balls to exit the court, create safety concerns, etc. NOTE: I was at Bethel Park tennis courts this weekend (for a pickleball tournament); some of the fences were loose and it allowed balls to roll under the fence and exit the court. Playground equipment: For families playing pickleball who bring young children, a small play area near the pickleball courts would be a nice addition. AED device: Having an AED device available near the courts could be lifesaving. With that said, I understand there are likely concerns regarding vandalism. I'm not sure what the solution to that issue would be but felt this was worth mentioning. I have played pickleball in several other states and they have AED device near the courts. I have heard there will be shade provided @ the new upper courts. This will be a welcome addition as there is currently no shade on those courts. I'm assuming the new courts will have upgraded "pickleball" lighting to replace the existing "tennis height" lighting. Many of the lights are burned out and it's quite

dark on the north courts at night :-) I appreciate all the City is doing to try and keep up with the rapidly growing sport of pickleball. Thank you for your time.

- Will the center walkway have any shade? That would sure be helpful.
- On the drawings, I noticed the benches shown in the center walkway. I can't tell from the drawings how wide the center walkway is.
- I've been to courts in AZ where the center walkway was completely shaded & they had small tables and benches. Each court also had a box strapped to the fence for stacking paddles. It was a very nice setup. Has anyone mentioned ideas for how to do a paddle stack area for the courts (during peak usage times)?
- Is it possible to keep the existing high fence (maybe it's 10 feet now?) all around the perimeter of the new upper pickleball courts? Maybe it would have to be removed during bulldozing, demolition and reconstruction. But could that high fence be put back in? Maybe that would save some expense by re-using the existing fence. It would be helpful to keep the balls contained. If that is not possible.....Please consider a taller than 4 foot fence on the east and west sides, (maybe 6 foot all around perimeter?) If balls are hit out of the east and west sides... they will go far, down the hill, maybe onto the pedestrian sidewalks. The terrain is not as flat at upper courts as it is in at lower courts. Thank you for listening and for having park reps at the AO Park meeting last week.
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