



James Donison, P.E.
Commissioner of Public Works

Date: July 19, 2018

TO: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager *ED*

FROM: Jim Donison, P.E., DPW Commissioner

SUBJECT: 6/26/2018 Motion 11.3 C. Leahy - Req. City Mgr. Provide an update regarding installation of Pickle Ball courts throughout the City.

6/26/2018 Motion 11.10 C. Mercier - Req. City Mgr. Contact DPW Commissioner to investigate whether Pickle Ball can be played on the Shedd Park Tennis Courts.

6/26/2018 Motion 11.20 M. Samaras - Req. City Mgr. Look into the installation of Pickle Ball Courts and other activities for senior citizens at Shedd Park and other public parks throughout the City.

I am writing in response to the above motion made by C. Mercier, C. Leahy and M. Samaras. DPW has investigated this request.

There are a total of 22 tennis courts throughout the City at 8 different parks. These parks include:

# of COURTS	TENNIS COURT LOCATION:
3	CALLERY PARK--37' X 78'
2	GAGE FIELD--36' X 77'
2	FR.MAGUIRES--36' X 78'
3	O'DONNELL PARK-36' X 78'
6	SHEDD PARK-36' X 77'
2	SHEDD PARK-36' X 77'
1	SOUTH COMMON-36' X 78'
3	McPHERSONS-35' X 77'
22	TOTAL COURTS

A local recreational tennis court contractor has estimated a cost of \$300 to \$400 per tennis court to paint regulation size Pickle Ball line marking on the tennis courts surfaces. These line marking, in acrylic water based line paint, could be in various colors such as blue, red



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or yellow, which would contrast with the existing tennis court lines and allow the courts to be used for multi-purposes. This multi-use court use approach has been used successfully on other courts throughout the country. Pickle Ball teams/players would need to determine if the existing tennis courts net were adequate for play or if slight modifications to the nets would be required. A regulation pickle ball net is **36 inches tall** at the sidelines and 34 inches in the center, as opposed to a tennis net that is **42 and 36 inches** at the same points, respectively. There are relatively inexpensive fixtures available which could be placed on the tennis nets to accommodate these modifications for pickle ball use if necessary.

It is recommended that three separate parks for Pickle Ball/Tennis use be designated in the City. These three parks would be: 1) the double courts in Shedd Park off of Boylston Street 2) O'Donnell Park off of Gorham Street with 3 tennis courts and 3) Father McGuire Park off of Woodward Avenue with 2 tennis courts. Use of the O'Donnell tennis courts will require some pavement improvements to fill in the existing cracks in the court surface.

In addition, the Parks Department has 6 pickle ball kits available which were purchased as part of the summer youth recreation program. These kits have not been used very frequently by the youth and are in good condition. The kits include nets, paddles and balls. They could be available for pickle ball users with coordination with the Parks Department.

The portable pickle ball kits could be used for indoor use such at the Senior Center.

This report will be forwarded on to the Board of Parks for consideration at their next meeting.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this motion response.

Thank you