

Jefferson County
Board of Commissioners
Agenda Request

To: Board of Commissioners
Mark McCauley, County Administrator

From: Monte Reinders, P.E., Public Works Director/County Engineer 

Agenda Date: June 26, 1:30 P.M. Workshop Format

Subject: Discussion of Courthouse Park pickleball noise issue

Statement of Issue: A neighbor of Courthouse Park pickleball courts has expressed a concern about noise from the pickleball courts to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and the Board of County Commissioners. The Parks and Recreation manager has prepared a presentation with background information and options.

Analysis/Strategic Goals/Pro's & Con's: Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America (NPR, 2/2022). It can also create noise (CNN, 3/2023). Solutions exist including noise reducing balls and paddles, restricted hours, and sound absorbing fence panels. No single solution is perfect. There are 9 total pickleball courts within .5 miles of Courthouse Park. PT High School and Mountain View Gym courts have limited hours. The most popular courts are three outdoor courts at Mountain View.

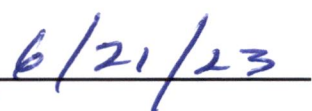
Fiscal Impact/Cost Benefit Analysis: Solutions range from \$500 for signs restricting hours and mandating quiet equipment, to \$32,000 - \$114,000 for sound reducing panels. The effectiveness of any solution must be carefully examined before acting.

Recommendation: Discuss the issue in a workshop format and provide formal or informal guidance or direction to staff.

Department Contact: Matt Tyler, Parks and Recreation Manager. 360-385-9129

Reviewed By:


Mark McCauley, County Administrator


Date

Pickleball Noise Reduction

Overview for Courthouse Park



Courthouse County Park

- “Courtyard” of “Courthouse”
- 1.7 Acres
- Pickleball conversion 2021
- B-Ball renovation 2010
- Courthouse visitors/workers
- Neighborhood park



Court Inventory

- 2 Courthouse Park
- 3 Mountain View outside (2022)
- 2 Mountain View gym
- 2 PT High School (limited)
 - 9 courts in P.T. (< .5 mi apart)
- 1 Quilcene
- 8 Port Ludlow
- 3 Kala Point
- Mountain View (future)



Court Comparison

Mountain View (preferred by players)



Courthouse Park



CH Park Pickleball Court Conversion Details

- Repaired aging asphalt, repainted surface
 - \$25,178.82 invested
- Limited to two courts
- Completed in 2021
- Estimated 8 years left on 10 year lifespan

Noise Reduction Range of Options

- Reduced hours
- Quiet balls and paddles [\(Green Zone\)](#)
- Sound absorption or reflection panels
- Close or remove the courts

Welcome to the GREEN ZONE!

***A NOISE RESTRICTED
PICKLEBALL COURT.***

Be a good neighbor by cooperating
with these noise reduction rules.



Thank you,
Jefferson County Parks & Recreation

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EQUIPMENT

Quiet "Green Zone" paddles are required.

Reference: Grand Pickleball Club Paddle Sound Study List

Quiet pickleballs are strongly recommended but not required.

Foam pickleballs are the first choice (most quiet)

Indoor pickleballs are the second choice (quieter)

Outdoor pickleballs are the third choice (loudest)

HUMAN VOICES

Loud voices are not allowed.

Voices must be kept to a quiet conversation at all times.

HOURS

Open 8:00 a.m.

Closed 8:00 p.m. or sunset



Thank you,
Jefferson County Parks & Recreation

Sound Reduction Panels

- Line of site
- Reflection or absorption
- Fence strength/wind load
- 10 year lifespan
- May improve play in windy conditions

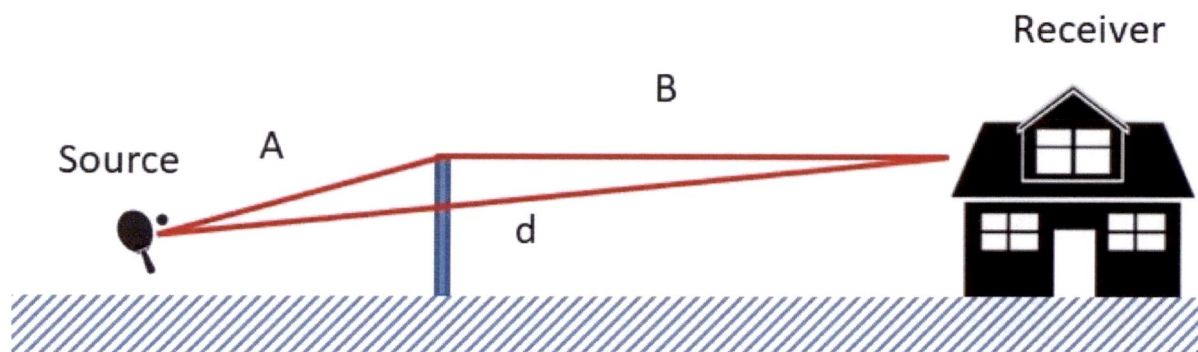
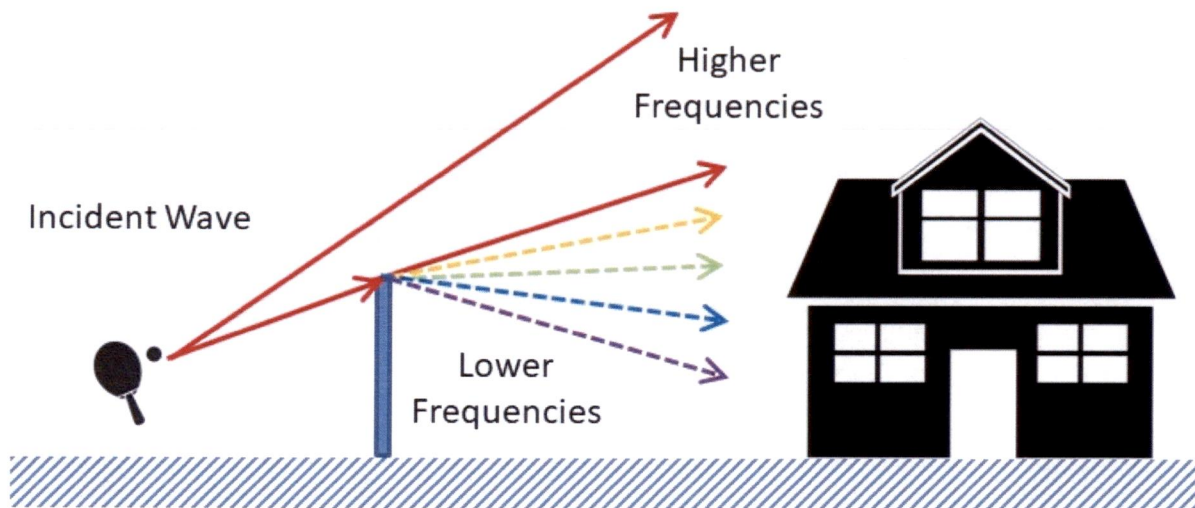
Line of Sight and Distance

Cass Street is marginally below the fence line
Approximately 57 meters away



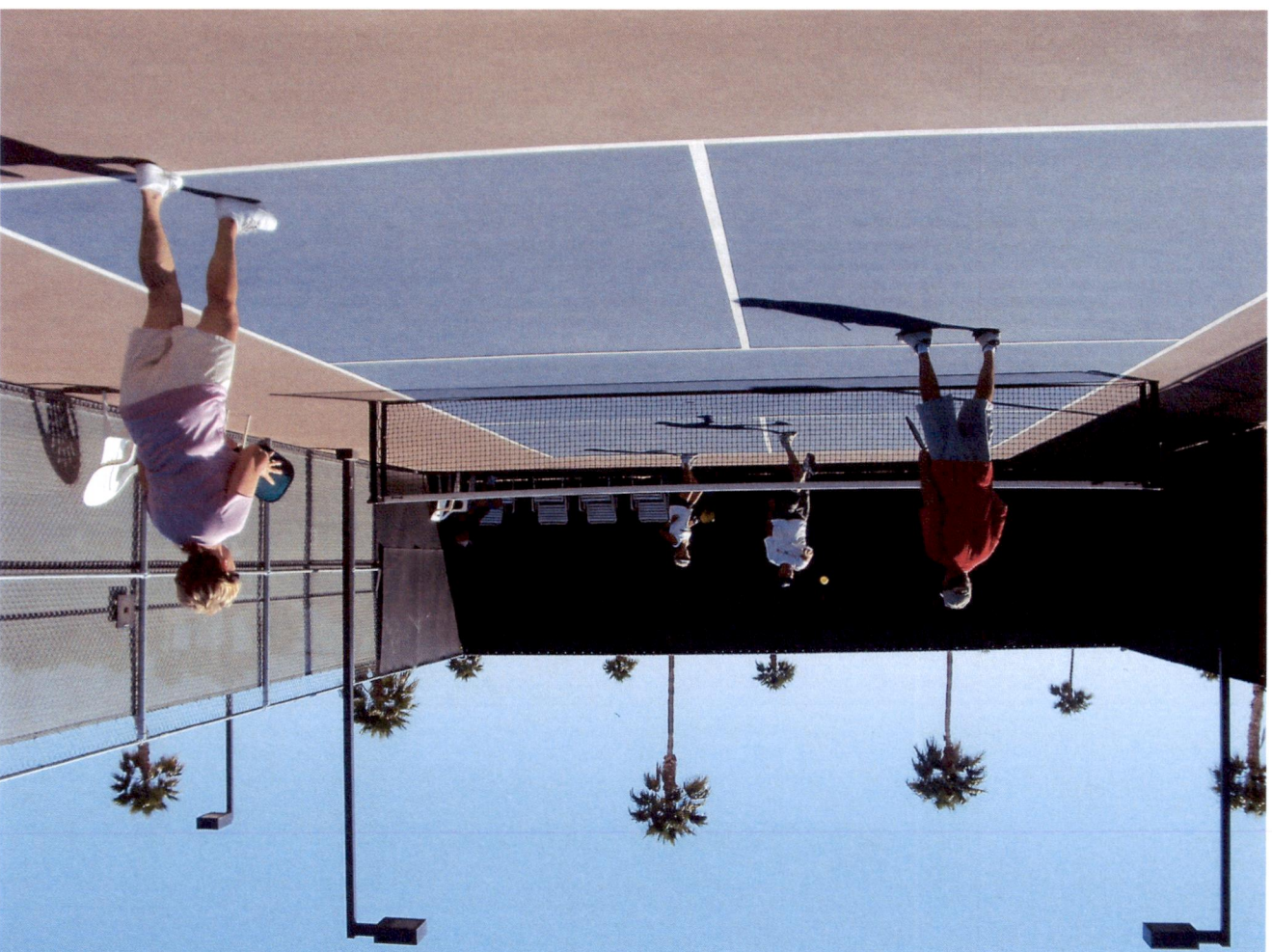
Washington Street is partly above the fence line
Approximately 40 meters away





<https://pickleballscience.org/pickleball-noise-propagation/>





Sound Reduction Panels Costs

- Many options
- Consultant recommended
- Two quotes
 1. Fence Screen Company
 2. DDS Acoustical Specialties
- Large range

\$32k to \$114k total

Material Costs			
Company	Type	2 sides	4 sides
Fence Screen	Reflective	\$ 12,314	\$ 24,627
DDS Acoustics (A)	Absorption/Reflection	\$ 23,375	\$ 46,749
	Advanced		
DDS Acoustics (B)	Absorption/Reflection	\$ 32,348	\$ 64,696
Installation			
Installation would be completed by a local contractor, not by the manufacturer. There was not time get a quote for installation. This range is approximate based on other projects. Installation varies by the type of material		\$ 20,000	\$ 50,000

Alternatives

A – Status Quo

B – Green Zone Program

1. Restrict hours, days, or seasons
2. Quiet balls and paddles

C – Noise Reduction Panels

D – Close or Decommission

1. Planning for the future of the could occur as part of the 2028 PROS Plan