

TO: Park & Recreation Advisory Committee
FROM: Assistant Parks & Rec Director
DATE: February 9, 2021
SUBJECT: Pickleball Discussion



City of West St. Paul

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At the January 2021 meeting, Committee members expressed the desire to make pickleball and new pickleball courts in WSP an immediate priority. Pickleball has been discussed on and off over the last few years and multiple attempts have been made by staff to obtain grant funding for pickleball. Inver Grove Heights recently added a new pickleball facility and Mendota Heights has temporary courts in one of its paved ice rinks. Additionally, with the departure of the YMCA in West St Paul, there is a void for in West St Paul for those looking to play this growing sport.

West St Paul currently has two pickleball courts, which are lined within existing tennis courts. The most ideal and cost effective option would be to permanently convert an underused tennis court into pickleball. Staff has identified two single courts, at Haskell and Emerson, as the best locations for this conversion. Of those two staff feels, Emerson is the better location. It is in a visible location with street parking next to the court. The court is large enough to fit four pickleball courts within it. (Diagram attached) There is \$20K budgeted in 2021 for court resurfacing with Emerson being the only courts in real need of resurfacing. Additionally, if the basketball court were to be removed two additional pickleball courts could be installed, giving West St Paul a nice 6-court pickleball facility that could host plenty of play and possible leagues.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss options for permanent pickleball in West St Paul.

Attachments: Emerson Park Pickleball