

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 5, 2020

TO: Recreation Committee

FROM: Alexis Braun, Senior Recreation Supervisor

SUBJECT: Pilot Pickleball Program & Future Program Recommendations at Lang Park

The Recreation Committee and Laguna Beach City Council approved a Pilot Pickleball program at Lang Park which began in April 2017 on Mondays and Tuesdays. In September 2017, staff was tasked with evaluating the program and then reporting back to the Recreation Committee which resulted in two additional multi-use pickleball courts on one tennis court at Alta Laguna Park Sundays – Fridays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The Recreation Committee requested an evaluation of the program at a fall 2019 committee meeting. At the October 14, 2019 meeting, the Recreation Committee made a recommendation to extend the Lang Park hours and update the signage to reflect the changes.

Background:

In April 2017, the one tennis court at Lang Park was converted into a multi-use court with additional lines for two pickleball courts which can have up to eight players playing at one time. A sign-in sheet was initially available at the site to track both pickleball and tennis usage. Pickleball consistently had over 12 players each Monday and Tuesday morning. Due to the growing popularity of the sport, and having to wait to play, additional courts were requested by the pickleball players.

The Recreation Committee and City Council approved program expansion at Alta Laguna Park on one tennis court beginning in August 2018. One court was striped with lines to accommodate two pickleball courts. That program is currently available Sunday through Fridays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Summary:

The Recreation Committee recommended continuing the pilot program at Lang Park and keeping the court a multi-use tennis and pickleball court. Since the program at Lang Park has been a pilot program for almost three years, the Recreation Committee would now like to formalize Lang Park to be a permanent multi-use tennis and pickleball court.

Both the tennis and pickleball players have worked together to enjoy both sports at Lang Park. In addition to all day Mondays and Tuesdays, the Lang Park pickleball program expanded to Thursdays this past fall.

Recommendation:

If the Recreation Committee wants to move forward with a permanent multi-use court, then it is recommended that the Recreation Committee make a motion at the February 10, 2020 Committee meeting requesting the change from a pilot to a permanent program to City Council for consideration. During the next City Council budget cycle, funding would be requested for a permanent multi-use court for heavy duty nets, permanent signage, and ongoing maintenance expenses.