

*welcome to...*

# SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION **PICKLEBALL OPEN HOUSE**

Wednesday, March 30, 2022





# Agenda

- Welcome + Introductions
  - Andy Sheffer, Deputy Superintendent of Operations – Seattle Parks & Recreation
  - Oliver Bazinet, Senior Planner – Seattle Parks & Recreation
- Overview of SPR's Outdoor Pickleball Study
- Poll #1
- Public Engagement Results
- Draft Approaches
- Poll #2
- Q + A
- Wrap up + Next Steps



# Live Poll on Sli.do

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## Two ways to participate:

- Open a browser on your phone or computer (Chrome, Firefox, Explorer, etc.)
- Enter **sli.do** into the browser search engine
- Enter **#PBStudy** where it says "Enter code here"
- Open your phone camera and scan this QR code





# Meeting Guidelines

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- Act with your best intentions and assume others will do the same.
- Engage openly, honestly, and respectfully.
- Acknowledge and embrace the diversity of perspectives.
- Make space for others to share.
- Add something new to the conversation.

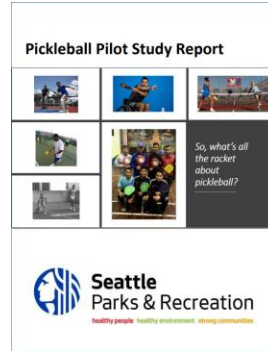






# PROJECT OVERVIEW





# SPR's Outdoor Pickleball Court Journey

Pickleball Pilot Program  
(2017)

Pickleball Pilot Report  
(2019)

Future Pickleball Court  
Planning, Design, and  
Development

Seattle Metro Pickleball  
Association Site  
Evaluation (2018)

2021 Pickleball Study  
(2021-22)



# 2021-22 Outdoor Pickleball Study

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- Engage with pickleball & tennis communities to balance the growth of pickleball and existing tennis community.
  - Addresses use on 142 outdoor tennis and multi-use courts at 55 sites.
- Builds off 2019 Pilot Study Recommendations + previous SMPA analysis.
- Project objectives:
  - Document the growth of pickleball in Seattle.
  - Refine where and how tennis courts will be **dual-striped**.
  - Identify and recommend locations for new **pickleball-only** outdoor courts.



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A person in a blue shirt and dark shorts is playing pickleball on an outdoor court. The court has green and blue markings. In the background, there are trees and a chain-link fence. A large white circle is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT'. There are several yellow dashed lines and one orange solid circle around the white circle.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

# Community Engagement

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- Interviews
- Advisory Committee (ongoing)
  - *The role of the Advisory Committee is to collaborate with SPR, and each other, to provide insight into developing new recreational opportunities for pickleball.*
- Online survey (January 2022)
  - 3,378 responses
- Two Community meetings (spring 2022)
  - March (today!) + early May





# Engagement: Advisory Committee

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Anne Corsano, Community member

Gary Epstein, Amy Yee Advisory Council

Miguel de Campos, Seattle Metro Pickleball Association

Wil Look, Amy Yee Tennis Foundation

Clark Bailey, Amy Yee Advisory Council

Shari Bell, Community member

Johann Tan, Tennis Center Sand Point

John Hasslinger, Seattle Parks & Recreation

Matt Look, Seattle Parks & Recreation



# Engagement: Interview Themes

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- Pickleball builds community – it's a good social activity for all ages, all cultures, and all ability levels.
  - It's a growing sport for a reason - it's fun, accessible, and easy to learn.
  - Spans generations and builds inter-generational engagement.
  - Even tennis players have tried pickleball...
- But pickleball is a sport people are leaving Seattle to play.
  - Growing so fast there is a real value to having more and better courts
  - Seattle lags behind other cities in terms of addressing the growth of pickleball.
- Can cause conflict with tennis.
  - Pickleball noise and lines on tennis courts are distracting.
  - The more social nature of pickleball can be perceived as a lack of court etiquette and respect:
    - Disregard for existing permits, crowding courts, not removing equipment
- Both tennis and pickleball share a mutual demand for more, and better court resources.



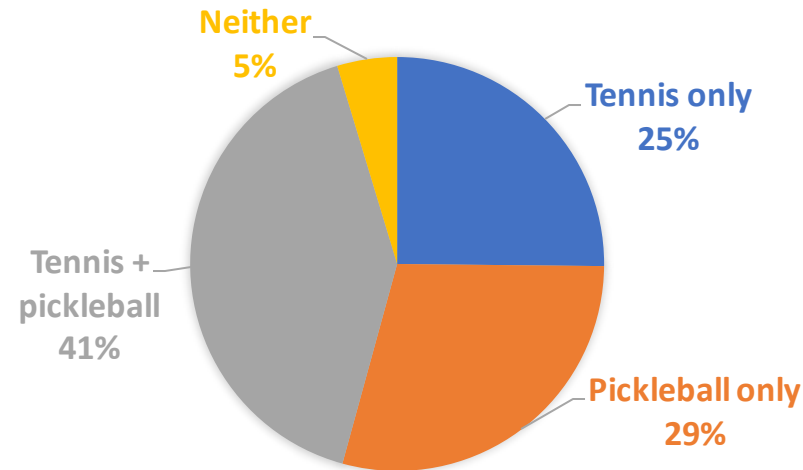
A person in a blue shirt and dark shorts is playing pickleball on an outdoor court. The court has green and blue markings. In the background, there are trees and a chain-link fence. A large white circle is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'COMMUNITY SURVEY'. There are also several yellow dashed lines and an orange solid circle as decorative elements.

# COMMUNITY SURVEY

# Community Survey: Overview

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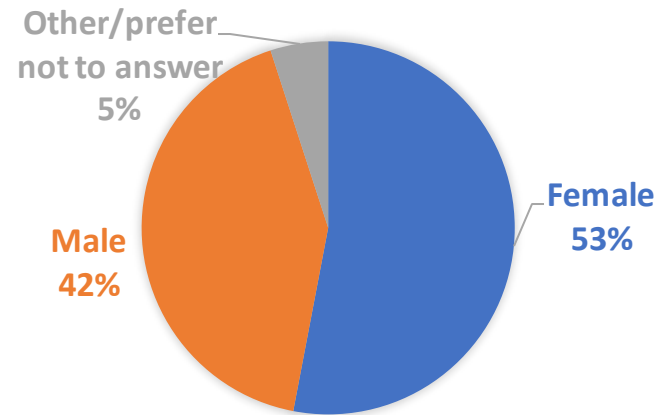
- Community survey is qualitative engagement tool, not quantitative
- In the field from January 25 through February 11, 2022
- 3378 total responses, 75% response rate, average time: 6 minutes
- Mix of respondents:



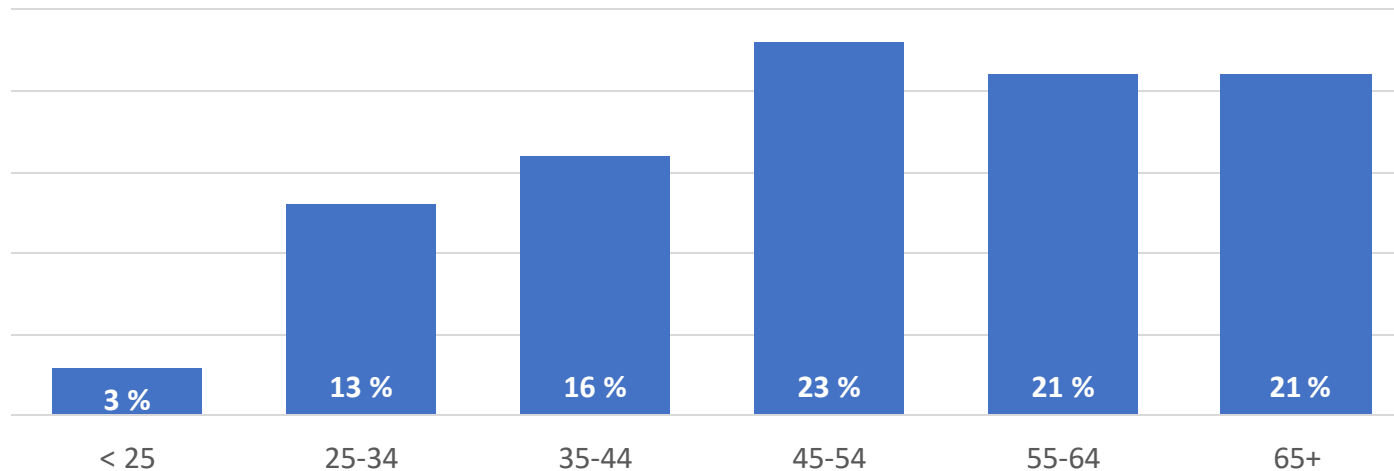


# Community Survey: Demographics

- Gender:

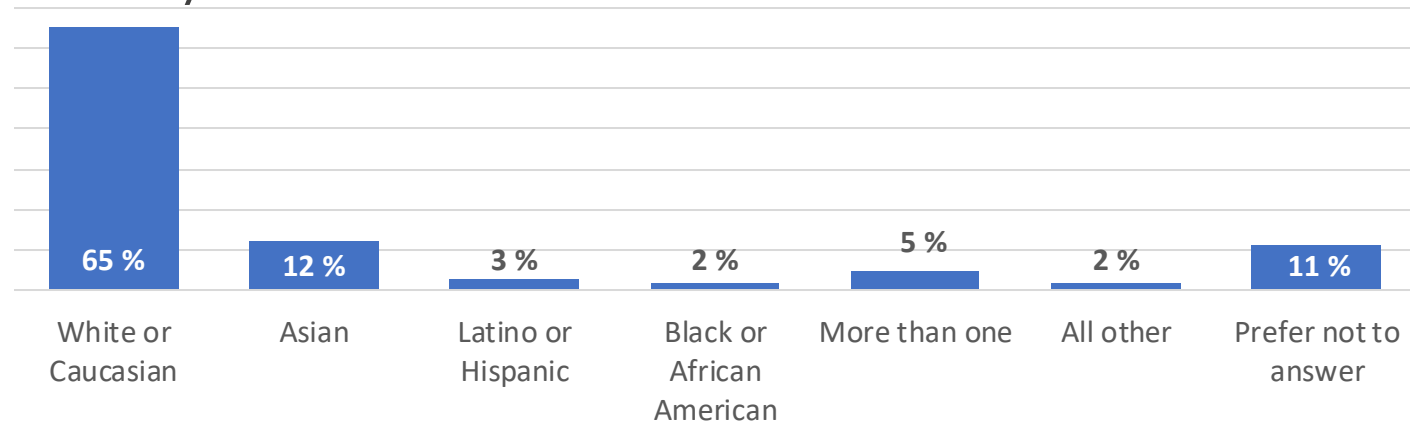


- Age:

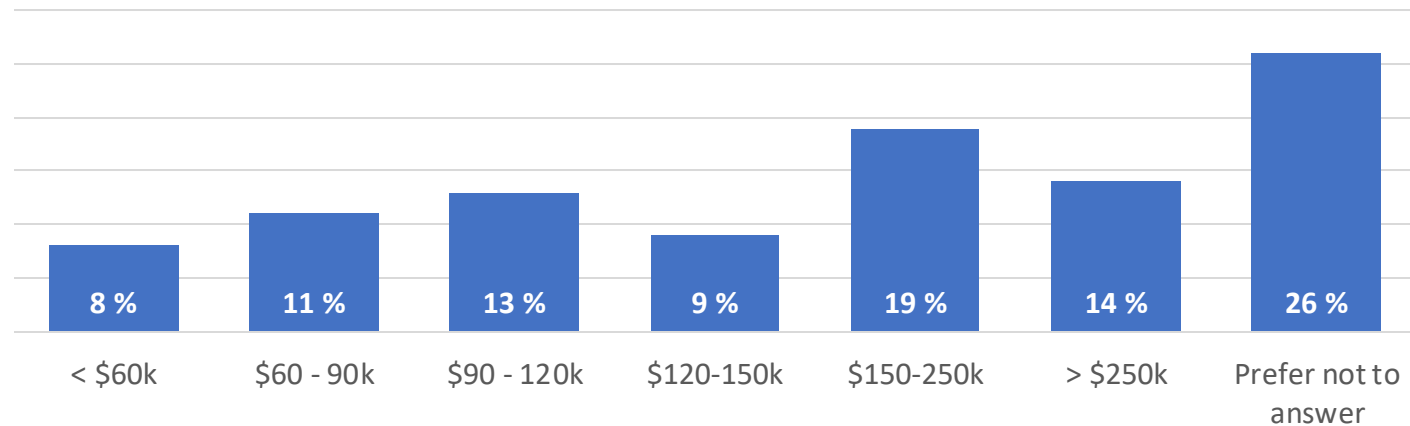


# Community Survey: Demographics

- Race/ethnicity:



- Household income:



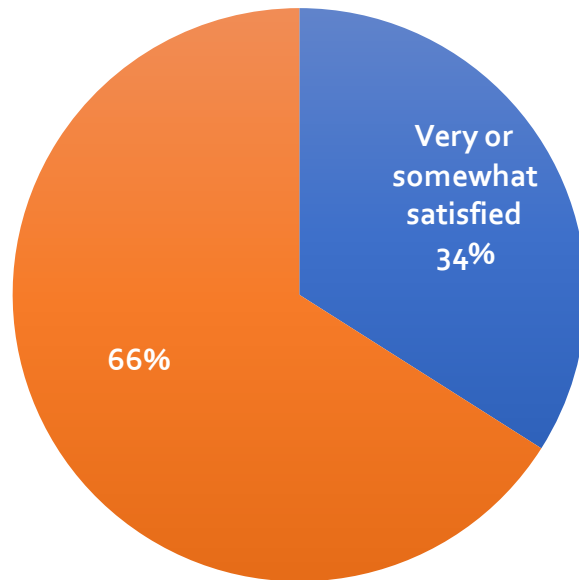


# Community Survey: Results

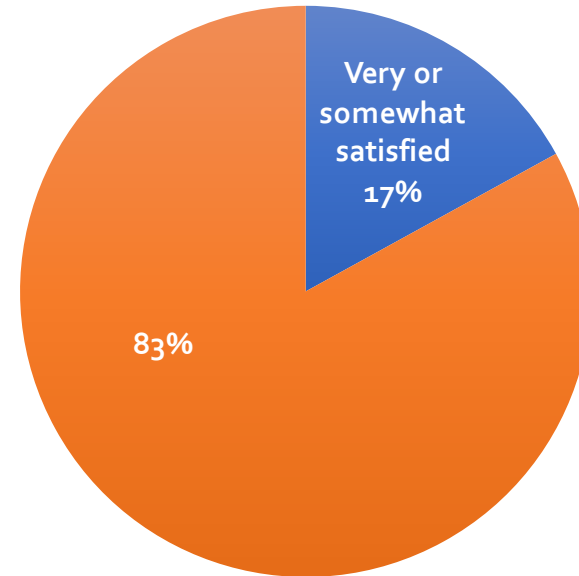
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- Pickleball players are **generally dissatisfied** with the quality and quantity of pickleball courts in Seattle.

Quality



Quantity/availability

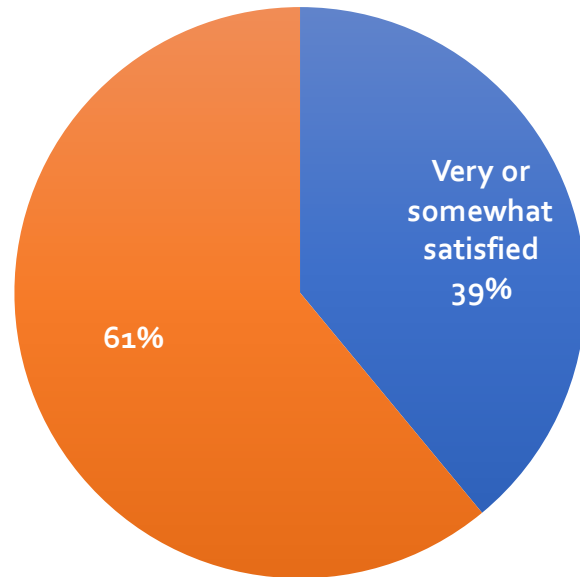


# Community Survey: Results

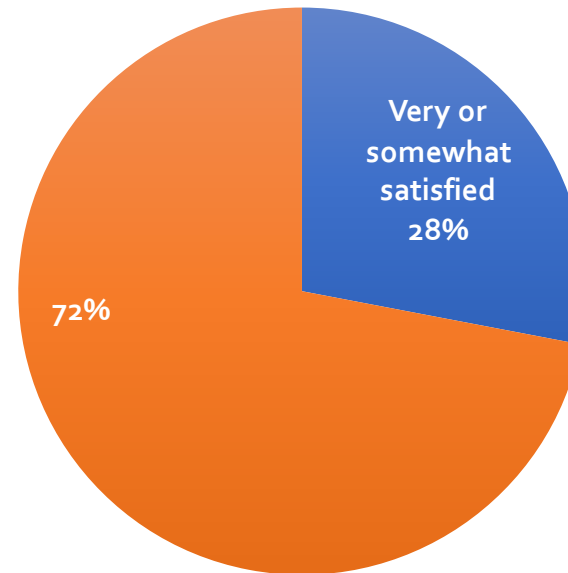
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- Tennis players are *also* **generally dissatisfied** with the quality and quantity of tennis courts in Seattle.

Quality



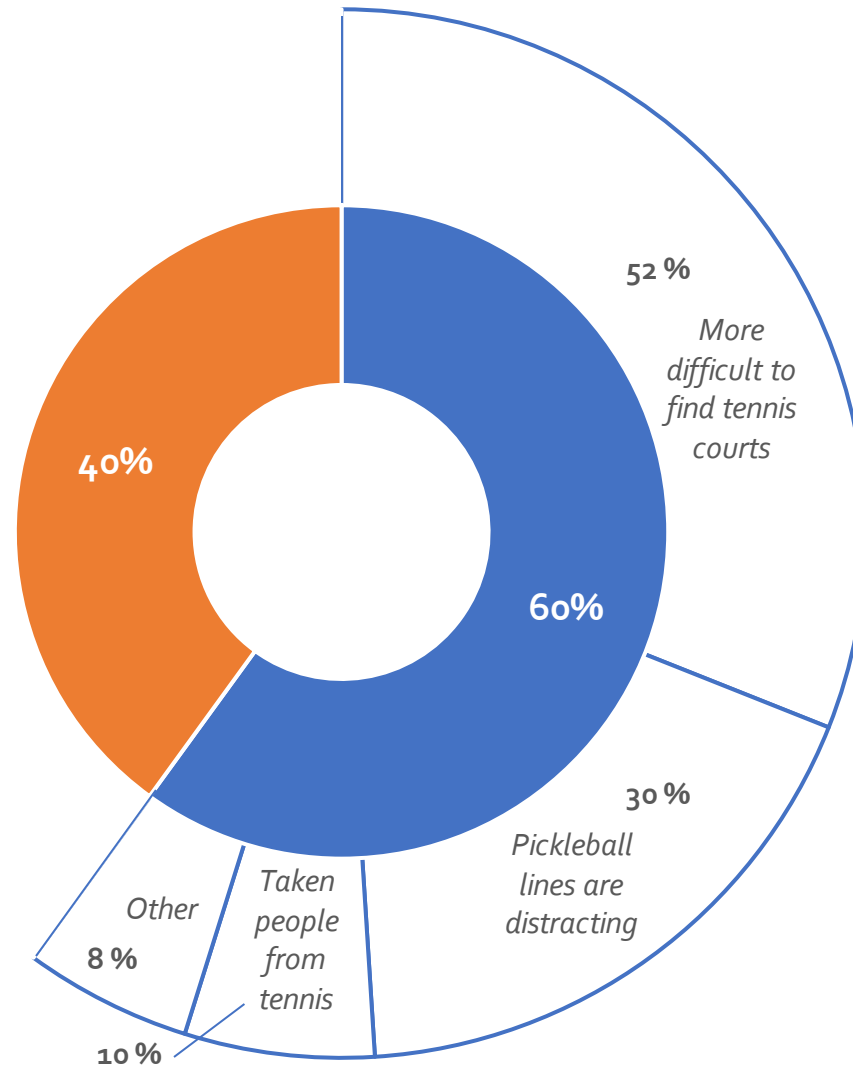
Quantity/availability



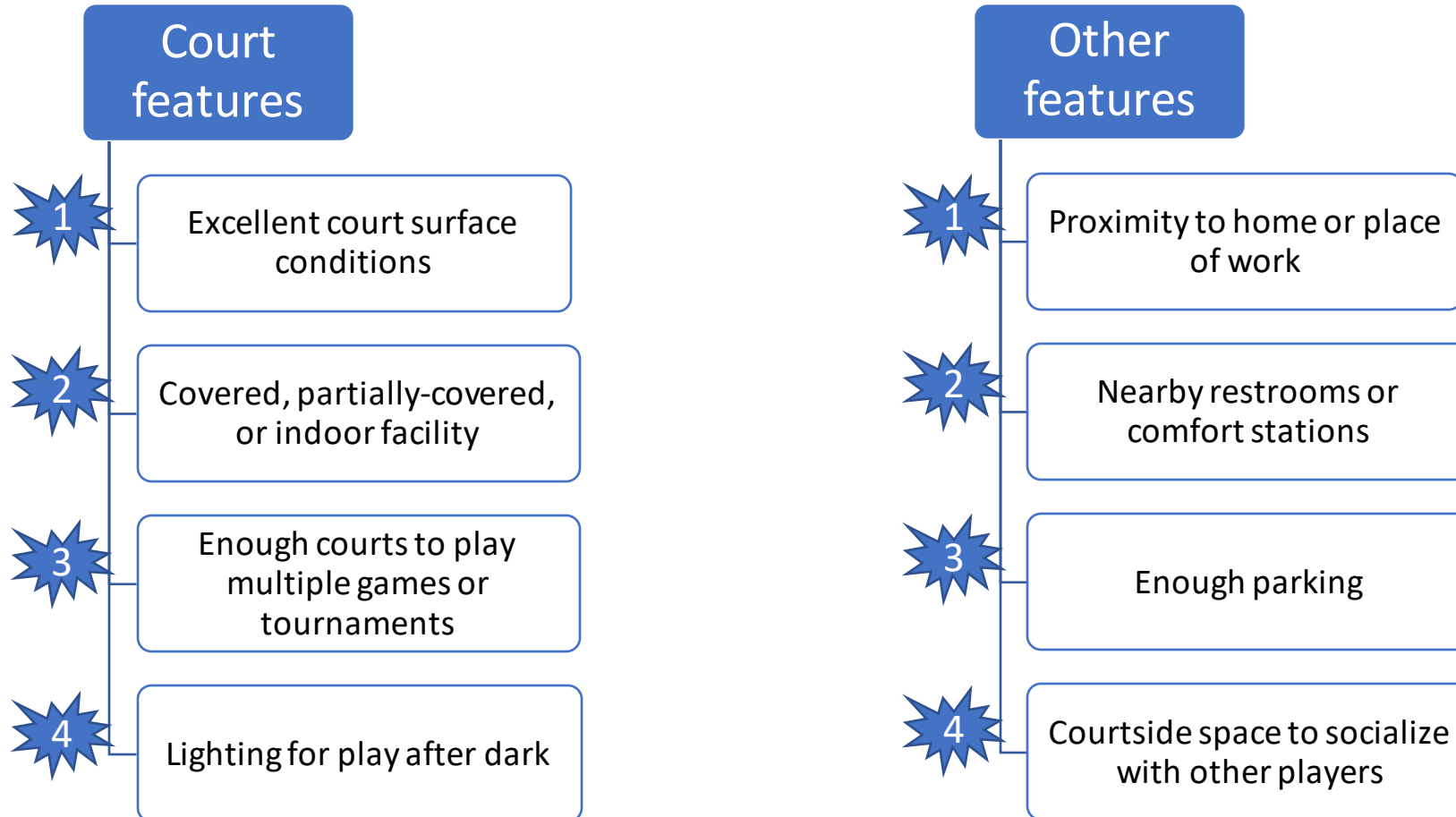


# Tennis players are split on whether the growth of pickleball has affected them.

- It hasn't affected me.
- It has affected me.

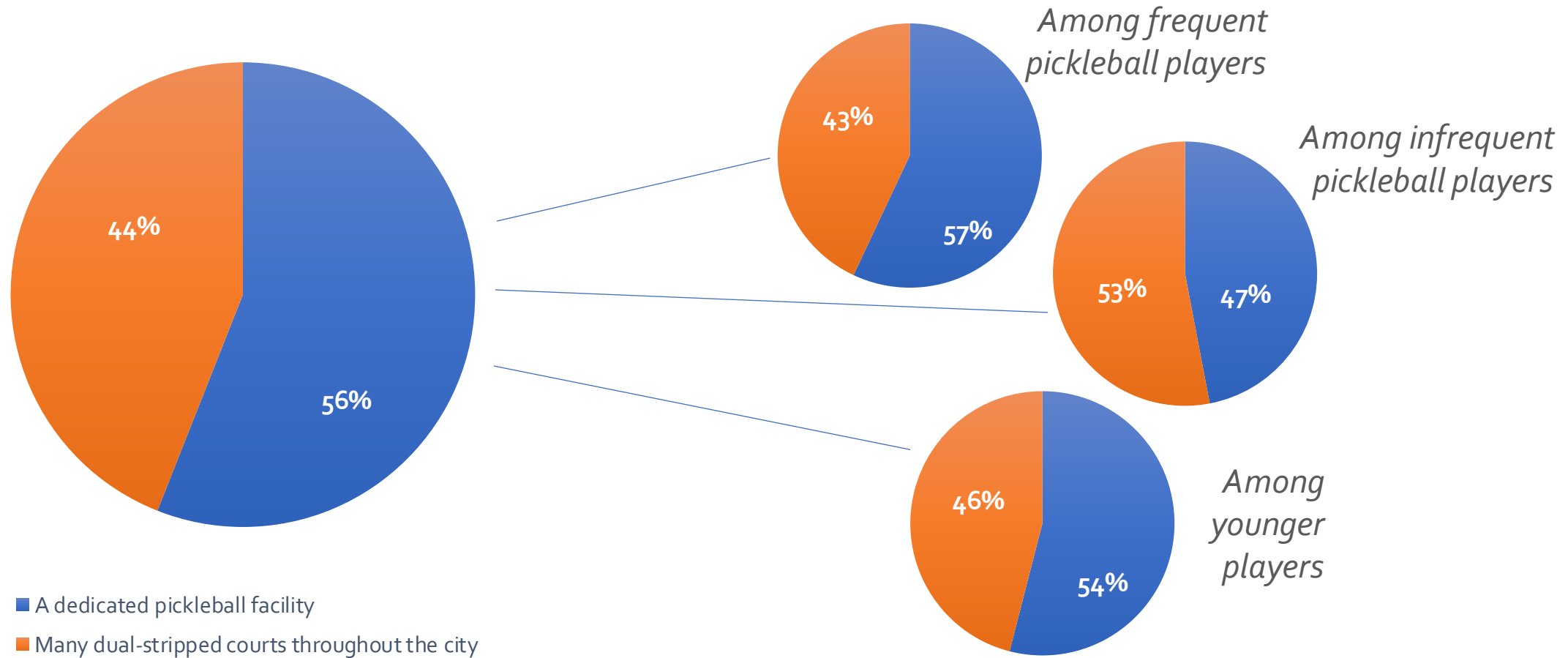


# Priorities for pickleball facilities were fairly consistent across different respondent types.



*\* No shared courts with tennis ranked higher among tennis players.*

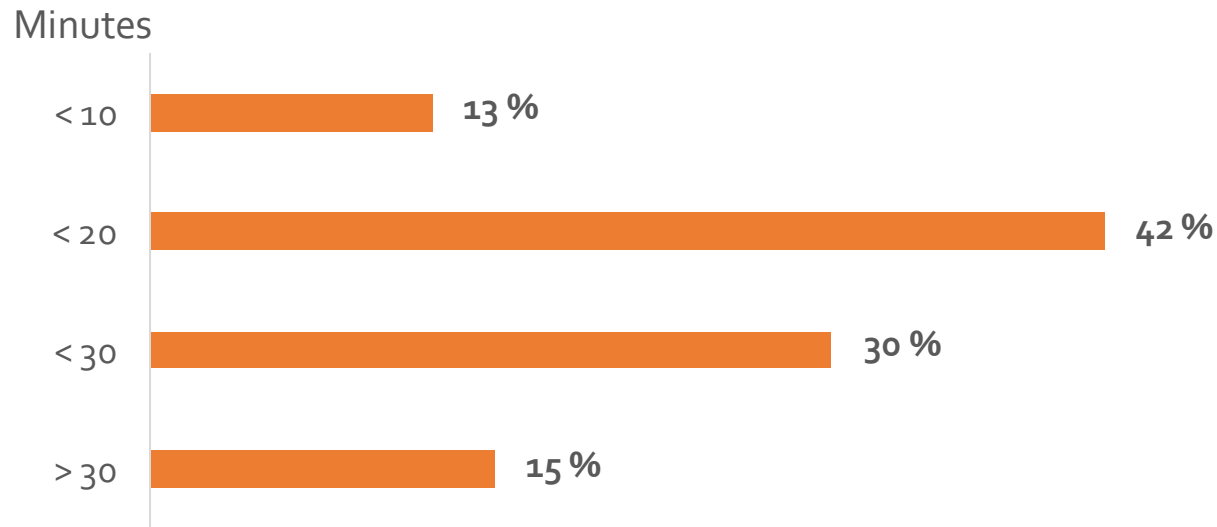
When we asked whether people preferred a dedicated pickleball facility or many dual-stripped courts throughout the city, we heard that both approaches are needed.





# Community Survey: Results

Most respondents didn't want to travel more than 30 minutes to reach a dedicated pickleball facility.





# DRAFT APPROACHES





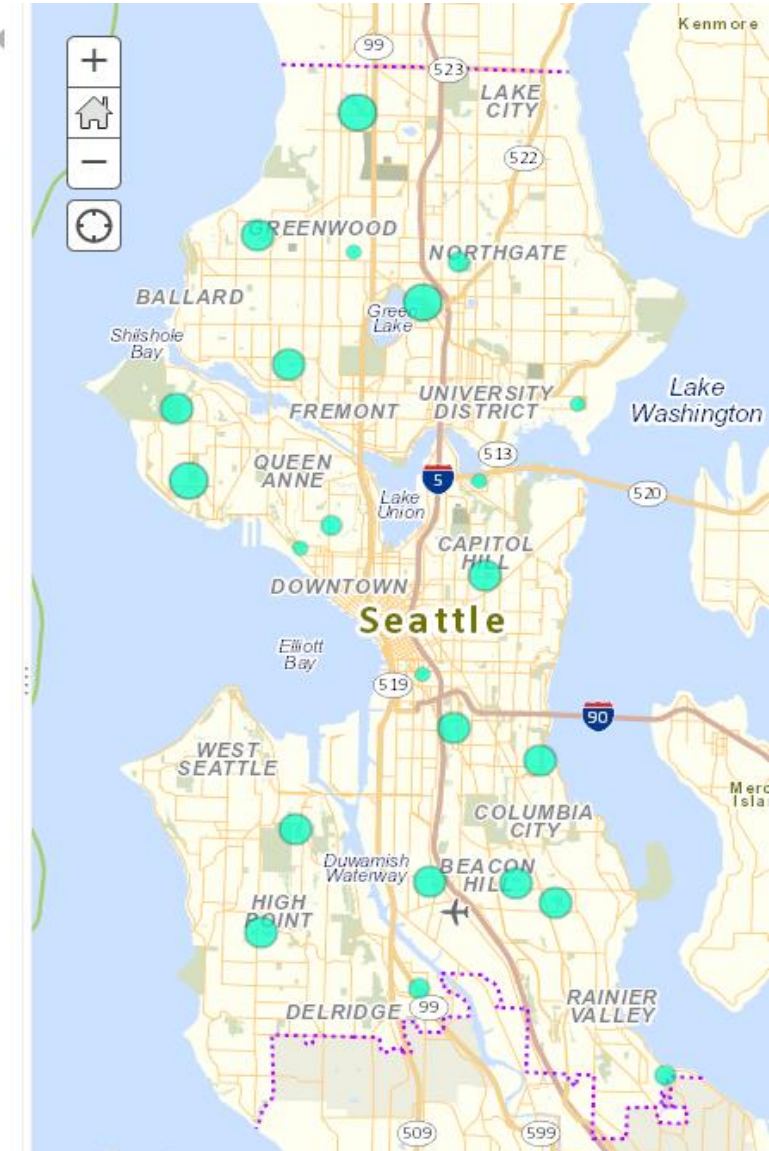
# Strategic Framework

## Approaches

1. Dual striping to add PB lines only or with resurfacing (immediate)
2. Convert existing tennis courts to pickleball only (mid-term)
3. Construct new dedicated pickleball facilities (long-term)

## Guiding Considerations

- Geographic distribution
- Accessibility
- Safety
- Existing amenities (e.g., restrooms, parking, transit, lights, community centers, etc.)
- Size + capacity
- Court condition
- Court classification and use (e.g., Joint Use Agreements)



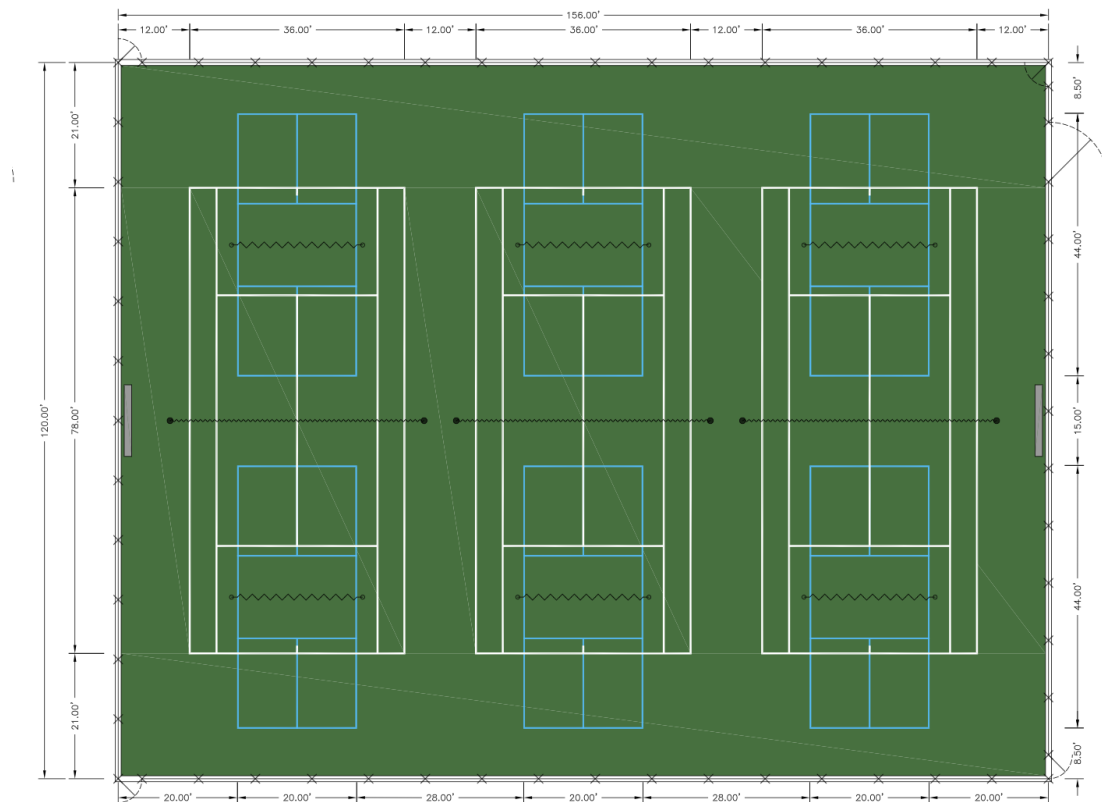


# Immediate Approach

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- Add pickleball lines to some neighborhood and community tennis courts throughout the city.
  - *Advantages:* increases number of pickleball courts to accommodate demand; can begin this summer (funded); opportunities city-wide for play.
  - *Drawbacks & considerations:* decreases availability of tennis courts; dual-striping may be confusing for players; increased probability of on-court conflict (noise/reservations/etc.).



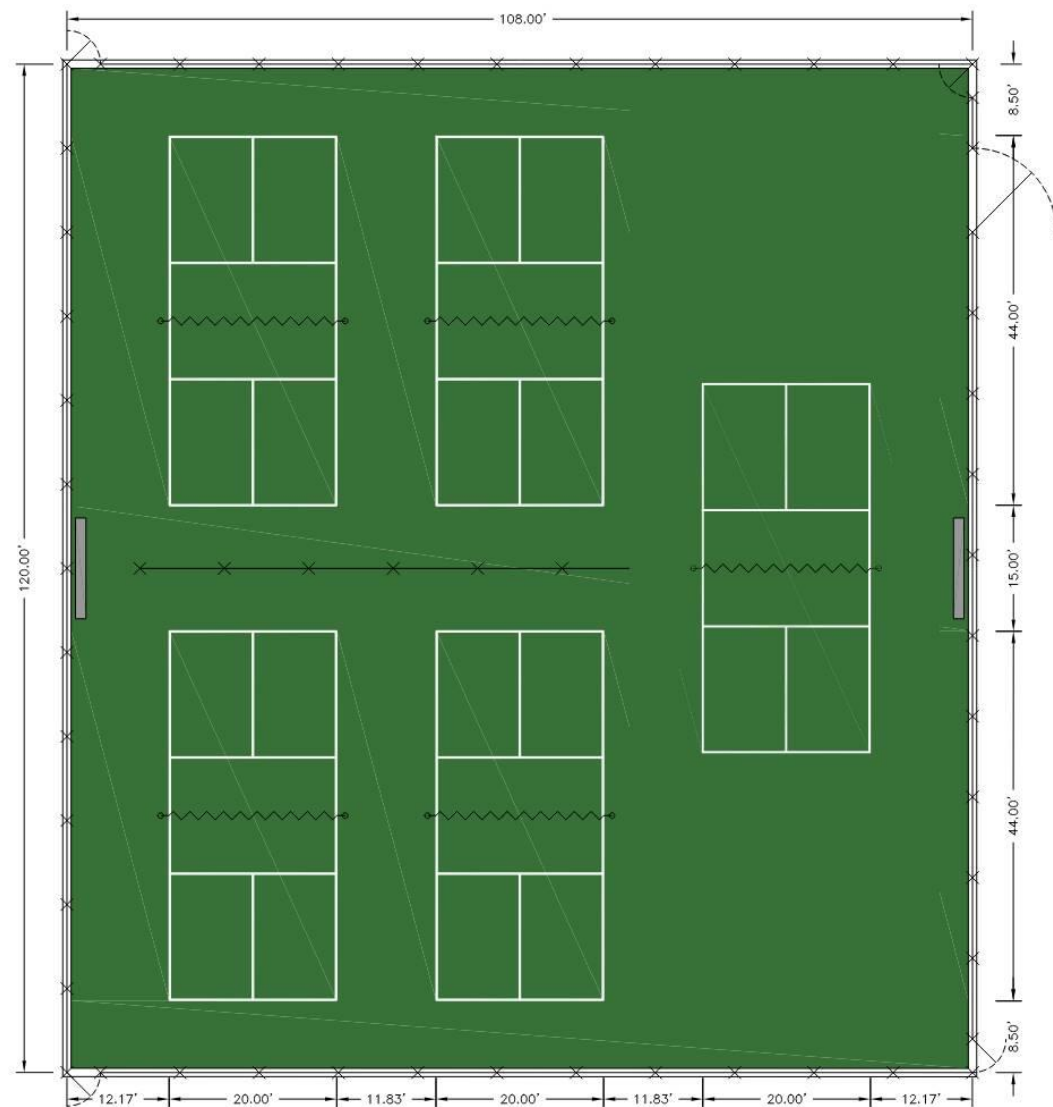


# Midterm Approach

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- Convert some old tennis courts to pickleball courts.
  - *Advantages:* increases number of pickleball courts to accommodate demand; because they will be pickleball-only, allow for a higher density of co-located courts.
  - *Drawbacks & considerations:* decreases number of tennis courts; need to do engagement with communities once options are identified; some courts may require significant rehabilitation.





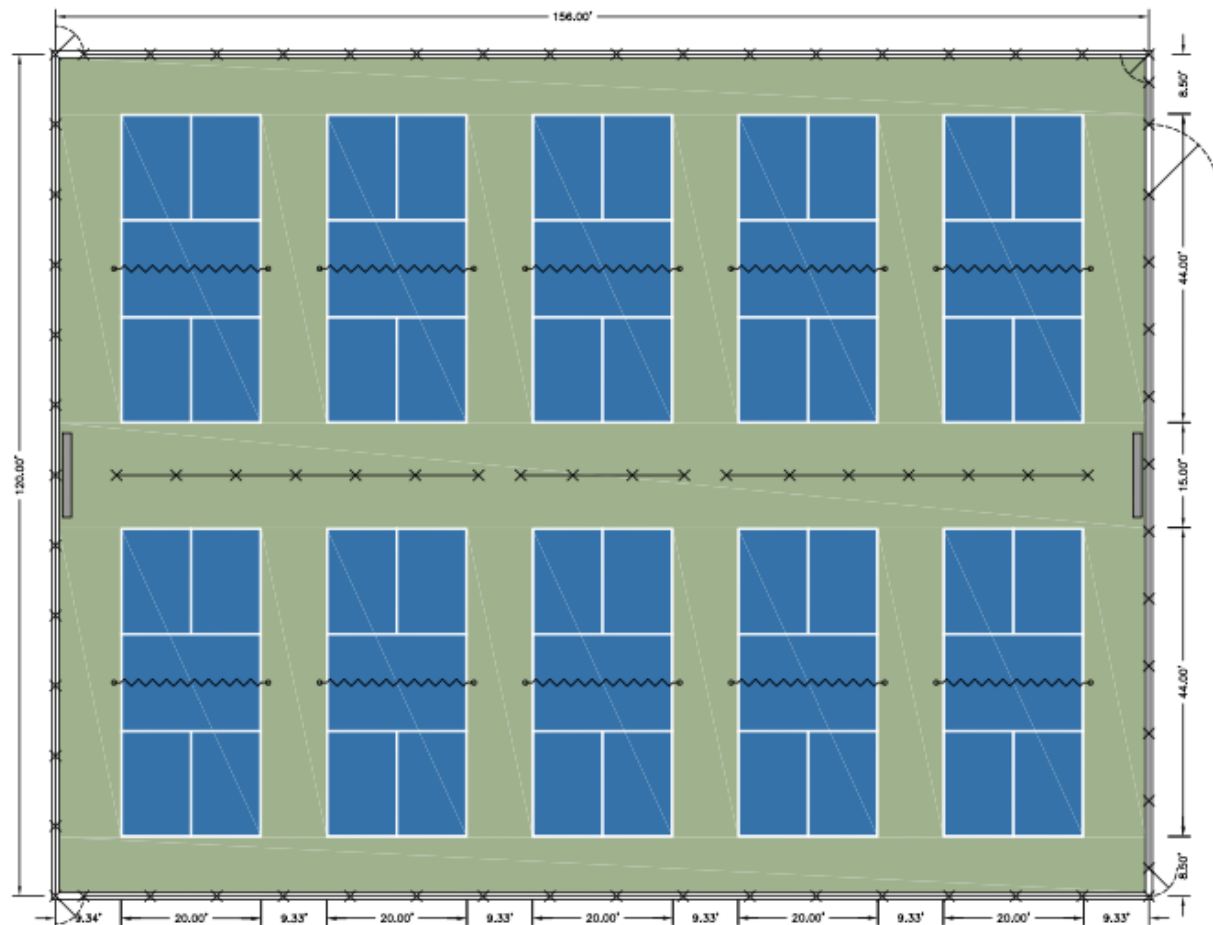
# Long-term Approach

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- Create new dedicated pickleball facilities.
  - *Advantages:* significantly increases the number of pickleball courts that are co-located; does not impact tennis.
  - *Drawbacks & considerations:* reduces open space; likely most costly; longest time horizon; site and budget constraints will likely determine feasibility of lighting, roof, and other amenities.









A man in a blue shirt and dark shorts is playing pickleball on an outdoor court. He is in a ready stance, holding a blue paddle. The court is green with blue and white lines. In the background, there are trees and a chain-link fence. A large white circle is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text 'QUESTIONS FOR YOU'. There are several yellow dashed lines in the top left corner and an orange solid circle in the bottom right corner of the white circle.

# QUESTIONS FOR YOU

# Live Poll on Sli.do

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A person in a blue shirt and dark shorts is playing pickleball on an outdoor court. A large white circle is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'QUESTIONS FOR US'. The circle is decorated with yellow dashed lines on the left and an orange solid circle on the right. The background shows a green court, a black fence, and trees under a clear blue sky.

# QUESTIONS FOR US



A man in a blue t-shirt and dark shorts is playing pickleball on an outdoor court. He is in a ready stance, holding a blue paddle. The court has green and blue markings. In the background, there are trees and a chain-link fence. A large white circle is overlaid on the image, containing the text "WHAT'S UP NEXT?". The circle is decorated with yellow dashed lines on the left and an orange solid circle on the right.

WHAT'S UP  
NEXT?



# Next Steps

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- Meeting notes will be sent to the project listserv as well as everyone in the meeting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> public meeting to be scheduled (early May)
  - Site and neighborhood-specific proposals
- Presentation to Board of Parks & Recreation Commissioners (May or June)
- Addition of striping with 2022 Council-appropriated funding





# Stay in Touch

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Sign up for the project listserv  
<https://www.seattle.gov/parks/about-us/projects/2021-2022-outdoor-pickleball-study>

Email questions/concerns to  
[Oliver.Bazinet@seattle.gov](mailto:Oliver.Bazinet@seattle.gov)





# Thank you for the use of your media.

Julie Nothcraft Newby, Setup Nets Bitter Lake

Brianna Jensen, Kids Maple Leaf

Wendy Ellison, Maple Leaf Crew

Seattle Metro Pickleball Association, several images

Malena Harrang, PLX Shelf Engine Crew

Queensbury Post Star, courts at Jenkinsville Park

Play the Yards, The Yards' Pickle Garden rendering

Noun Project, select icons