



SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION

2021-2022 Outdoor Pickleball Study

Presentation to the Board of Parks
and Recreation Commissioners

August 11, 2022



Presentation Overview



- Background: Pickleball Growth & SPR's Outdoor Pickleball Journey
- 2021-2022 Pickleball Study Scope
- Engagement Summary
- Approaches for Expanding Capacity
- Next Steps

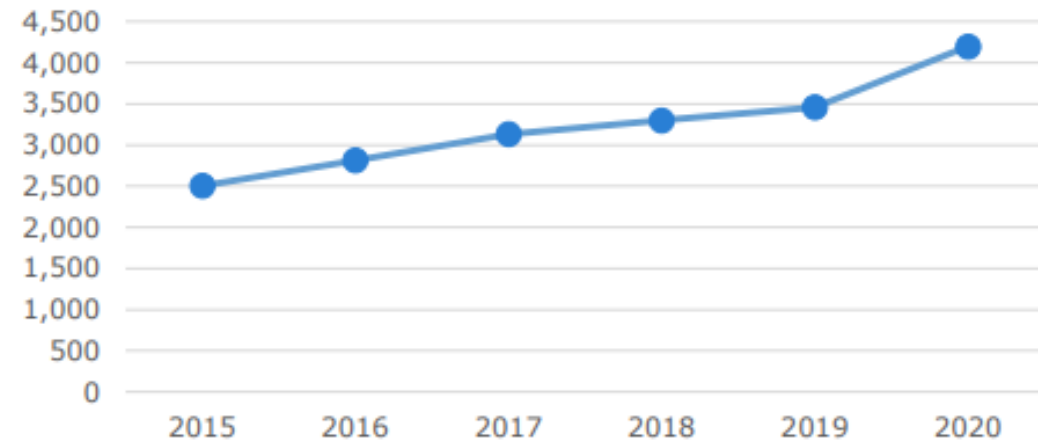
Pickleball Growth and Popularity



Total Pickleball Participation Trends

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Change (2019-2020)	3-Year AAG	5-Year AAG
2,506	2,815	3,132	3,301	3,460	4,199	21.3%	10.5%	11.0%

*AAG= Average Annual Growth



*Participation figures are in the thousands

National Participation (1+ play per year)
Source: Sports Fitness Industry Association



Seattle
Parks & Recreation
healthy people healthy environment strong communities



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)

5 courts

29 courts

77 courts

89 courts



2021-22 Pickleball Study

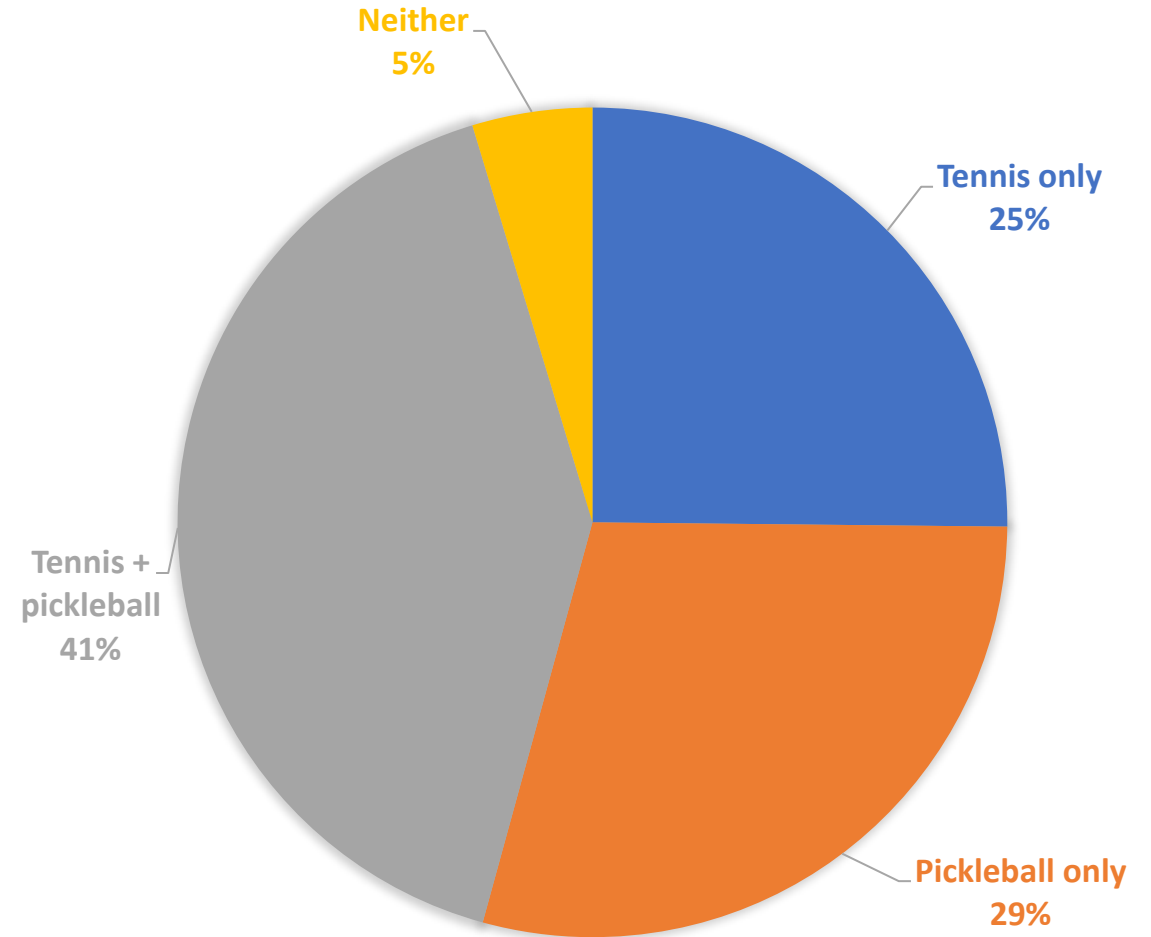
- Builds off 2019 Pilot Study Recommendations:
 - Document the growth of pickleball
 - Refine where (which sites) and how (standards) for dual-striping tennis courts
 - Identify and recommend locations for dedicated outdoor pickleball courts
 - Evaluated 16 sites
 - Concepts for 2 sites
- Engage with Pickleball + Tennis Community:
 - 1:1 Interviews
 - Advisory Committee (9 meetings)
 - Online Survey (3,378 responses)
 - Public Meetings (2)



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

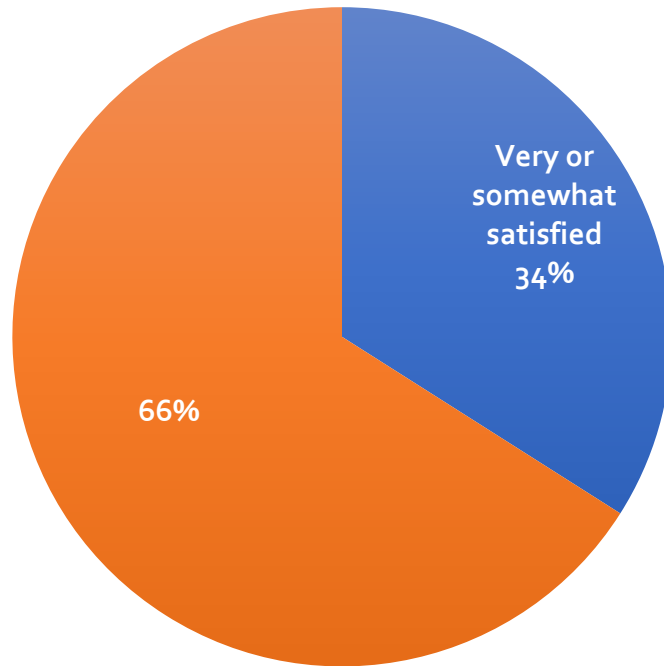
Engagement: Community Survey

- A qualitative engagement tool, not statistically representative.
- January 25 – February 11, 2022
- 3,378 total responses, 75% response rate, average time: 6 minutes
- Good mix of respondents:

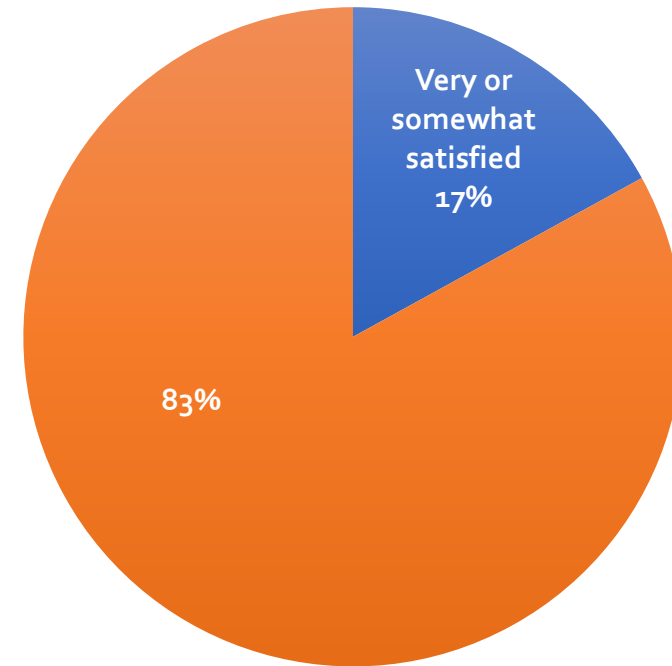


Pickleball players are **generally dissatisfied** with the quality and quantity of pickleball courts in Seattle.

Quality

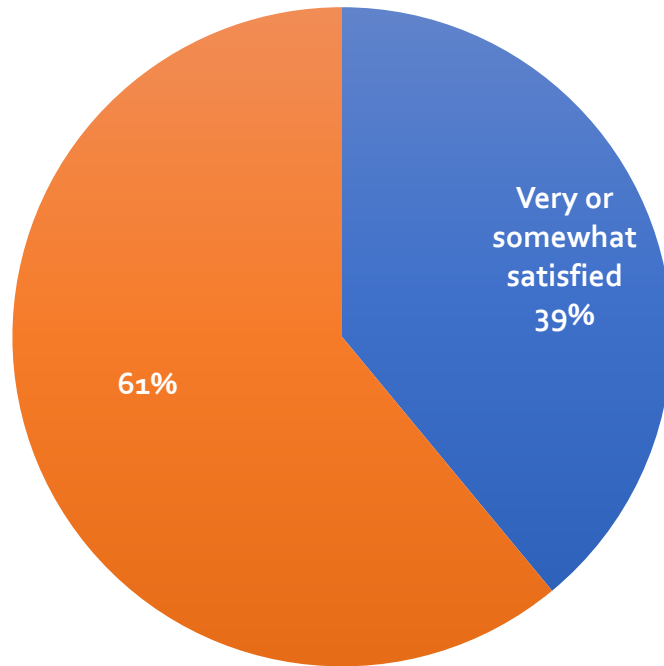


Quantity/availability

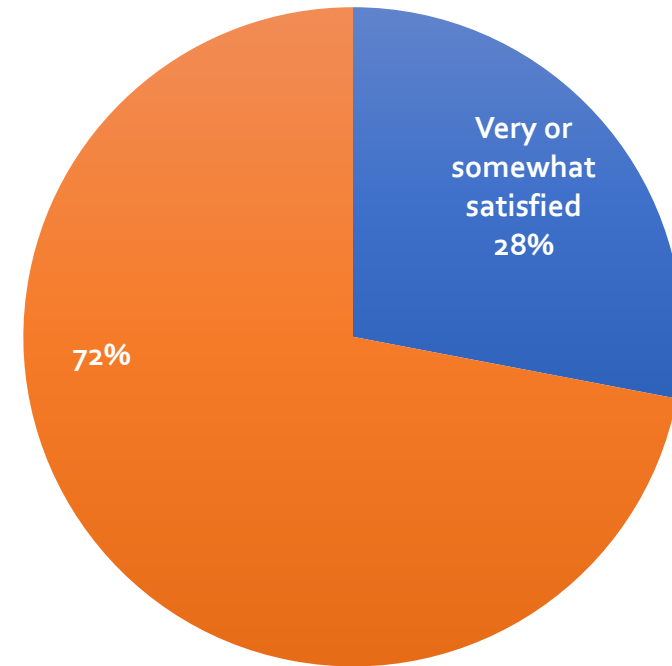


Tennis players are *also* **generally dissatisfied** with the quality and quantity of tennis courts in Seattle.

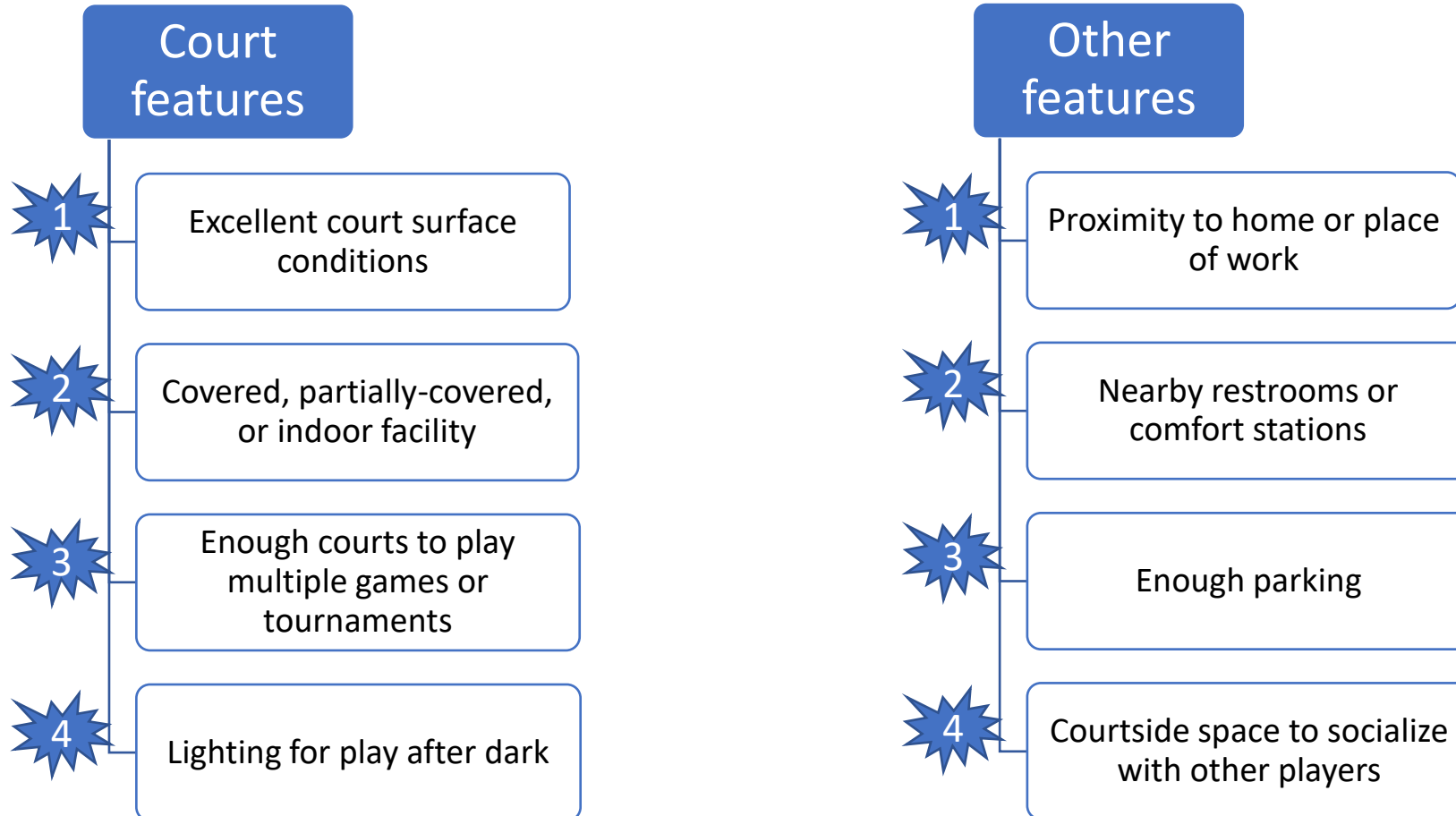
Quality



Quantity/availability

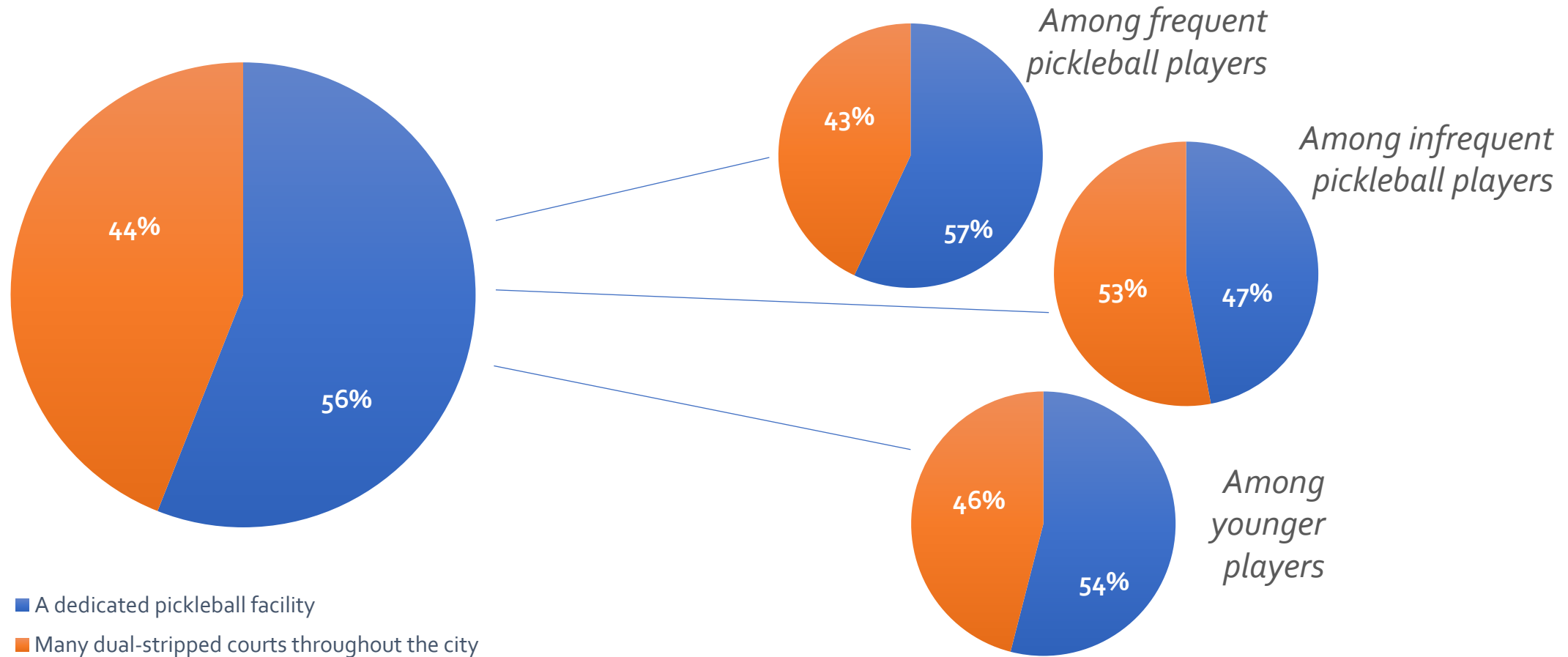


Priorities for pickleball facilities were consistent across different respondent types.



** 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, no clear single approach was preferred.





OUTDOOR COURT APPROACHES

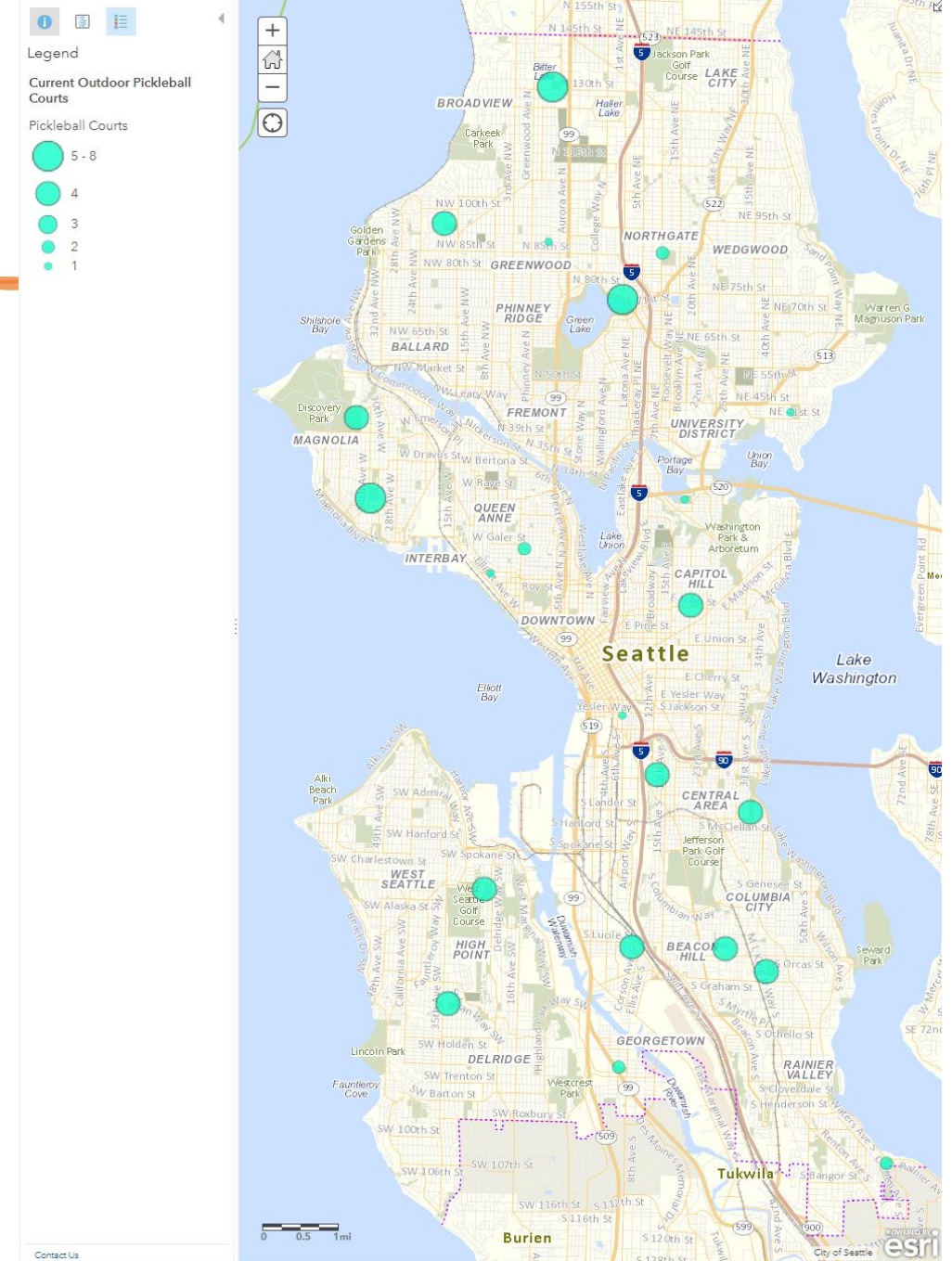
Strategic Framework

Approaches

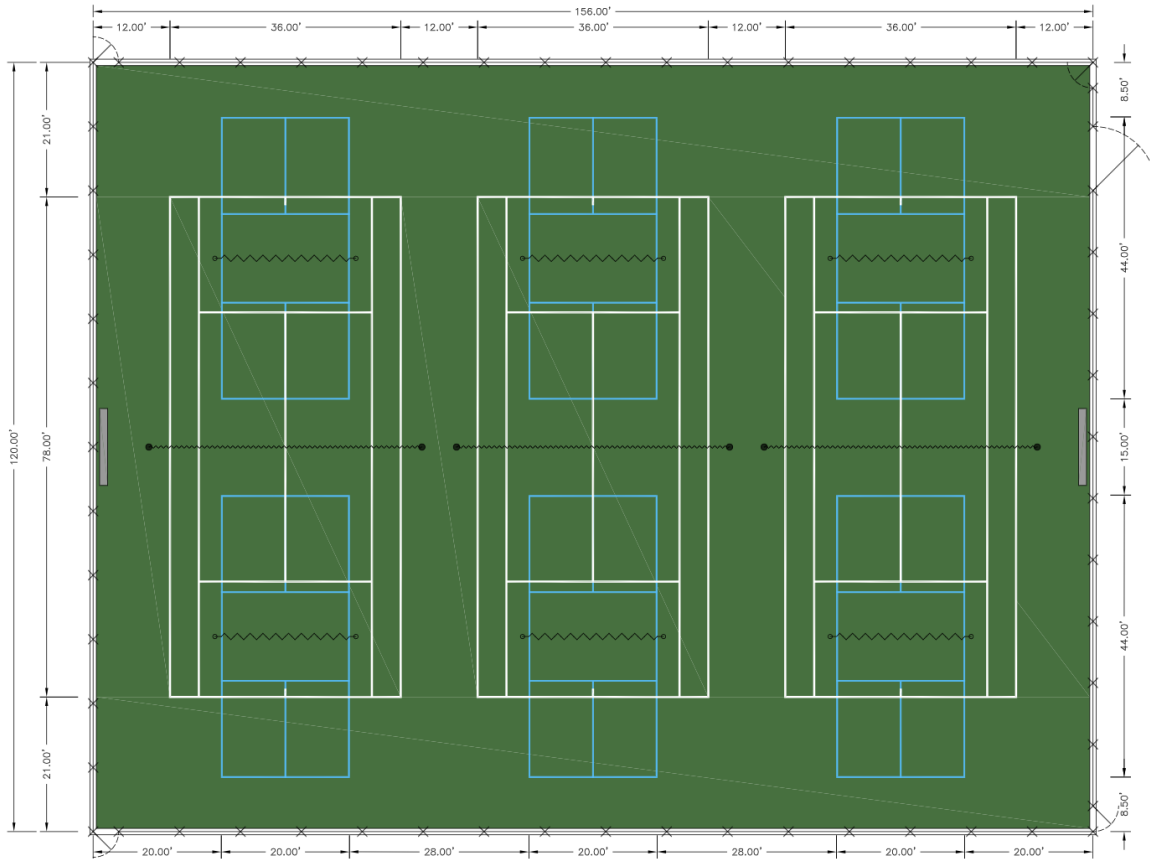
1. **Dual striping** (immediate)
add PB lines only or with resurfacing
2. **Convert** existing tennis courts to pickleball only (mid-term) *during resurfacing or renovation*
3. **Construct new** dedicated pickleball facility (long-term)

Guiding Considerations

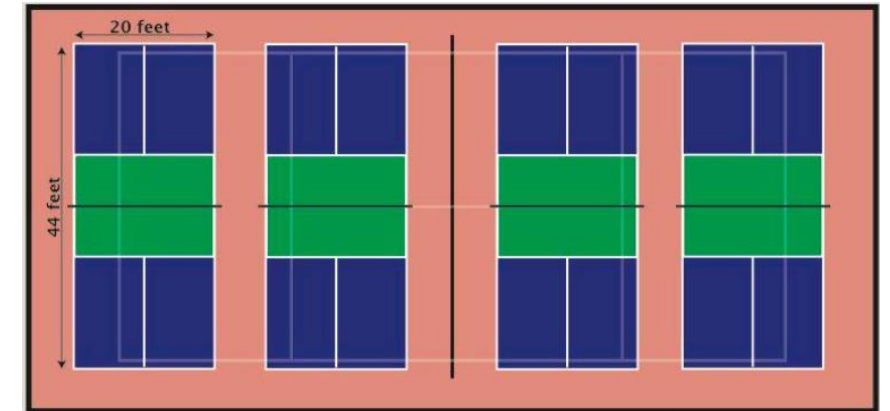
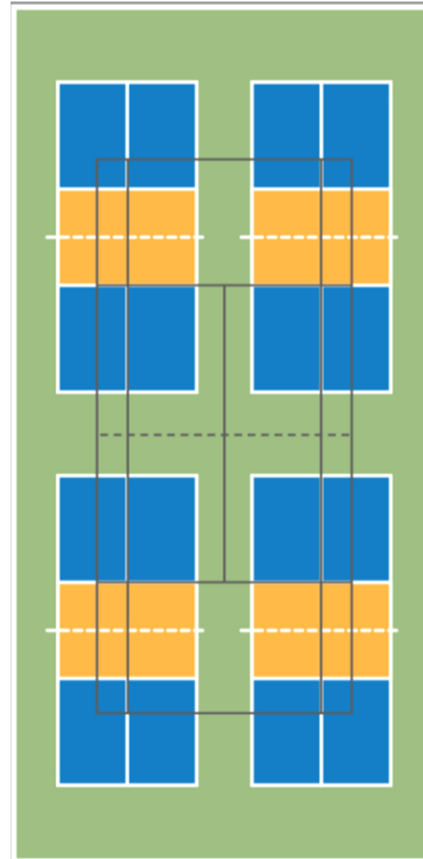
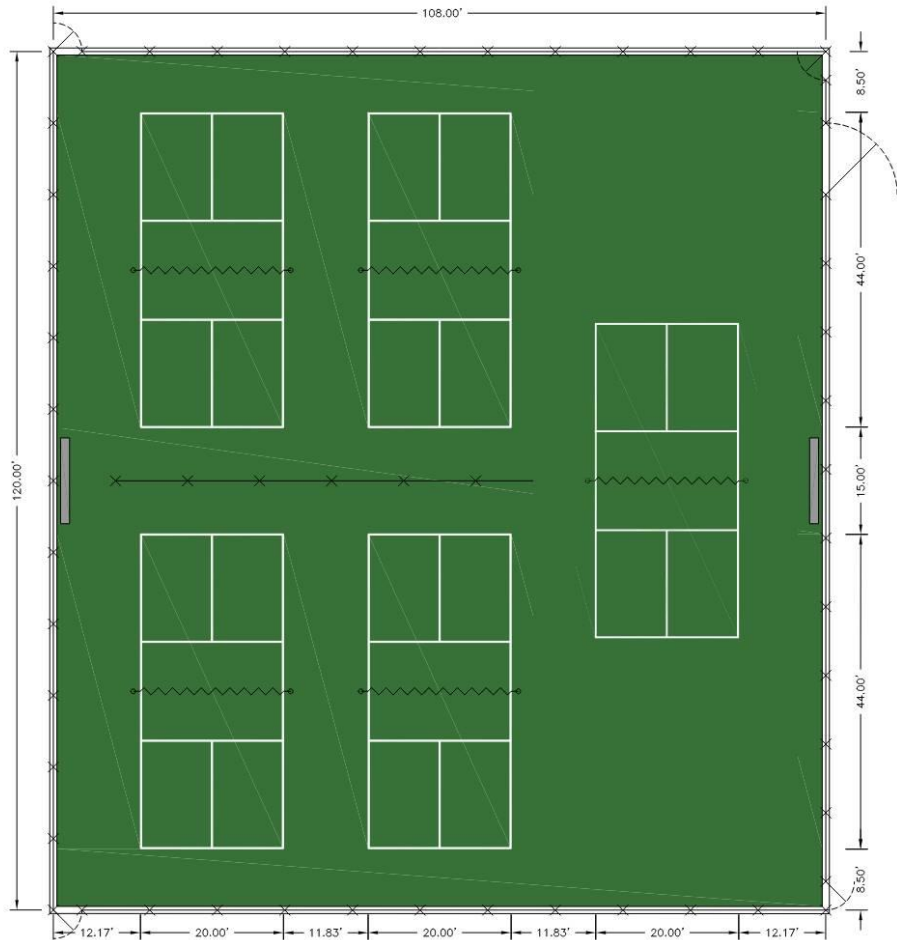
- Geographic distribution
- Accessibility
- Existing amenities (restrooms, parking/transit, lights, etc. community centers)
- Size + capacity
- Court condition
- Court Classification and Use (e.g. Joint Use Agreement or other high school use)
- Residential Proximity (noise)



Dual Striping (blended lines)



Court Conversion



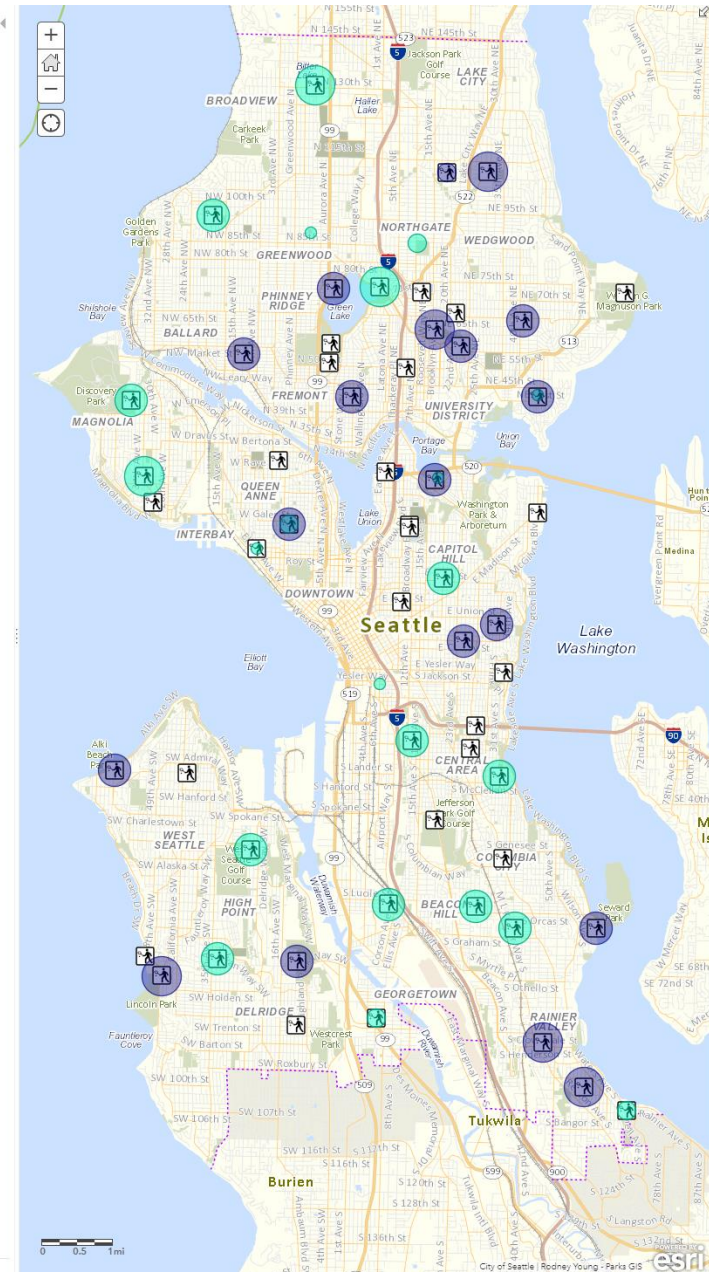
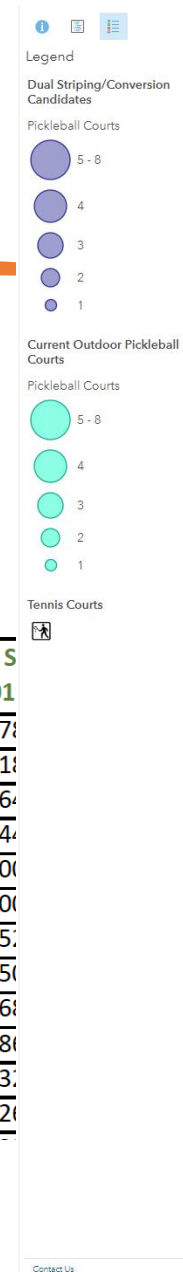
Process: Dual Striping and Conversion Site Selection

Seattle Parks & Recreation
2021-2022 Pickle Ball Study

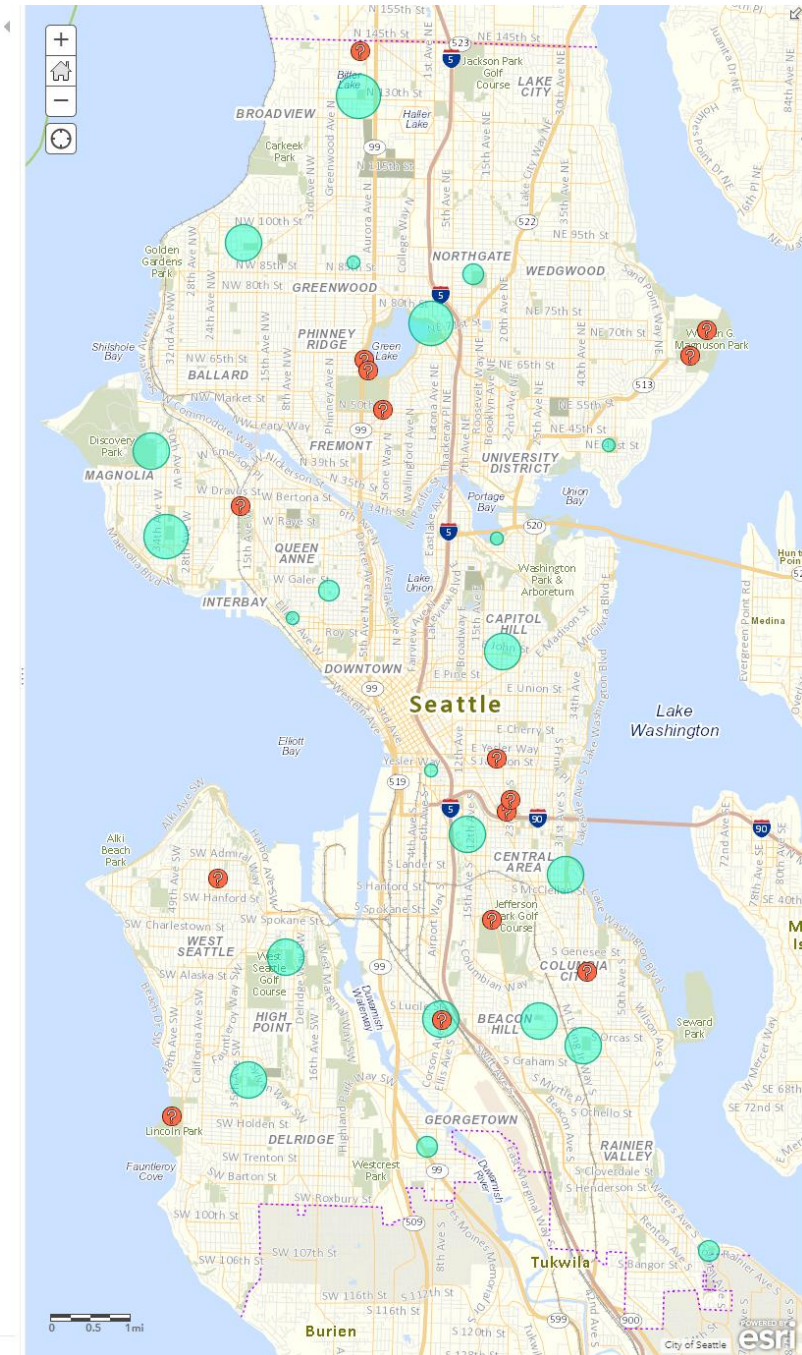
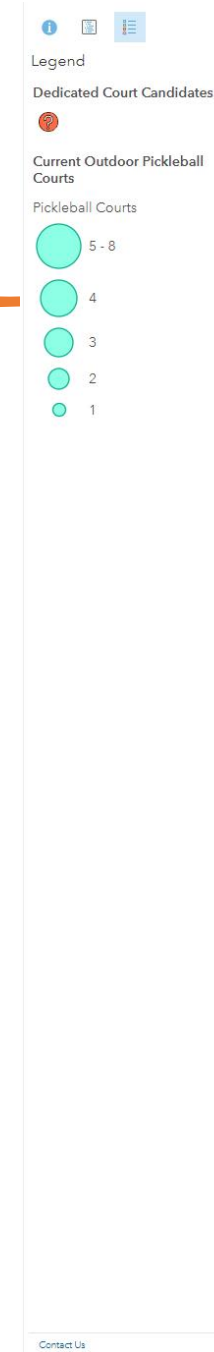
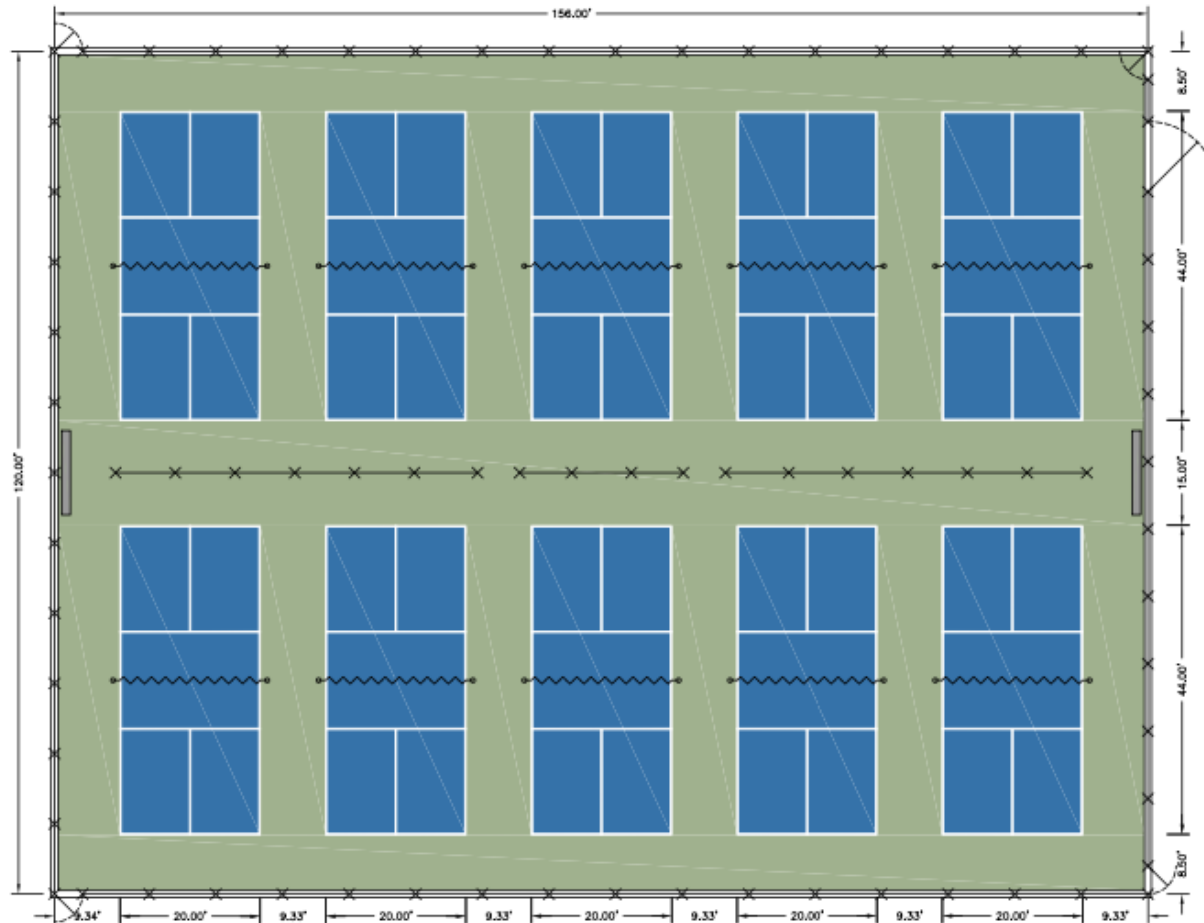
Assessment Criteria Database, Dual Use Facilities (Existing Compatible Facilities)

rev. 1-27-22 eg

Site	Facility Designation	Court type	# Courts	# PB Courts (Existing)	Indoor?	Base Construction	O&M \$ 201
Bitter Lake Playfield	Tier 2 Community Courts	Tennis	4	8	N	Concrete	2.78
Delridge Playfield	Tier 2 Community Courts	Tennis	2	4	N	Asphalt	3.11
Green Lake Park (East)	Tier 2 Community Courts	Tennis	3	6	N	Concrete	3.64
Hiawatha Playfield	Tier 2 Community Courts	Tennis	3			Asphalt	4.44
Jefferson Park	Tier 2 Community Courts	Tennis	4			Asphalt	5.00
Rainier Beach Playfield	Tier 2 Community Courts	Tennis	4			Concrete	5.00
Rainier Playfield	Tier 2 Community Courts	Tennis	4			Asphalt	3.57
Brighton Playfield	Tier 3 Neighborhood	Tennis	2	4		Asphalt	2.50
Lakeridge Playground		Tennis	1			Concrete	0.68
David Rodgers Park	Tier 3 Neighborhood	Tennis	3			Concrete	3.80
Sam Smith Park	Tier 3 Neighborhood	Tennis	2			Asphalt	4.33
Woodland Park (Lower Courts)	Tier 1 Major Complex	Tennis	10			Concrete	4.20



Dedicated Facilities



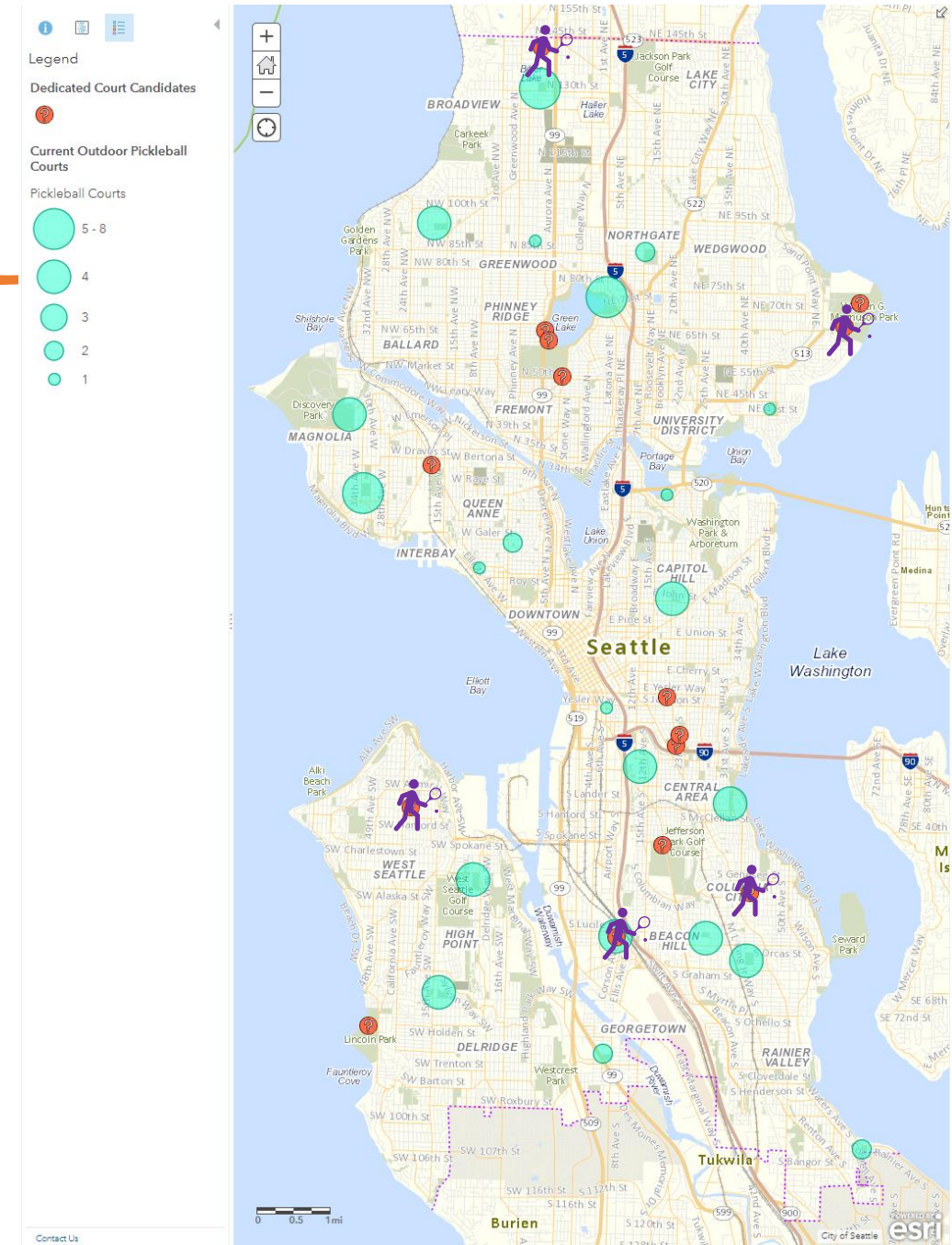
Dedicated Facilities

North

- 🏃 Magnuson Park E3 Parking Lot
- 🏃 Bitter Lake Reservoir

South

- 🏃 Genesee Park (East of Rainier CC)
- 🏃 Georgetown Playfield
- 🏃 Hiawatha Playfield T-ball field

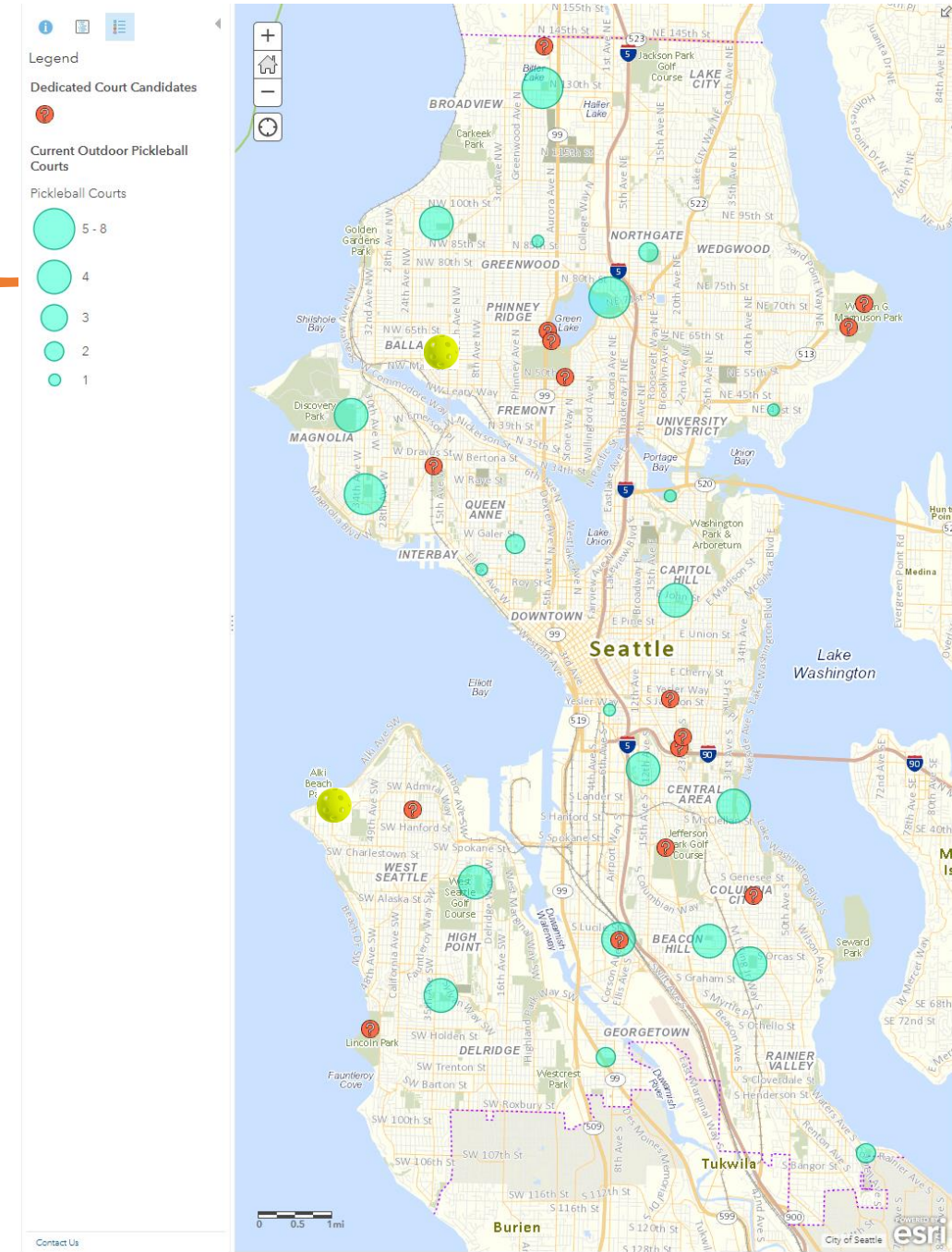




NEXT STEPS

Next Steps

- 🚶 Racial Equity Toolkit
- 🚶 2022 Dual Striping:
 - Gilman Playground (4)
 - Alki Playground (4)
 - Rainier Beach Playfield (8)
- 🚶 Local Engagement & Investigation of Potential Dedicated Sites



Questions?



Benchmark Cities

- **Portland** **1 court: 215,097 people**
 - 645,000 people; 3 City courts
- **Austin** **1 court: 21,129 people**
 - 951,000 people; dedicated: 16 outdoor courts, 17 indoor courts; 12 dual-striped outdoor courts
- **Phoenix** **1 court: 26,338 people**
 - 1,633,000 people; 24 indoor courts, 38 outdoor courts
- **Omaha** **1 court: 13,600 people**
 - 476,000 people; 14 outdoor dedicated, 21 outdoor dual-striped
- **Seattle** **1 court: 9,905 people**
 - (763,000 people; 77 outdoor courts)

Engagement: Advisory Committee

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