



## Staff Report

**Report Title: Pickleball Court Location and Construction Estimates**

**Prepared By: Mike Fair, Director of Community Services**

**Department: Community Services**

**Date: Dec. 4, 2023**

**Report Number: CS-2023-12-56**

**File Number:**

**C11 CS 23**

**Attachments: Map is attached**

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### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole receives for information Report CS-2023-12-56 prepared by Mike Fair, Director of Community Services.

### **Background:**

Staff were directed to investigate pickleball court site locations and determine cost estimates.

### **Discussion:**

Staff has received the following estimates for four court pickleball facility 130 feet by 70 feet, and after careful review have proposed a preferred location.

Staff recommend the parcel of land between the Point Clark Community Centre Parking lot, and Lake Range Road. The benefits include a tree buffer between Lake Range Drive and the pickleball courts to reduce noise, parking already exists, and existing asphalt courts in parking lot could act as overflow if required. The zoning is Open Space. The proximity to the baseball diamond could be considered precarious however the traditional times do not conflict with pickleball during the day, and baseball in the evenings, and additional signage may be required. A map is attached.

Staff received an estimate to clear trees, excavate, and install gravel for \$90 000, and an estimate to install Cement pad for \$61 000, and an estimate for five-foot chain-link fencing for \$10 000 around the perimeter. Staff did not include any estimates for any electrical or plumbing. The total construction estimate could be \$200 000.

The Pickleball courts were not mentioned in the 2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan in part that all our existing tennis courts had pickleball lines painted on courts,

the program was just started, and numbers were just starting to build and the popularity of pickleball is noted as one of the fastest growing sports in North America. (registration doubled to almost fifty in 2023). Based on the community profile the aging trend is expected to continue. Population changes are expected from a net influx of people. Cultural preferences are not expected to change because of the population growth. As such, the demand for facilities and programming is expected to:

- Include a greater need for adult and senior programming and
- Address age-related concerns: access, accessibility, and social inclusion.

Staff also considered the possibility to cover the four courts with a membrane and frame coverall type system and received an estimate for \$285 000. The benefits to covering the courts is to extend the season of pickleball from May until October to possibly March to November, while eliminating rain day cancellations. Staff also considered the covered system as an asset to potentially convert the concrete surface to an outdoor rink in the winter months of December to February dependent on weather. We bring this forward for information purposes.

Staff will investigate details regarding any preliminary work required for future grant applications, or fundraising efforts and bring a plan forward during the 2024 budget process.

**Financial Impacts:**

There are no financial impacts currently.

**Strategic Alignment / Link:**

We are a vibrant community that values our uniqueness and creativity.  
By creating places where people want to be

We are a spirited community that takes pride in calling Huron-Kinloss home and welcoming others.

By maintaining a sense of connection and cohesion with each other  
By engaging in our community

We are an accessible community that offers opportunities for everyone.

By having amenities and services nearby  
By being age friendly  
By being open and transparent

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

Mike Fair, Director of Community Services

**Report Approved By:**

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer