



**Parks and Recreation Board Agenda
Department of Public Services
851 South Eton-Conference Room
Tuesday, September 10, 2024
6:30 PM**

- I. Call to order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Announcements, Introductions of Guests & Chairpersons Comments**
 1. Ad Hoc Senior/Recreation Center Committee (SCC) - Update
- IV. Open To The Public for Items Not On the Agenda** *(two minutes per person)*
 - No one may speak a second time until everyone in the audience has spoken.
 - The chairperson may alternate speakers pro & con on issues being discussed.
- V. Approval of the minutes of: August 13, 2024***(regular meeting)*
- VI. Unfinished Business**
- VII. New Business-** *Written and submitted by 5pm Monday at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, one week prior to the meeting.*
 1. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application-Revised Resolution
 2. 2025 Parks and Recreation Board Schedule
- VIII. Miscellaneous Communications**
 1. Birmingham Resident - Pickleball concern, Tracey Boltik, email received 9/5/24
 2. Crestview Pickleball Comments/Concerns, Tom Boltik, email received 9/5/24
- IX. Reports From Staff**
- X. Items for Next Meeting-October 1, 2024**
 1. City of Birmingham Well Site Park Designation
 2. National Parks and Recreation Association (NPRA) - Benchmarking
- XI. Adjournment**

contact the City Clerk's Office at (248) 530-1880 at least one day in advance of the public meeting.
Las personas que requieren alojamiento, tales como servicios de interpretación, la participación efectiva en esta reunión deben ponerse en contacto con la Oficina del Secretario Municipal al (248) 530-1880 por lo menos el día antes de la reunión pública.
(Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).

*If you cannot attend the meetings, please contact Connie Folk at the Birmingham Ice Arena (248) 530-1642.
Minutes are available for review at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, 2300 East Lincoln, Birmingham, MI 48009*

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MISSION STATEMENT

The Parks and Recreation Board strives to provide opportunities for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration for present and future generations of residents and visitors through stewardship of natural, cultural and recreational resources. By continuously elevating the beauty and quality of the parks and recreation system of Birmingham, the Parks and Recreation Board will promote health and wellbeing, and strengthen the community.

Should you have any statement regarding the above, you are invited to attend the meeting in person or virtually through
ZOOM: <https://zoom.us/j/98191466679> **Meeting ID:** 981 9146 6679
You may also present your written statement to:
City of Birmingham, Parks and Recreation Board
851 South Eton, Birmingham, Michigan 48009 prior to the meeting.

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 13, 2024

Heather Carmona called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at 851 South Eton.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Susan Collins
Anne Lipp
Jessica Einstein
Sarah Kupczyk
Heather Carmona

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Pam Graham and Steve Sweeney

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
ABSENT:**

Ella Bassett, Orchard Lake St. Mary's
Preparatory School

ADMINISTRATION:

Scott D. Zielinski, Director DPS
Carrie A. Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager
Brendan McGaughey, Parks and Forestry
Foreman
Brad McNab, Parks and Recreation Assistant
Foreman

PRESENTERS:

NONE

GUESTS:

Jack Burns, Narlu Castellano, Joseph Wrobel,

It was moved by Einstein, seconded by Collins, to nominate Lipp as the temporary vice-chairperson for the August 13, 2024 Parks and Recreation Board meeting.

Lipp accepted the nomination.

Ayes,

Susan Collins, Jessica Einstein, Anne Lipp
Heather Carmona, and Sarah Kupczyk

**Nays,
Absent,**

None
Pam Graham and Steve Sweeney

ANNOUNCEMENTS, INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS & CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS:

Ad Hoc Senior/Recreation Center Committee (SCC)-Update

DPS Director Zielinski stated that the committee is on a brief break from meetings. DPS Director Zielinski stated that it has been determined that it's not feasible to renovate the existing building. City administration will be meeting with NEXT and the YMCA to determine how the three groups will be really intending to use the space long term and how the space can be shared.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

No comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved by Lipp, seconded by Collins, to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, July 9, 2024 regular meeting as amended.

Ayes,

Susan Collins, Jessica Einstein, Anne Lipp
Heather Carmona, and Sarah Kupczyk

Nays,

None

Absent,

Pam Graham and Steve Sweeney

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No items presented

New Business #1: Booth Park Entry Plaza & Trail Improvements -August 12, 2024
City Commission Packet

DPS Director Zielinski stated in summary the Booth Park Entry Plaza & Trail Improvement Plan was presented to City Commission on August 12, 2024 and the general feedback was the City Commission liked all the extras that was in the plan and one Commissioner said that there should be no concern on costs and just to make the area look nice. City Commission directed staff to finish the plans and proceed with the project.

No Action Needed

New Business #2: Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations

PM Laird stated that the Parks and Recreation Board reviewed the Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations last time 2020.

PM Laird reviewed the needed changes for 2024 with the Parks and Recreation Board.

It was moved by Lipp, seconded by Kupczyk, to approve the changes to the Parks and Recreation Rules as set forth in the Parks and Recreation Board packet.

Ayes,

Susan Collins, Jessica Einstein, Anne Lipp
Heather Carmona, and Sarah Kupczyk

Nays,

None

Absent,

Pam Graham and Steve Sweeney

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS:

Letter received from Kevin and Tricia Meade regarding City of Birmingham Pickleball Courts

REPORTS FROM STAFF: #1 Manor Park No-mow Demonstration Areas

PFF McGaughey, Parks and Forestry Foreman said no-mow areas have been installed and will continue to monitor the area and will report back to the Parks and Recreation Board and a later meeting.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) benchmarking

Chair Carmona stated the next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 6:30 pm, at 851 South Eton.

Chair Carmona adjourned the meeting at 7:07pm

Connie Folk, Ice Arena and Facilities Superintendent



MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: September 6, 2024

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Carrie Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager

APPROVED: Scott Zielinski, DPS Director

SUBJECT: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application-Revised Resolution

INTRODUCTION:

Administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grants support state and local units of government with acquisition and development projects that promote natural resource based public recreation opportunities.

Communities must include an approved resolution by their governing body in order to apply. The Department of Public Services (DPS) submitted an application, including a resolution, by the application deadline of April 1, 2024.

At the time of the application deadline of April 1, 2024, DPS submitted the Trail Improvement Concept Plan- Booth Park Section- and the original cost estimate from the Concept Plan with the intent of making adjustments to the application when updated cost estimates were ready during the period of time (later this month) when the DNR accepts supplemental information.

As the City Commission has recently reviewed the updated plans for Booth Park at the August 12, 2024 City Commission meeting ([Agenda](#)) and authorized a defined scope of work, including an updated cost estimate which is significantly higher now, the DPS is now looking to request the maximum amount of \$400,000 from the MNRTF grant. The DNR requires an updated resolution during the Supplemental Information time period as well, since our original ask was for \$266,000.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This grant would potentially award Birmingham up to \$400,000 to apply toward the cost of the Booth Park Section of the Trail Improvements project. Funding for the Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements is budgeted and available with Parks and Recreation Bond Funding this year. Matching funds are not required, but encouraged. A local match of at least 70% is included in the application. This local match can include donations.

SUMMARY:

The Department of Public Services has revised the attached resolution so that it more accurately represents the estimated project costs and it now also requests more funding than what was originally submitted for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Updated Resolution of Authorization for Birmingham to apply for a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- Memorandum from May 6, 2024 City Commission meeting ([Agenda/Minutes](#)) including originally submitted Resolution of Authorization

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Make a motion to forward the attached resolution, updated with a current cost estimate and adjusted grant request, to the City Commission for their authorization of approval to submit to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant.

**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES GRANT FUND**

Resolution # _____

At a regular meeting of the Birmingham City Commission, held in the Commission Room at the Birmingham Municipal Building (151 Martin St., Birmingham MI) on September 23, 2024, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, each year the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund ("MNRTF") invites state and local units of government in Michigan to submit proposals for the development of land for natural resource-based public outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Birmingham adopted a required 5-year, year 2024 – 2028, Parks and Recreation Master Plan on December 18, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Master Plan's Strategic Action Plan includes the completion of the Rouge River Trail Corridor improvements as conceptually described in the City of Birmingham's Trail Concept Improvement Plan; and

WHEREAS, completion of the Trail Concept Improvement Plan would greatly advance and improve access to natural resource-based public outdoor recreational opportunities by increasing access to the Rouge River and increasing the accessibility of the trail system, and funding is necessary to Booth Park Entry Plaza, Trail Entry, Restroom Building and Landscape Improvements; and

WHEREAS, the City of Birmingham City Commission supports the submission of an application titled "Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements" for development of the Booth Park Entry Plaza, Trail Entry, Restroom Building and Landscape Improvements; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of construction of the Booth Park Entry Plaza, Trail Entry, Restroom Building and Landscape Improvements is **\$1,521,800** and

WHEREAS, the City of Birmingham has made a financial commitment to the project in the amount of a minimum of **\$1,075,600** matching funds (approximately **70%**), in cash or in other grant funds; and

WHEREAS, if the grant is awarded the applicant commits its local match and donated amounts from the following sources:

<u>Dianna Rasha Foundation</u>	(organization)	<u>\$24,700</u>	(donated amount)
<u>John Rosso Foundation</u>	(organization)	<u>\$21,500</u>	(donated amount)

\$46,200 total

WHEREAS, the City of Birmingham accepts the long-term grant obligations, which include:

- The land included in the boundary of the project site must remain open to public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity.
- The grantee must maintain the site, including any other facilities constructed with grant assistance, and include access in compliance with the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible

Design.

- Installation of a 12" x 18" MNRTF plaque.; and

WHEREAS, the public was invited to comment and provide input on the City of Birmingham's application to the MNRTF at the Parks and Recreation Board's regular meeting held on September 10, 2024.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Birmingham hereby authorizes the submission of a MNRTF Grant application for **\$400,000** and further resolves to make available its financial obligation amount of **\$1,121,800 (\$46,200 donations to date + \$1,075,600 City match)** in the **2024-2025** fiscal year.

Yeas:

Nays:

Absent:

I, _____, (title), do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the City of Birmingham at a regular meeting thereof held on the 23rd day of September, 2024.



MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: April 29, 2024

TO: Jana L. Ecker, City Manager

FROM: Carrie Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager

APPROVED: Scott Zielinski, DPS Director

SUBJECT: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application- IN PROGRESS

INTRODUCTION:

Administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grants support state and local units of government with acquisition and development projects that promote natural resource based public recreation opportunities.

Communities must include an approved resolution by their governing body in order to apply. At the March 18, 2024 City Commission meeting, the Department of Public Services (DPS) requested permission to apply for a Trust Fund grant for the Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements by way of a report on the consent agenda and the resolution was passed.

BACKGROUND:

Upon approval to move forward with the grant application, DPS submitted Birmingham's application for a Trust Fund Grant. Upon a preliminary review, the MDNR Grant Coordinator reached out for more information, in particular the opportunity for the public to comment on the application. After discussion and review of minutes and agendas, the area grant coordinator for the MDNR is not satisfied with the amount of opportunity the public had to provide feedback due to the placement of the application on the consent agenda rather than under new business. By placing the grant application on new business at the May 6, 2024 Commission meeting, DPS is ensuring that the public has a clear opportunity to give their feedback.

The report from the March 18, 2024 City Commission meeting is attached for more background information on the grant application for the Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements project.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney has reviewed the resolution and has no objection.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This grant would potentially award Birmingham up to \$266,000 to apply toward the cost of the Booth Park Section of the Trail Improvements project. Funding for the Trail Improvements project including the Booth Park corner feature is budgeted and available with Parks and Recreation Bond Funding, with the upcoming next bond issue this year. Matching funds are not required, but encouraged. A local match of at least 51% is included in the application.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

The department has communicated its intention of applying for this grant with the Parks and Recreation Board. Should Birmingham be awarded a MNRTF grant, it will be communicated through all appropriate avenues.

SUSTAINABILITY:

This project's vision includes sustainable features and will be incorporated as part of the application.

SUMMARY:

The Department of Public Services recommends approving the attached resolution so that Birmingham may apply for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution of Authorization for Birmingham to apply for a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- Report from the March 18, 2024 City Commission Meeting
- March 18, 2024 City Commission Meeting [Agenda](#) / [Minutes](#) (web link)
- [Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Program Overview](#) (web link)

SUGGESTED COMMISSION ACTION:

Make a motion adopting and approving the attached resolution, authorizing Birmingham to apply for a Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and further directing the City Clerk to sign the resolution.



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES GRANT FUND**

Resolution # 05-424-24

At a regular meeting of the Birmingham City Commission, held in the Commission Room at the Birmingham Municipal Building (151 Martin St., Birmingham MI) on May 6, 2024, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, each year the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund ("MNRTF") invites state and local units of government in Michigan to submit proposals for the development of land for natural resource-based public outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Birmingham adopted a required 5-year, year 2024 – 2028, Parks and Recreation Master Plan on December 18, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Master Plan's Strategic Action Plan includes the completion of the Rouge River Trail Corridor improvements as conceptually described in the City of Birmingham's Trail Concept Improvement Plan; and

WHEREAS, completion of the Trail Concept Improvement Plan would greatly advance and improve access to natural resource-based public outdoor recreational opportunities by increasing access to the Rouge River and increasing the accessibility of the trail system, and funding is necessary to Booth Park Entry Plaza, Trail Entry, Restroom Building and Landscape Improvements; and

WHEREAS, the City of Birmingham City Commission supports the submission of an application titled "Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements" for development of the Booth Park Entry Plaza, Trail Entry, Restroom Building and Landscape Improvements; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of construction of the Booth Park Entry Plaza, Trail Entry, Restroom Building and Landscape Improvements is **\$543,400**; and

WHEREAS, the City of Birmingham has made a financial commitment to the project in the amount of a minimum of **\$277,100** matching funds (approximately **51%**), in cash or in other grant funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Birmingham accepts the long-term grant obligations, which include:

- The land included in the boundary of the project site must remain open to public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity.
- The grantee must maintain the site, including any other facilities constructed with grant assistance, and include access in compliance with the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.
- Installation of a 12" x 18" MNRTF plaque; and

WHEREAS, the public was invited to comment and provide input on the City of Birmingham's application to the MNRTF at the City Commission's regular meeting held on May 6, 2024.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Birmingham hereby authorizes the submission of a MNRTF Grant application for **\$266,000** and further resolves to make available its financial obligation amount of **\$277,400** in the **2024-2025** fiscal year.

Yeas: Mayor McLain, Mayor Pro Tem Schafer, Commissioners Baller, Haig, Host, Long, Longe

Nays: None

Absent: None

I, Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk, of the City of Birmingham, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the City of Birmingham at a regular meeting thereof held on the 6th day of May 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alexandria Bingham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alexandria" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Bingham".

Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk



MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: March 12, 2024

TO: Jana L. Ecker, City Manager

FROM: Carrie Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager

APPROVED: Scott Zielinski, DPS Director

SUBJECT: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application

INTRODUCTION:

Administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grants support state and local units of government with acquisition and development projects that promote natural resource based public recreation opportunities.

Communities must include an approved resolution by their governing body in order to apply.

BACKGROUND:

The Department Public Services plans to apply for a MDNR Trust Fund grant to be applied toward the Booth Park Section of Trail Improvements. To be eligible to apply, local communities must have an up to date five (5) year Parks and Recreation Plan on file with the State of Michigan.

Trail improvements are slated as a priority project as part of the approved Parks and Recreation Bond. The City Commission accepted the Trail Improvement Concept Plan in September of 2023 and authorized pursuing the development of the Booth Park Section of the Trail Improvement Concept Plan. The Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements is our next priority project in the queue, to accomplish with Parks and Recreation Bond funding. We have a concept plan, cost estimate, and are planning for funding available for a match in 2024-2025. Additionally, we are expecting the award of Professional Design Services for this project to prepare designs and specifications over the next few months to prepare for the construction project, anticipated to begin in the spring of 2025.

The Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements project will incorporate green infrastructure and sustainability features where suitable, gardens, trees, seating and gathering area designed for intensive use, a restroom facility, and trail entry identifiers and connectivity improvements including confidence markers and wayfinding in navigating from Booth Park to the rest of the trail system..

The City will ask for grant funding for the Booth Park Section of the Trail Improvements Plan only.

The Department continues to explore other grant opportunities as we move forward with park development projects. We have been awarded a pre-development grant to apply toward the cost of preparing designs and construction specifications for the Booth Park Section of the Trail Improvements project from the 2023 Oakland County Parks and Recreation Trailways program as well.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney has reviewed the resolution and has no objection.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This grant would potentially award Birmingham up to \$266,300 to apply toward the cost of the Booth Park Section of the Trail Improvements project. Funding for the Trail Improvements project including the Booth Park corner feature is budgeted and available with Parks and Recreation Bond Funding, with the upcoming next bond issue this year. Matching funds are not required, but encouraged. A local match of at least 51% is included in the application.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

The department has communicated its intention of applying for this grant with the Parks and Recreation Board. Should Birmingham be awarded a MNRTF grant, it will be communicated through all appropriate avenues.

SUSTAINABILITY:

This project's vision includes sustainable features and will be incorporated as part of the application.

SUMMARY:

The Department of Public Services recommends approving the attached resolution so that Birmingham may apply for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution of Authorization for Birmingham to apply for a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- [Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Program Overview](#) (web link)

SUGGESTED COMMISSION ACTION:

Make a motion adopting and approving the attached resolution, authorizing Birmingham to apply for a Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and further directing the City Clerk to sign the resolution.

Revised Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Dates (2025)

WILL BE HELD AT THE DPS CONFERENCE ROOM AT
851 SOUTH ETON
AT 6:30PM

January 14, 2025

February 4, 2025

March 4, 2025

April 1, 2025

May 6, 2025

June 10, 2025

July 1, 2025

August 5, 2025

September 2, 2025

October 28, 2025

November 18, 2025

December 2, 2025

January 6, 2026

Re: Birmingham Resident - Pickleball concern

1 message

Carrie Laird <Claird@bhamgov.org>
To: T Boltik <tlb1025@live.com>
Cc: "Folk, Connie" <Cfolk@bhamgov.org>

Fri, Sep 6, 2024 at 12:00 PM

Tracey,

Thank you for the call and follow-up email yesterday. Connie also received an email from your husband. We will share your email communications with the Parks and Recreation Board at their Sept 10, 2024 meeting next week. Also, I encourage you to use our govpiilot app to report any concerns for faster response. I apologize I didn't get the message in time to be able to investigate any league play. However, we will continue to monitor activity and address any concerns.

On Thu, Sep 5, 2024 at 10:13 AM T Boltik <tlb1025@live.com> wrote:

Hello Carrie,

My husband called the city last month regarding pickleball league play. He was told to call back when it was happening, and you would send someone out to investigate.

Today I've left you a voicemail and have not heard a response yet as there is league play happening now. I would like the city to stop by and recognize this is and has been an ongoing neighborhood concern for quite sometime and nothing is being done to correct this situation.

Additionally, you said in an email response from 2023: As for the league play you are referring to, the city does not formally recognize any league play that is occurring as it would not be a city-organized event, therefore we have no additional comment on this item.

It has gotten so bad that people coming up to me in my driveway asking me for league parking.

I would like to know what the city is going to do about the leagues and look forward to the city's response.

Thank you.

Miscellaneous Communication #1

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: T Boltik <tlb1025@live.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 11:03:12 AM
To: tlb1025@comcast.net <tlb1025@comcast.net>
Subject: Fwd: Birmingham Resident - Pickleball concern

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Carrie Laird <Claird@bhamgov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 2, 2023 3:39:09 PM
To: T Boltik <tlb1025@live.com>
Cc: Scott Zielinski <szielinski@bhamgov.org>
Subject: Re: Birmingham Resident - Pickleball concern

Tracey,

Thank you for sharing your concerns and suggestions with me. Regarding the hours, we do enforce the hours both before 9 am and after 8 pm. I appreciate your feedback, we are aware of the staffing inconsistency that you've identified and we are working to improve this in cooperation with the police department. I would encourage you to share the parking/safety concerns with the Police Department as the Department of Public Services doesn't handle these. We recommend that you contact the Police Department non-emergency line as it's happening especially if your driveway is blocked. As for the cars parking on both sides of the street, this is commonly allowed in Birmingham, but again is an item for emergency services to review to determine if it will restrict services. I would again recommend getting in touch with the police department. As for the league play you are referring to, the city does not formally recognize any league play that is occurring as it would not be a city-organized event, therefore we have no additional comment on this item. Lastly, I will share the noise concerns with the Parks and Recreation Board, as this topic has been under recent consideration on Parks & Recreation Board agendas.

I appreciate the feedback!

On Mon, Jul 31, 2023 at 10:05 AM T Boltik <tlb1025@live.com> wrote:

Hello Carrie,

I'm writing to express my concern for the PickleBall Courts. Below are my observations and suggestions for the city to implement.

-
-

1. Court hours not being followed:

There's inconsistency of having a person monitoring the courts prior to stop/start times. I've seen a person from the city monitoring from their car from 7am-8ish am but it's not consistent with no real authoritative presence. Also, no one from the city shows up at closing time, leading to neighbors to calling dispatch for police to usher the pickleballers off the courts. And in some cases come back passed 9 to use the courts.

2. Safety concerns:

Difficulty with emergency vehicles getting through Southlawn due to multiple cars belonging to pickleballers parking on Southlawn. Leagues should be moved elsewhere. The leagues are causing about 50 people on the court (24 playing and 24+waiting – all on the court). No one car shares rides – they all drive and clog up Southlawn which is a concern. Not to mention blocking my driveway which is located on Southlawn.

3. Noise issues:

11 hours of listening to profanity, loud music, and the sound of the balls hitting the rackets is a nuisance, especially when there are young children and some residents with medical conditions in the neighborhood. Also, the fact that we can't open our windows for fresh air.

Based on the above, I suggest adding a gate to lock and unlock from both sides during hours. Secondly, only grant parking to local /crestview Birmingham residents on Southlawn. Also, in order to crowd control – reuse the tennis courts near the ice rink where there is plenty of parking.

I would appreciate a response asap. Thanks.

Tracey Boltik

Sent from [Outlook](#)

--

Carrie A. Laird

Parks & Recreation Manager
851 S. Eton
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-530-1714

Important Note to Residents

Let's connect! Join the Citywide Email System to receive important City updates and critical information specific to your neighborhood at www.bhamgov.org/citywideemail.

--

Carrie A. Laird
Parks & Recreation Manager
851 S. Eton
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-530-1714

Important Note to Residents

Let's connect! Join the Citywide Email System to receive important City updates and critical information specific to your neighborhood at www.bhamgov.org/citywideemail.

restview Pickleball Comments / Concerns

1 message

Thomas Boltik <tlb1025@comcast.net>
To: "cfolk@bhamgov.org" <cfolk@bhamgov.org>

Thu, Sep 5, 2024 at 3:44 PM

Hello,

Just want to share some comments & concerns regarding the Crestview Park Pickleball courts -

- 1.) Thank You - Thanks for monitoring the courts and enforcing 9AM means 9AM and 8PM means 8PM, it is appreciated. I have watched the "special people" that believe that does not apply to them argue with the Parks & Rec representative.
- 2.) Fencing - I suggest increasing the side fencing to at least 6 feet. This should reduce the calls to the Birmingham PD to report players using the court outside of hours. Players do jump the fence and recently used a picnic table to get over the fence.
- 3.) Flash Mob Behavior - The Birmingham website clearly states that courts can be reserved from 12PM to 8PM which leaves morning for first-come, first-served. Certain days of the week there are morning organized leagues / tournaments (probably via social media). In these cases the players' behavior is like a flash mob where they consume all courts and keep them for the next mob in their group at the time change. On certain days no one not in their group has a chance to use the courts.

FYI - Event Planned - I learned today that there is going to be 'an event' at the courts in two weeks. A contractor working on my house was approached by a player asking if the contractors vehicles would be gone by then because the players will need parking.

- 4.) General Inconsiderate Behavior - Putting up a sign at the courts reminding people that this is a public park in a neighborhood and that they need to be considerate of neighbors may, or may not, be a helpful reminder. This is not their club. We have had people change their clothes on our grass and there is sometimes trash. I have also heard meetings and phone calls outside our fence by players while taking a break. I guess they crossed the street to escape the noise or so I could listen, not sure.
- 5.) Driver / Intersection Safety / Parking - I have already sent my concerns and suggestions to the City.
- 6.) Dog Park Style Entry - Forcing people to have a pass like the dog park may help. Charging for the pass should be able to pay for the cost of the system.
- 7.) More Courts - It appears that there are not enough courts in Birmingham or the surrounding area. I believe that's why the Crestview courts are so crowded. Adding more courts may prevent everyone from having to come here and make this more tolerable.

The clicking noise is miserable (77 hrs / week) and even when the courts are closed I still hear it. But, if the city can make its position clear on (hopefully shut down) social media organized leagues / tournaments and persuade players to change their behavior to be more considerate and recognize this as a public park in a neighborhood and not a club it would be a good start.

Thanks for your consideration, I do appreciate it. Feel free to contact me if there are any questions - You are more than welcome to have a coffee with me on the patio on the league days - I will try to save you a parking spot.

Sincerely,

Tom Boltik
1700 Shipman Blvd.