



January 9, 2023

Dear RCSD Directors and Mr. Mendoza

Until now, the RHA has not provided any input on the community conversation around Pickleball (PB) in Rossmoor generally or on the conversation of one of the tennis courts into a set of two to four PB courts.

Our Board feels that the residents of Rossmoor are more than able to express their opinions and feelings about any issues at hand; the RHA does not need to weigh in on their behalf. After all, it's the residents of Rossmoor that elect the Board of Directors for both the RHA and RCSD. And for the most part, these same people provide the funding for both through their dues and their property taxes.

However, there are some pertinent points that we would be remiss to not highlight and bring to your attention and the focus of the neighborhood as the RCSD Board of Directors considers a second trial period of PB at Rossmoor Park:

1. **What is the urgency to act on PB courts at *this* moment in time?** PB has been under discussion by the District since at least 2018 when the RCSD Board projected \$20,000 for PB/handball courts in Rush Park for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. What changed that has made PB such an urgent priority for the Board? Maybe if the community understood why this push for PB is so critical to Rossmoor, there may be more acceptance.
2. **What is the PB project plan?** There was a test run in the summer of 2022 and money expended on sound mitigation studies. However, to our knowledge we have not seen any plans (drawings), timelines, costs, bids, or implementation details for the project. We also have not seen any revenue increase and loss projections, or cost projections (staff time, maintenance, etc.). Additionally, while the District continues to discuss the parking issues around the Montecito area, there has been no discussion about, or potential mitigation measures for any traffic and parking issues that PB courts may create around Rossmoor Park.

This leaves us with the question, what is the point of another trial. What are we trying to learn from the trial? We already know that PB is a growing, in demand sport that is attracting people of all ages. We have already paid for sound studies. What is the point of having a 90-day trial at this time?



3. Back in 2019 the District requested via Resolution #19-12-10-01 funds from the State of California via the Prop 68 per capita grant. One of the projects included in this request was a picnic canopy for Rossmoor Park. The District invested staff time and thousands of dollars into obtaining architectural plans for the canopy. The plans were reviewed by the County to the extent that changes to the plans were required to comply with ADA rules. The project was halted by the Board for budgetary reasons and has not been budgeted for again. Since the canopy project was included in the grant, why not complete that project before starting a new project that has no project plan and was not included in the grant application? It seems finishing what was started before starting something new makes the most fiscal sense.

Until the District can provide more information for the residents of Rossmoor about this project and how it fits into the five-year capital improvement or any other long-term vision for the parks in Rossmoor, we cannot in good conscious support another PB trial or any additional expenditure of money on this project.

The RCSD Board is elected by the people of Rossmoor primarily to oversee the use of nearly two million of our tax dollars each year for our parks, trees, and other services. It is difficult to see how investing more money in a project that does not have a plan which includes timelines, revenue projections for the future, and overall cost projections is a good business decision for the District.

Please do consider what's the best thing for Rossmoor before you vote on the extended PB trial in Rossmoor Park.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Art Remnet'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'A' and 'R'.

Art Remnet
President
for the Rossmoor Homeowners Association