

December 10, 2023

Re: Plans for a new pickleball facility for the recreation area at George Richardson Park

Unfortunately, the short notice does not facilitate the opportunity to attend the council meeting in person on Dec. 11th due to the inability to rearrange work commitments as we received the letter on Dec. 9th. Please find below a listing of issues, besides the obvious noise impact of the sport itself, we trust will be addressed by council in the proposed plans:

- 1) Increased crowds and traffic in a residential area surrounded by trails and paths that are used regularly by the community. This would result in the disruption to the tranquil surroundings. It also raises safety concerns. There are families and children walking to the parks and walking their dogs and biking to the neighboring trails. The planned structure at the bottom of the valley will increase traffic all the way down Bayview Pkwy impacting the safety of pedestrians and bikers enjoying the neighboring parks and trails.
- 2) There will be constant noise generated by the fan to keep the bubble inflated. How will this be addressed?
- 3) Increased garbage: The more crowds tend to bring more garbage, devaluing the area.
- 4) Increased crowds also are known to increase vandalism and crime in the area.
- 5) Should the noise mitigating measures, described in the letter, not be effective, what will be the recourse to the residents who are entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of their home?
- 6) On the letter there was mention of an attachment - "Appendix A - Court Layout at George Richardson Park". The Appendix A was missing in the package received.

This is not a win-win situation. There is going to be a huge impact on the Leslie Valley neighborhood. The proposed plan will change the landscape of this quiet residential neighborhood. The fact is that the town is negatively impacting the neighborhood and generating revenues as part of this plan we would like to see reduction in the property taxes to compensate for the impact.

Final thought: Why can't we lease space in East or West Gwillimbury to accommodate the current rise in demand for the sport?

Sincerely,
Lucia Benedict

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