

## Manotick Court Expansion – Frequently Asked Questions

The [Manotick Tennis Club](#) is a community club that has operated for 50+ years, offering programs for members and the community at large. Until recently, the club offered six courts for tennis. We introduced pickleball as a pilot in 2018, turning one tennis court into four pickleball courts, and it has been an overwhelming success.

### What is the project all about?

The Manotick Tennis Club is seeking to increase tennis and pickleball playing capacity in Manotick by using a grassy area of Centennial Park (unused by organized sports) to

- Build six dedicated pickleball courts fenced and lit and built to USA Pickleball Association (USAPA) standards and meeting the City of Ottawa requirements
- Install permanent pickleball nets and a seating area
- Return the temporary pickleball courts to a dedicated tennis court.

The pickleball courts will be shared between the club and the community, with certain hours available for free community play.

### Why is this happening now?

Two main reasons:

- 1) Manotick Tennis Club has experienced a **dramatic increase in demand** for pickleball and tennis courts and programs since 2018. Once COVID restrictions are lifted and we can offer regular programming, we anticipate not being able to meet demand for courts and programs.
- 2) The City has determined the current configuration of temporary pickleball and existing tennis courts are not suitable for building permanent pickleball courts, based on new City safety standards.

### What advantages will this project have for tennis and pickleball players and the community?

Stand-alone pickleball courts will

- Offer residents a safe space to try out pickleball free of charge during certain hours/times (TBD)
- Enable the community (children, adults & seniors) to access affordable programs in pickleball, just as they do now in tennis.
- Increase tennis capacity from five to six tennis courts
- Increase pickleball capacity from four to six courts

## How will new courts affect parking at Centennial Park?

- **Existing parking unchanged:** The concept plan has been sited so as not to interfere with existing parking at Centennial Park (both paved and unpaved).
- **Not much overlap in peak usage:** As the courts are used primarily from May-August, player parking will not interfere with winter sport parking (skating, hockey). Peak parking times in the summer are 6-8pm, so we may adjust community programming to minimize overlap with these times. Peak pickleball play is typically in mornings.

## What about the sound of pickleball paddles and balls?

Since Centennial Park is in a residential area, we will be working with the City on options to reduce the noise of play for neighbours. Noise mitigation may include a combination of

- Soft landscaping such as hedges and trees
- Hard landscaping such as fences
- Special-purpose acoustical barriers

You will have the opportunity to comment on these design specifics during the next phase of consultations.

## What is the status of the project? What are the next steps?

- **February 2020:** the Manotick Tennis Club applied for a Community Partnership Major Capital Grant.
- **November 2021:** Ottawa City Council approved in principle the Community Partnership Major Capital project to add pickleball courts at Centennial Park. The 50-50 partnership sees the City contribute 50% of the project cost up to a maximum of \$150,000.
- **January-Early March 2022:** We started consultations with community stakeholders and neighbours to inform them of the concept and solicit early feedback.
- **Now:** We are informing the broader community of the concept and seeking preliminary feedback prior to starting design.
- **Future:** We will develop design and usage considerations based on feedback from the community. Project design will be refined by the City based on their requirements and standards. The community will have a further opportunity to provide feedback on this design.

## Tell us about your project team?

- The Manotick Tennis Club is governed by an enthusiastic volunteer Board of Directors that collectively have decades of experience in building capacity for community recreation within the City of Ottawa. The Manotick Tennis Club operates as a not-for-

profit member association under the auspices of the City of Ottawa and is in the process of incorporating.

- The City of Ottawa has assigned a planner to this project. Assuming the project goes ahead, the City will issue a tender based on a final design, select the winning bid, and oversee the project to completion. This timeline is TBD.

### **How can I stay informed?**

- Sign up for our March 23 webinar at [www.manoticktennisclub.com](http://www.manoticktennisclub.com) and you'll automatically be added to our court expansion consultations mailing list
- Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/manoticktennisclub>
- The Manotick Village and Community Association (MVCA) and Manotick Culture, Parks and Recreation Association (MCPRA) will be helping us by sending out updates and information about the next phase of consultations