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TO: Community Service Committee

DESTINATAIRE : Comité des services communautaires

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FILE NUMBER: ACS2026-RCF-GEN-0003

SUBJECT: Outdoor Tennis and Pickleball Strategy Phase II Update

**OBJET : Mise à jour sur la phase II de la stratégie du tennis et du pickleball
extérieurs**

PURPOSE

This memo provides the Community Services Committee with an update on the Outdoor Tennis and Pickleball Phase II Strategy.

BACKGROUND

In April 2025, the Community Services Committee approved the Outdoor Tennis and Pickleball Strategy, which addressed future outdoor court measurements, noise mitigation setback distances, and outdoor court public access and usage. Public consultation to inform the strategy identified additional areas that required further review. Staff committed to advancing these areas in Phase II of the Strategy focused on two priority areas:

1. Reviewing the municipal tennis and pickleball club service delivery model, and
2. Reassessing maintenance and lifecycle renewal practices for outdoor courts in collaboration with Public Works and Asset Management.

DISCUSSION

Municipal Tennis and Pickleball Clubs

Municipal tennis and pickleball clubs are an important component in the City's outdoor court system. Following Council's approval of the Outdoor Tennis and Pickleball Strategy, staff continued work to enhance understanding of tennis and pickleball service delivery including current club administration and memberships, camps, instructional programs, and rental practices.

Since phase I, staff have met with club representatives and are recommending that the Club model currently in place be maintained into the future, with a prescribed process to consider any further expansion of the model. To gain further insight into Club service delivery and protocols, including recruitment and safety, agreement was reached to undertake discussions with clubs regarding updates to the existing municipal club model. This includes revisions to club operating agreements to clarify roles and responsibilities as well as to better reflect current best practices. Engagement with clubs will continue throughout 2026 to ensure updated agreements are in place for the 2027 season.

Maintenance and Lifecycle Renewal Practices

Staff collaborated with Public Works and Asset Management to review the maintenance and lifecycle renewal of outdoor tennis and pickleball courts and prioritization within the City's broader park asset portfolio.

Benchmarking with other municipalities and a review of available guidance from Tennis Canada and the Ontario Tennis Association, which largely focused on competitive facilities rather than municipal public courts, confirmed that there is no commonly accepted industry standards for maintenance quality or lifecycle renewal of outdoor public tennis and pickleball courts.

In response, staff identified practical court maintenance priorities and developed an inspection form that aligns with existing operational practices and the City's risk-based

asset management approach. A public-facing [maintenance request](#) process as well as a process to [request court lines for pickleball](#) on existing tennis courts have been added to ottawa.ca. These tools provide residents with clear, consistent mechanisms to identify maintenance concerns and request court modifications, while supporting improved tracking, prioritization, and response to court-related issues.

CONCLUSION

Implementation of Phase II of the Strategy is well underway. Staff are refining maintenance and lifecycle renewal guidance in coordination with operational partners and advancing engagement with municipal clubs to update the club service delivery model agreement. Future updates and recommendations arising from this work will be shared as appropriate.

Dan Chenier
General Manager,
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CC: SLT

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

City of Ottawa. (2025) [Outdoor Tennis and Pickleball Strategy](#)