



PLYMOUTH PARKS COMMITTEE AGENDA

CITY OF PLYMOUTH, WISCONSIN

October 29, 2025 6:00 PM

Plymouth City Hall

Room 305

128 Smith Street

Plymouth, WI 53073

Members Present:

____ Mark Melcher
____ Mark Levandowski
____ Jeff Versch
____ Katie Schroeder
____ Jeff Tauscheck

Staff:

____ Cathy Austin
____ Anna Voigt

Other:

- 1. Call to order and roll call**
- 2. Approval of August 6, 2025 minutes**
- 3. Audience Comment**
- 4. Discussion on City Park Upgrades**
- 5. Communications – Letters, emails, or reports related to the Committee**
- 6. Adjourn**

It is possible that members of and possibly a quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice. Please note that, upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, please contact the City of Plymouth ADA Coordinator Leah Federwisch, located in the Plymouth Utilities office at 900 County Road PP, Plymouth, WI or call 920-893-3853.

PLYMOUTH PARKS COMMITTEE

CITY OF PLYMOUTH, WISCONSIN

August 6, 2025 6:30 PM

Plymouth City Hall Room 305

128 Smith Street

Plymouth, WI 53073

Minutes

1. **Call to order and roll call:** Chairman Melcher called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
Members present were Mark Melcher, Jeff Versch, Katie Schroeder, and Jeff Tauscheck. Also present: Director Public Works Cathy Austin, and City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Anna Voigt
2. **Approve agenda:** Motion was made by Tauscheck/Schroeder to approve the agenda. A unanimous aye vote was cast. Motion carried.
3. **Approval of July 22, 2024 minutes:** Motion was made by Tauscheck/Schroeder to approve the minutes from July 22, 2024. A unanimous aye vote was cast. Motion carried.
4. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair:** Motion was made by Tauscheck/Schroeder to elect Melcher as Chair. A unanimous aye vote was cast. Motion carried. Motion was made Schroeder/Tauscheck to elect Levandowski as Vice Chair. A unanimous aye vote was cast. Motion carried.
5. **Audience Comment:** None
6. **Update on Nut Hill Ski Project:** Director Austin updated the committee that the Cheese Capital Winter Park continues to make progress and they are still planning to open in Winter 2025.
7. **Discission on Future City Park Project:** Director Austin introduced the future City Park Project and the timeline. The city hired Parkitecture and Planning to lead the design process and develop concept plans. The next steps in the process are to hold an open house, have a follow up discussion with the Parks Committee and then a presentation to the Committee of the Whole to gather further direction. Schorder asked about budget. Austin stated it kind of depends on what people want to see at the park there is potential to borrow money. Melcher asked if there will be tennis courts. Schorder asked if the bathrooms will for sure be on top of the hill by the band shell. Austin stated that will be in the plans.
8. **Communications – Letters, emails, or reports related to the Committee:** None
9. **Adjourn:** Motion was made by Tauscheck/Versch to adjourn the meeting. A unanimous aye vote was cast. Motion carried.



DATE: October 24, 2025

TO: Parks Committee

FROM: Cathy Austin, PE, Director of Public Works

RE: City Park Upgrades

On September 24, 2025, the City held a Public Open House to gather community input regarding proposed improvements to City Park. The event, hosted by Parkitecture + Planning, was well attended with approximately 50 participants. Attendees reviewed conceptual imagery, provided written comments, and discussed ideas for enhancing park amenities.

The discussion and comment cards covered a wide range of topics, including playground renovation, pool facilities, accessibility, pathway connections, and parking.

Discussion Items for the Parks Committee:

At this meeting, the Parks Committee should discuss the following key questions:

- Key elements of City Park
- Pickleball: Should it be included in the City Park concept design, or should staff investigate other park locations that may be better suited for this activity?
 - When considering this, it may be helpful to reference best practices for pickleball courts, including:
 - Courts should ideally be located at least 200 feet from nearby residential properties to reduce potential noise impacts.
 - Where close proximity to homes cannot be avoided, acoustic screening (e.g., fencing with sound-dampening material or landscape buffers) should be considered.
 - Lighting and parking should be designed to minimize disturbance to adjacent neighborhoods.

Next Steps:

- Parkitecture + Planning will incorporate community feedback from the open house into several conceptual design options for City Park.
- These concept plans will be presented to the Parks Committee for review and discussion at an upcoming meeting.
- Following that review, staff and Parkitecture + Planning will prepare a refined preferred concept to be shared with the Committee of the Whole for further direction.

Attachment:

- City Park Public Information Meeting Summary (September 24, 2025)
- Original Comment Cards
- Emails Comments



The City of Plymouths held a public information meeting to gather resident input on potential improvements for the open space known as City Park. Approximately 50 people were in attendance and held discussions from 5:30-6:30 PM. The meeting consisted of a brief overview presentation of the process, followed by general resident questions and discussion. Residents were then asked to review the character images and provide written comments and preferences. The following summarizes the input gathered.

Verbal Discussion Items:

- The existing ball diamond may need some improvements for spectators and ADA compliance.
- The outfield area may be underutilized.
- The existing path on the south end of the park by the Stone house could be rerouted
- The existing playground equipment is in very poor condition and needs to be replaced

Written Comment Card Responses:

The following comments are verbatim from written comment cards collected at the meeting.

- City of Plymouth needs pickleball courts – Dave Vorpagel
- Would love to see tennis courts (pickleball brought back to the city park like there used to be. It was also promised that they would be put back in when the new swimming pool was put in many years ago – Jeff Versch
- I swim laps 2x week but don't see the need for a lap pool (outdoor). There are multiple indoor options for swimming in the county. – Deb Padgett
- Please add an entrance off of Guhrke (midway) in the park. Many people park/walk along Guhrke to enter on each end. I support the addition of a lap pool because I see it as an opportunity for increased hours for adult exercise. Would favor improvements to skate park – great for our youth (add shade to the area) – Kathy Halloran
- Would love to see a splashpad be constructed. All inclusive play equipment to replace the current equipment which is horrible!! Perhaps security cameras for the particular area. Needs more shade in certain areas of current play areas - Anonymous
- Please make a path to connect the path by the maple sugar shack and the path on the north side. Please make the lap pool 25 yards – Jonathan Dudzinski
- If possible, please change the path on the east side next to 114 Grove Street. When folks walk up the path, they can look into our bedroom window – Jonathan Dudzinski
- I like the turf (surfacing) best. A pickleball court or tennis court is better than the lap pool. Please replace the wooden structures so kids don't get slivers – Mari Falk
- Really like the shaded options (playgrounds). Like handicap accessibility, like the multi-level turf, like the concrete skate park additional options for bikes would be neat. Like the volleyball court moved. Like the options of lap pool with restrooms – Lindsay Watkins
- Would like to see pickleball courts in the park in the area by the basketball courts or some court stile that would combine these activities – Anonymous
- Use outfield to expand skate park. Splashpad! Trail to connect lower to sugar shack. Parking by west shelter. Speed bump on Grove Street. Water drainage @ South end east

of shelter. Plant colorful trees. Sugar maples etc. don't take away trees. Lap pool is there enough coverage of employees? – Mike Haucke

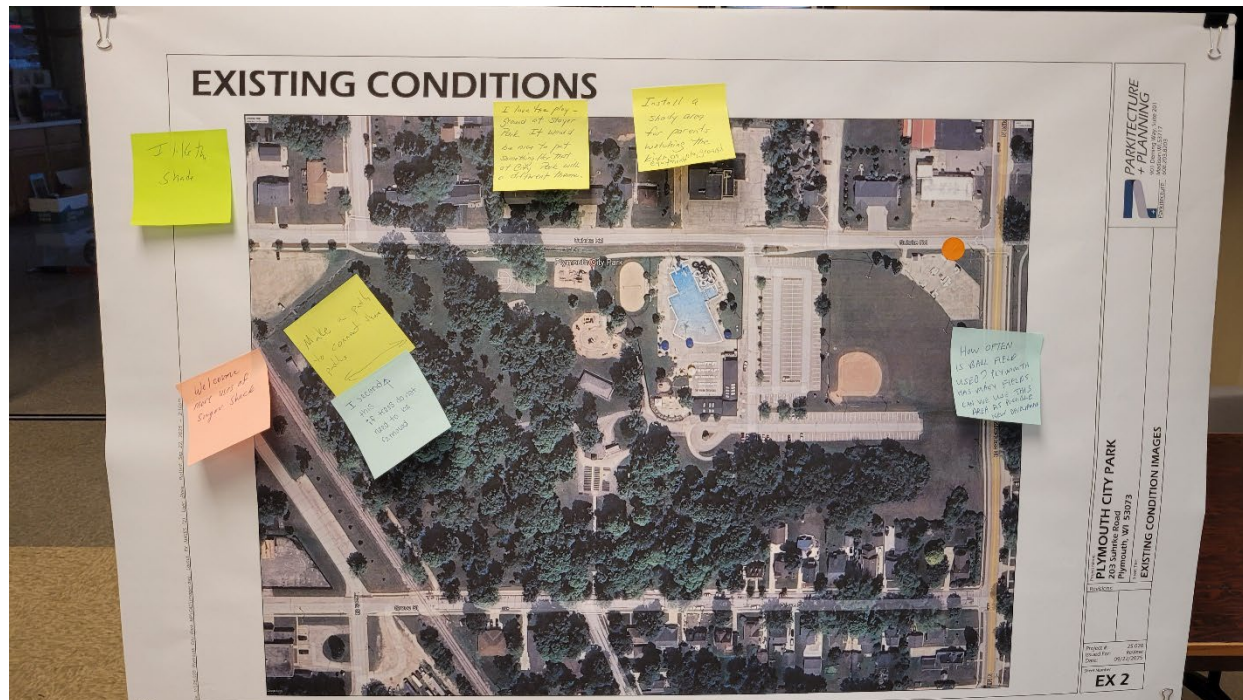
- Needs to be fully accessible, theme similar to "farm Park" or a different theme. Cheese capitol, cheese and mice? Walking paths updated. Continue with picnic areas. Platteville – smith park is great. People come from out of town to use the park - Anonymous
- I'm not in favor of the lap pool, too much expense with very limited time in use. Very much in favor of 4 pickleball courts! No extra life guard needed. This town has no public pickleball courts. Not tennis courts that have lines only – Mary Ann Wittkopp
- No to the swimming g pool – Roger Abrahan
- I spend much time at City Park. I own an in home daycare and am a parent of three children. From what I have observed, most enjoy a variety of equipment. They can climb high, run, jump and engage in risky behavior – and its crucial to their development as well. Examples in Image Board 1 seem to bring in large crowds and challenge children to develop their skills. Any town we go to we visit a park. Some of our personal favorite parks are: Plamore Park – Fondu Lac, Menominee Park – Oshkosh, Bay Beach – Green Bay. These are examples of parks we love and would be thrilled to see come to Plymouth. Please reach out if you have any questions. – Stephany Ziemer
- Invest in Pickleball courts. See attached information – Cassie Ferguson

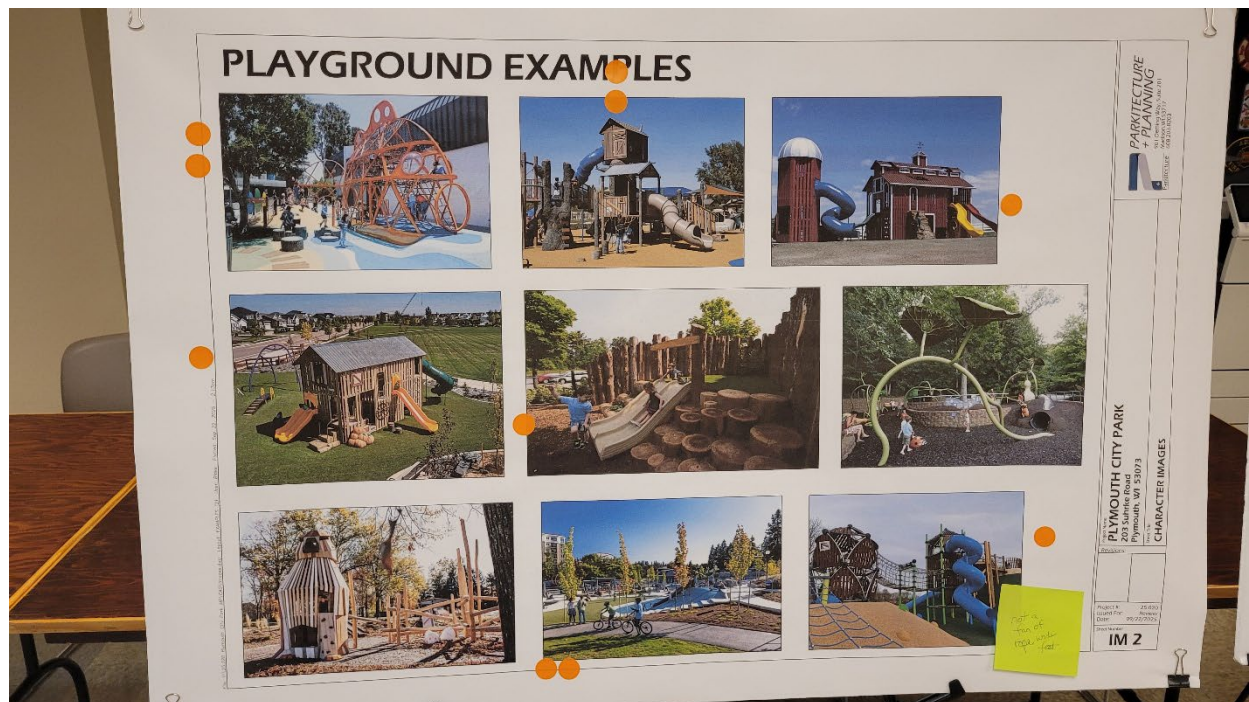
Image Preferences:

The following image comments were collected from the visual preference boards on display at the meeting.

- Preserve shade with ex. trees
- Welcome more uses of the sugar shack
- Create a path to connect through the west side of the park
- Create interesting theme for the new playground different than at Stoyer
- Create shady seating area for parents near the new playground
- Assess frequency of use on the existing ball diamond. Could it be used for alternate activities?
- Request for pickleball courts and or tennis
- Include swings int eh new playground
- Plant more trees
- Include shaded seating near the playground
- New lap pool could be used for adult exercise in addition to lap swimming
- Not in favor of new lap pool addition
- Support new lap pool. Could be used for water walking
- Possible utilization of high school construction/tech class for some of the improvements
- Want a splashpad
- Slides and rope climbers were noted as preferred elements on IM 1
- Tall tower noted as preferred elements on IM 1
- Ramped structure (inclusive) noted as preferred elements on IM 1
- Area of natural play was noted as preferred element on IM 2
- Play house noted as preferred element on IM 2
- Artistic climber noted as preferred element on IM 2
- Rope bridge noted as preferred element on IM 2. Also noted as not desired by second comment
- Sloped and terraced play area noted as preferred element on IM 3
- Shaded play area noted heavily as preferred element on IM 3

- Inclusive rocker noted as preferred element on IM 3
- Interactive play panels noted as preferred element on IM 3
- PIP mounds noted as preferred element on IM 3
- Improved skate area was noted as preferred element on IM 4
- Pump track was noted heavily as preferred element on IM 4
- Small bowl or half pipe run was noted as preferred on IM 4







**Public Input Meeting
Comment Card**

CITY OF PLYMOUTH NEEDS PICKLEBALL COURTS.

Contact Information (optional)

DAVE VORPAGEL dvorpage1@gmail.com
Name email
309 BEECH CT.
Home Address

Public Input Meeting
Comment Card

WOULD LIKE TO SEE TENNIS COURTS (PICKLEBALL) BROUGHT BACK TO
THE CITY PARK LIKE THERE USED TO BE. IT WAS ALSO
PROMISED THAT THEY WOULD BE PUT BACK IN WHEN THE
NEW SWIMMING POOL WAS PUT IN MANY YEARS AGO

Contact Information (optional)

JEFF VERACH

Name

948 DOOLEY RD

email

PLYMOUTH

Home Address

Public Input Meeting
Comment Card

I swim laps 2x wk but I don't see the need for a lap pool (outdoor). There are multiple indoor options for swimming in the county.

Contact Information (optional)

Deb Padgett dpadgett3@wi.rr.com
Name email
05881 Riverview Ct
Home Address

Public Input Meeting
Comment Card

Please add an entrance off of Subrke (midway) to the park. Many people park/walk along Subrke to enter on each end.

I support the addition of a lap pool because I see it as an opportunity for increased hours for adult exercise.

Would favor improvements to skate park - great for our youth
(add shade to the area)

Contact Information (optional)

Kathy Halloran halloranka@gmail.com
Name email

966 Sunset Drive
Home Address

**Public Input Meeting
Comment Card**

*Would like to see a splash pad be considered

*All inclusive Play equipment to replace the current equipment which is horrible!! Perhaps security cameras for this particular area

*Need more shade in certain areas of current play areas

Contact Information (optional)

Name

email

Home Address

**Public Input Meeting
Comment Card**

- Please make a path to connect the path by the Maple Sugar shack and the path on the North side.
- Please make the lap pool 25 yards.

Contact Information (optional)

Jonathan. Dudzinski@gmail.com
Name email
114 Grove St.
Home Address

**Public Input Meeting
Comment Card**

If possible, please change the path on
the East side next to 114 Grove St. when
folks walk up the path they ^{can} look into a
bedroom window

Contact Information (optional)

Jonathan. Dudzinski@gmail.com
Name email
114 Grove St. Plymouth
Home Address

Public Input Meeting
Comment Card

I like the turf best.

A pickleball court or tennis court is better than the lap pool.

Please replace the wooden structures so kids don't get splinters

Contact Information (optional)

Name Mari Falk email 
Home Address 133 Grove St MariFalk28@gmail.com

**Public Input Meeting
Comment Card**

- Really like the shaded options
 - like handicap accessible
 - like the multi level turf
 - like the concrete skate park additional options for bikes would be neat
 - like the volleyball court moved
 - like the option of lap pool w/restroom
- Parks

Contact Information (optional)

Name

email

Home Address

Unsay Nativin
804 South St

**Public Input Meeting
Comment Card**

would like to see pickleball courts in
the park in the area by the basketball court,
or some court style that would combine those
activities

Contact Information (optional)

Name

email

Home Address

- Use outfield to expand skate park

- Splash Pad

Public Input Meeting
Comment Card

- Trail to connect lower to Sugar Shack

- Parking @ West Shelter

- Speed bump s on Grove st

- Water drainage @ South end east of shelter

- Plant more colorful trees- Sugar Maple is red-

- Don't take Awaychee's! & &

- Lap Pool is there enough coverage of employees

Contact Information (optional)

Mike Hauke

Name email

104 Grove St

Home Address

mhaucke@hauckeplumbing.com

Public Input Meeting
Comment Card

- 1) Needs to be fully accessible
- 2) ? Theme - similar to "Farm Park" / Stays on a different theme - Cheese capital - cheese - mice > ?
- 3) Walking paths ~~is~~ updated /
- 4) Continue current picnic areas.
- 5) Platteville - Smith Park - Great Park
People come from out of town to use the park.

Contact Information (optional)

Name

email

Home Address

Public Input Meeting
Comment Card

I'm NOT IN FAVOR OF THE LAP POOL. TOO MUCH EXPENSE
WITH VERY LIMITED TIME USE.

VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF 4 PICKLEBALL COURTS! NO EXTRA
LIFE GUARD NEEDED!

THIS TOWN HAS 'NO' PUBLIC PICKLEBALL COURTS! NOT
TENNIS COURTS THAT HAVE LINES ONLY.

Contact Information (optional)

MARYANN WITTKOPP mkwitkopp@
Name email
7071 County Rd Z Plymouth yahoo.com
Home Address

**Public Input Meeting
Comment Card**

No to the Swimming pool

Contact Information (optional)

Name Roger Abraham 74@gmail.com email
Home Address 2426 Songbird Ct

Public Input Meeting
Comment Card

I spend much time at City Park. I own an in-home daycare and am a parent of three. Children from what I have observed, most enjoy a variety of equipment they can climb high, run, jump and engage in safe risky behavior- and it's crucial to their development as well. Examples in IM 1 ~~are~~ seem to bring in large crowds and challenge children to develop their skills.

Contact Information (optional)

Stephany Ziemer ziemer2021@gmail.com
Name email
431 Harvey Dr. Plymouth WI 53073
Home Address

more on Back!

Any town we go to, we visit a park. Some of our/my personal favorite parks are:

Plamore Park - Fond du lac

Menominee Park - Oshkosh

Bay Beach - Green Bay.

These are examples of parks we love and would be thrilled to see come to Plymouth!

Please reach out if you have any questions!

Public Input Meeting
Comment Card

Invest in pickleball courts

- see attached information

Contact Information (optional)

Cassie Ferguson
Name
153 Beth Circle
Home Address
Ferguson-Cassie@Comcast.net
email
Phymath WI

Plymouth WI Town Hall Meeting on City Park Renovations
9/24/2025
Cassie Ferguson
153 Beth Circle, Plymouth WI 53073
414-651-7663

Improving Our Plymouth City Park: The Case for Pickleball

Why Pickleball?

Pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports in America. It's a fun, accessible, and inclusive game that appeals to all ages and skill levels. By improving our Plymouth City Park to accommodate this thriving sport, we can enhance the community's recreational offerings and boost local revenue.

Key Stats About Pickleball:

- **Rapid Growth:**
 - According to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA), pickleball participation grew by **21%** in 2022 alone, making it one of the most rapidly expanding sports in the U.S.
 - The number of players has increased from **2.5 million** in 2019 to over **8 million** in 2023.
- **Age Diversity:**
 - While the sport is often associated with older adults, pickleball is played by people across a wide age spectrum. **40% of players** are under 55 years old, making it a family-friendly sport that bridges generational gaps.
- **Economic Impact:**
 - In 2021, pickleball contributed **\$1.3 billion** to the U.S. economy, including equipment sales, tournament hosting, and travel expenses.
 - Cities that have invested in dedicated pickleball facilities have seen increased tourism, with players traveling from surrounding areas to participate in local tournaments.
- **Tourism & Events:**
 - Tournaments attract players from surrounding communities, contributing to our annual tourism revenue.
 - Pickleball events draw in both participants and fans, who often stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, and shop at local stores.

Benefits for Our Community:

- **Increased Foot Traffic & Revenue:**
Pickleball will attract both local residents and visitors from surrounding areas, leading to an increase in foot traffic. Local businesses such as cafes, restaurants, and retail stores will benefit from the influx of visitors for tournaments and casual play.
- **Health & Wellness:**
Pickleball promotes physical activity and overall well-being. With its low-impact nature, it's ideal for individuals of all fitness levels, fostering a healthier community.
- **Community Engagement:**
A pickleball-focused park can serve as a hub for socialization, team-building, and local competitions. It will create opportunities for youth programs, senior leagues, and family-friendly events.
- **Increased Property Values:**
Studies from Zillow show that homes near parks and recreational facilities tend to have higher property values (64%). Improved amenities like pickleball courts can increase demand for real estate in the area.

Specific Events and Possibilities:

- Organized tournaments with Pickleball clubs from Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Manitowoc, and Calumet counties
- Pickleball lessons and engagement events with Plymouth Community Recreation Department
- Organized community open play throughout the season

What We Need:

1. Pickleball Courts and Amenities

- Convert underused tennis courts into dedicated pickleball courts to accommodate growing demand.
- Add additional courts to support tournament and open play for large groups
- Signage displaying the Pickleball rules, city regulations (times, etc.) and open play rules
- Paddle cart to organize the order of play for open play

Plymouth WI Town Hall Meeting on City Park Renovations
9/24/2025
Cassie Ferguson
153 Beth Circle, Plymouth WI 53073
414-651-7663

2. Additional Courts & Amenities

- Access to restrooms during open play and tournaments
- Access to concession stand during tournaments
- Build more pickleball courts to host larger events and provide ample playtime for all skill levels.

3. Local Support & Investment

- By investing in these upgrades, we'll help bring in tournament revenue, encourage healthy living, and promote our city as a top destination for pickleball players.
- Tournament revenue can be used to fund larger capital project for building an indoor multi-purpose facility that would include Pickleball play.

Conclusion:

Improving our Plymouth City Park with Pickleball courts will not only meet growing demand but will also boost our community's economy and wellness. Let's invest in the future of our town by supporting the growth of this popular sport.

Resources:

<https://pickleball.com/culture/pickleball-courts-are-zillows-latest-home-hunting-trend>

<https://pickleball.com/news/sports-and-fitness-industry-association-sfia-reports-pickleball-thriving-across-the-u-s>

I was excited to read about the possible return of a lap pool to Plymouth. I'm sure it would be well used.

Deb Klock

We support the addition of a lap lanes at the City Pool. The pool is a great resource for people in the City of Plymouth. Susie and I have been members of the Plymouth community for 47 years. The outdoor pool has always been something we value and appreciated for our family. The pool is a valued resource for prospective residents and a great attraction for the city.

We were on the pool committee when the “new” pool was being designed in 2001. We wanted lap lanes at that time but the architect didn’t want to see lap lanes but instead pushed for a sand volley ball court. When we saw the Plymouth Review article that discussed the addition of lap lanes where the volley ball court we were thrilled.

That space should be used for lap lanes rather than another pickle ball court. Pickle ball courts don’t seem to be the right fit for that area. An addition of lap lanes to the pool area would be a better fit and could be used by all ages. It is an existing use that would be able to take advantage of the infrastructure already being used for pool activities.

Pickle ball courts could be developed in many other places. Current park users and neighbors may not want to see a new use or hear the noise of pickle ball being played. It doesn’t seem to fit in the ambiance of a park setting or be the best use of the existing facilities.

We appreciate your consideration of our thoughts on the pool upgrade.

Sincerely,

Dale & Susie Katsma

Some feedback on the City Park Project

From a Facebook message from resident Tony Resimius: Thank you for your post about the City Park Open House. One thought from me. The current basketball court at the City Park just isn't very good. On the other hand, the basketball court at the Church in Plymouth along highway 23 is very good. The City should talk to whoever constructed that Court and replicate it in the City Park.

From a District 1 resident: Handicap parking is needed on the top of the park on Grove Street. Hard to find accessible parking spots for Thursday concerts and other events (can't walk up the hill from lower level).

From multiple conversations with residents, no one wanted to see money being spent on a lap pool that is utilized for 3 months.

I know pickleball courts are wanted. Cathy did mention why they wouldn't work the best in City Park though (noise).

Angie Matzdorf

District 2 Alderperson, City of Plymouth

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for your interest in investing in City Park. I was unable to attend the meeting a few days ago.

I've run the youth softball program for a number of years, and believe there is tremendous potential with city park field.

The current fence system is extremely dilapidated, with areas that need attention or injury could occur. A full replacement would be recommended.

There is also no current seating for fans. We would like to see bleachers or stadium seating for parents, grandparents, and friends. A concrete pad would need to be poured or seats built into the hill by the field.

We also feel there is potential for concessions by adding onto the current storage shed.

Lastly, we feel the lighting system is in need of a major upgrade. The poles are there, but the lights haven't functioned in years. This would be a great feature for night games in the summer for our young community athletes.

This ballpark is being used more and more at the developmental, rec, and travel levels, and investing in this ballfield would enhance the area and add to the beauty of our city.

If you would like a more thorough proposal I'd be happy to offer this.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

PJ Weber
920.980.8147