

## RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANT HEALTH AND SOCIAL BENEFITS OF PICKLEBALL AND THE NEED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO ACCOMMODATE ITS RAPID GROWTH THROUGH ENHANCED PLANNING, MAINTENANCE, AND DEDICATED USE OF OUR PARKS AND ITS FACILITIES, PARTICULARLY AT PETRIE COMMUNITY PARK

WHEREAS, 3 million players participated in the sport of pickleball nationally in 2019 with an annual growth rate of 12% per year; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Hawaii the popularity of pickleball has grown significantly as a physical and social activity – drawing in, for example, 40-50 players three nights a week for 3-4 hours at Kaimuki Community Park; and

WHEREAS, pickleball is an inclusive and welcoming sport, where players of all ages and physical abilities can participate; and

WHEREAS, pickleball provides significant individual emotional and health benefits as a fun, joyful physical activity; and

WHEREAS, pickleball provides significant social benefits as an important community-building activity, involving multiple players, bringing people of all walks of life together in our neighborhood parks; and

WHEREAS, the increased use of our public parks by pickleball players enhances the safety at these parks; and

WHEREAS, promoting pickleball and the increased use of our parks by the public helps to encourage greater community engagement and care for our public facilities; and

WHEREAS, the shutdown of the pickleball courts at Petrie Community has led to over 160 player-hours lost, increasing the use of and demand for more dedicated pickleball hours at Kaimuki Community Park; and

WHEREAS, the Kaimuki Neighborhood Board recognizes the Oahu Pickleball Association as the lead partner organization for all pickleball activities and communication; and

WHEREAS, the Kaimuki Neighborhood Board recognizes the importance and need to accommodate the growth of pickleball in Kaimuki as a means of supporting the active use of our parks by Kaimuki residents, and to promote further public health and community-building; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Kaimuki Neighborhood Board that it urges the City and County of Honolulu to address the maintenance and facility needs at Petrie Community Park to reopen for use its volleyball court area as a venue for four (4) permanent, nonexclusive pickleball courts with permanent lines and storage - as previously permitted, and designate these courts as the first public permanent pickleball courts on Oahu; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Kaimuki Neighborhood Board that it urges the City and County of Honolulu to promote and encourage the continued growth of pickleball and its associated positive impacts on the community by including it in all future parks planning.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Mayor Caldwell, Director of Parks and Recreation Michele Nekota and the office of Councilmember Tommy Waters.

This Resolution was passed by the Kaimuki Neighborhood Board #4 on June 17 2020 by unanimous consent (11-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sharon Schneider, Chair, Kaimuki Neighborhood Board #4