



6th Taxing District Meeting

Wednesday 11th May 6TD meeting

Proposal to increase the opportunity for
Rowaytonites to play Paddle Tennis

Introduction / recap

- All Rowaytonites have the option to join the RPTA and play paddle tennis
 - Have members from 8-80+yrs old and teams in 11 divisions across Fairfield county men's and women's leagues
 - 150+ Rowaytonites playing in Rowayton House Leagues
 - Difficult to book court time, even more so during 'peak' times
- Membership has increased steadily over past 8 years with significant increases in 2020 and 2021
 - ~400 memberships in 2021/22. Represents ~30% of 6TD households.
 - ~50% of memberships are family memberships and ~50% individual memberships
 - We have 20 'non resident' members who are former Rowayton members who were grandfathered in
- Difficult to book 'peak' time courts for several years and takes significant effort with the increased membership
 - All four courts almost always fully booked in-season on weekday mornings, weekday afternoons, weeknights, weekend mornings. Bookings literally happen within seconds of being opened up
 - Junior program maxed out as well
- Extensive research on many different options of where and how to add an additional court completed
 - Adding 5th court perpendicular to Court 3 is the option proposed by the RPTA board
 - (see appendix for other options the RPTA explored)
- The new court will be fully funded through efforts of the RPTA – no 6TD funds are needed

What we heard and steps taken

What we have heard in the last meeting and since

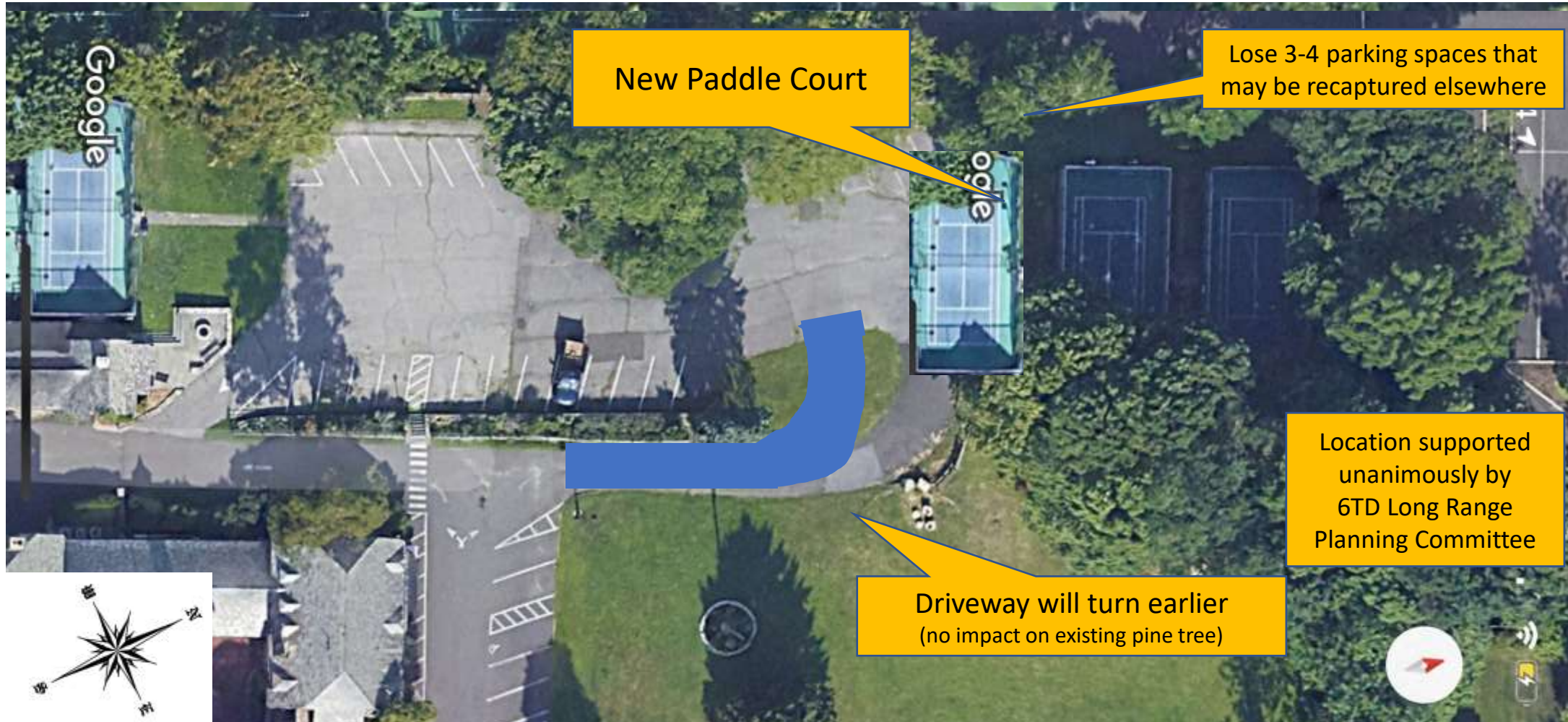
1. Agreement that a public vote is the right way forward
2. Concern about view towards school fields and pond being obstructed by the court's 12ft high "chicken wire" screens
3. Ask to consider if the location by the 'root cellar' at the other end of the car park be considered despite the additional cost of re-routing the driveway

Steps taken

1. Commissioners confirmed in April 6TD meeting that they will be holding a public vote
2. Spent time reconsidering the alternative option of a new court next to the 'root cellar' / Courts 1 and 2 including getting pricing to re-route the driveway
3. Updated the proposal to build the 5th court in the 'root cellar' location and change the driveway to accommodate that

This proposal is still 100% funded by the RPTA (i.e. not asking for taxpayer money)

Updated proposal – “by the Root Cellar”



All costs paid for by the RPTA. No 6TD funding

Maple that is potentially impacted



1. New court will be same distance from maple as existing court (~8ft).
2. Overhanging tree limb (circled red) will need to be removed for safety reasons.
3. Ground below court excavated to ~3ft depth to allow for enough room for the airflow, heaters and blowers that allow paddle courts to be used during rain, snow and ice.
4. Norwalk tree alliance tells us that Norwegian maple is considered an invasive species and proposes that we remove it. RPTA proposes we keep the tree and try to keep it healthy
5. Plan is to excavate in a way to keep tree healthy. If we're told excavating to 3ft endangers the tree we will excavate to a lesser depth overall with only the structural pilings going down to the required depth.