



Presentation to Town Council

October 30, 2023

Overview

Thank you for the opportunity to present.

HHPA has been working in conjunction with Town staff.

Town staff asked HHPA to provide creative solutions to assist in solving indoor sport challenges.

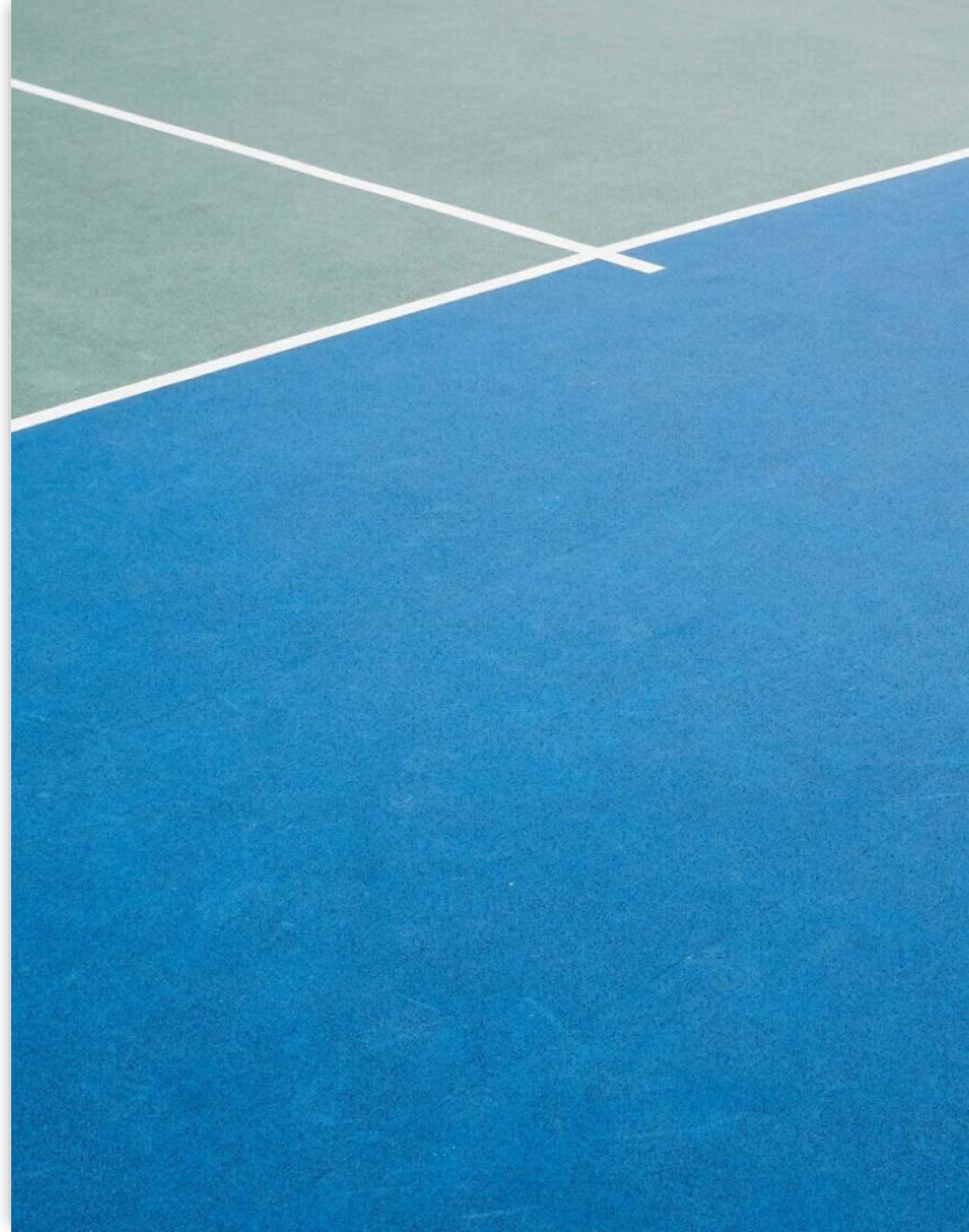
Provided two written submissions related to Gellert Park Expansion project.

HHPA generally support the staff reports (RP-2023-14 and RP-2023-15) being considered on the Agenda.

Opportunity based thinking critical.

Level of Activity - Outdoor

- HHPA represents 445+ members; pickleball in Halton Hills has over 615 active players.
- HHPA had to cap membership renewal to 335 as of Sept. due to limited opportunity for indoor play.
- Active outdoor play in Georgetown and Acton.
- Courts enjoyed a minimum of 4,674 participants from April – October at the Emmerson and Prospect outdoor locations
- Hosted 3 tournaments.
- Offered Introduction to Pickleball and skill-based clinics.



Level of Activity - Indoor

As of October 2023, have 16 indoor spaces per week available in Halton Hills using schools, churches.

All spaces sold-out within 24 hours, causing website to crash due to volume.

Members limited to one indoor spot only.

Demand still unmet.

Milton facilities booked three mornings per week – sold out.

Considering use of Peel school facilities and additional church space.

Fundraising & Grants

- Successful banner program at both outdoor locations.
- Events and tournaments continue to generate funds.
- Current fundraising over \$33K YTD since Sept. 2022, a 'passive' approach to date.
- Great interest and support to grow fundraising – plan to launch campaign.
- Full intention to reach required fundraising target – will work with staff to determine best use of HHPA funds.
- Need a firm project, projected financial target and completion date.
- Opportunity for Ontario Trillium Foundation capital grant.
- Community organization commitment consistent with other Town capital projects developed with sport groups.



Indoor Play Options

Limited to elementary school gyms in Georgetown and one High School gym in Acton (one night per week).

Church based space is welcomed, however not always size or “line” appropriate.

Milton gymnasium space rented 3X per week, plus drop-in at other indoor Milton gymnasium locations (Milton gains revenue).

Seeking other spaces just outside Halton Hills boundary – Churchill Meadows Community Centre on 9th line, schools in Peel.

Barriers and Impacts - Indoor Play

School Gymnasium space full.

Gellert Community Centre expansion timing uncertain.

Demand exceeds supply.

Growth projected at minimum 25% per year – with no ability to promote a youth program.

Space not adequate (ceiling height, court boundaries too close to walls, court lines).

Limit to “one session” per member.

External Influences

ADMIN-2023-003
Report – provincial
housing target of
9,500 units by 2031

PD-2023-056 Report

- - to meet target, need 1,005 per year
- - water and wastewater not available till end 2025
- - goal likely not achievable
- - development plans under appeal

Bill 23 impact on
funding

A challenging
financial situation;
acknowledge issue in
RP-2023-015.

External Influences

- Capital Forecast and Funding outlook may require shifting projects out – for example, RP 2023-013 Outdoor Ice Strategy
 - refrigerated ice facility at Gellert was noted as a #1 priority
 - not affordable in the shorter term
 - additional work to inform long range financial forecast and planning
- concern with shifting out projects – Trafalgar Sports Park timing at risk.
- Competing priorities continue to bring financial challenges.

Timing Considerations

Court Sport Strategy completed in 2021; HHPA had 150 +/- members.

Indoor needs paramount. ‘Why now?’ – location ready, HHPA ready, limited risk, responding to creative solutions.

Opportunity based thinking – Gellert in a state of ‘readiness’.

Project is essentially ‘shovel ready’ and would demonstrate Town commitment to solving indoor sport needs.

HHPA committed to assist with financial support (fundraising and grants).

Could provide indoor play options by Fall 2025 if all project components aligned.

Trafalgar Sports Park and Gellert Community Centre continue to be forecasted, with no clear financing plan.

Our Ask

Staff

Direct staff to issue the RFEOI for Gellert Park Expansion as Part one, and consider other locations (TSP, Prospect, School property) as Part two.

Work

Work with HHPA to complete final design considerations for air supported structure, including designating Gellert as the Community Club location for pickleball, to assess number of courts, alignment, other sport adjacencies.

Work

Work with HHPA to finalize financial commitment needed (including Agreement to apply for OTF grant needed to contribute to the project).

Our Ask

Ensure

Ensure related zoning, servicing and associated site considerations are undertaken in parallel with detailed design to ensure tender issuance considers air supported structure.

Ensure

Ensure the Air Supported Structure 'hatched area' with pickleball courts is included in the Park Expansion Phase for the phase one project.

Work

Work with all parties to target a Fall 2025 opening season for an air supported facility at the Gellert Park.

Contribution to strategic goals

Pickleball is growing in all jurisdictions.

Provides fun, fitness, fellowship for all ages, abilities.

Low cost to participate.

Court space requires smaller footprint than many other sports, maximizing valuable Town land.

HHPA willing to work in partnership – financial commitment, other sport organizations, private partners.

Thank you

- HHPA appreciate the opportunity to present to Town Council.

