



# Glendale Tennis Courts

Community Engagement Report

## Background

Salt Lake City adopted the Glendale Regional Park Plan in 2023. Public engagement throughout the process demonstrated a need for pickleball on the site — initially, the plan aimed to introduce four new pickleball courts while maintaining the existing eight tennis courts. However, due to recent increased interest in the activity and its more immediate implementation, there may be an opportunity to expedite the integration of the courts into the site.

In 2023, the City's Public Lands Department performed additional public engagement to determine how the community's desire for more pickleball could best be incorporated into the new park's second phase.

The two options explored were:

- 1. The Regional Park Plan's Recommendation- New Courts**
  - **Timeline:** 2-3 years after funding is awarded.
  - **Description:** This project allows all eight tennis courts to remain open for tennis and adds four new pickleball courts. Four of the eight tennis courts would have blended lines for flexible play.
  - **Cost:** Public Lands anticipates this option will be more expensive than repurposing the tennis courts.
- 2. A New Recommendation- Resurfacing Existing Courts:**
  - **Timeline:** Public Lands estimates the timeline would be shorter and can start approximately one year after funding is awarded.
  - **Description:** Resurface and repurpose four of the existing eight tennis courts into no fewer than six pickleball courts, leaving four original courts open for tennis.
  - **Cost:** This option would be less expensive than the first option.

## Engagement Process

### Online Survey: Gather feedback on community preferences.

- **Content:** Five questions that evaluated where respondents live, how frequently they use the tennis courts, their preference for repurposing the courts, and if there were any additional comments related to the project.
- **Open Dates:** Open from July 19<sup>th</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>.
- **Stakeholders:** The Glendale Neighborhood Council, residents of Glendale, tennis and pickleball enthusiasts, and members of the original Glendale Regional Park planning team were informed about the survey.
- **Participation:** 394 surveys completed (340 completed online, 54 paper surveys)
- **Accessibility:** Paper copies were available in English, Tongan, and Spanish, featuring the same content as the online survey. Upon completion, a Public Lands staff entered the survey results online.

**In-Person Survey:** An in-person event on-site at the tennis courts was held to disseminate paper surveys.

- **Content:** Same as online survey. Paper copies were made available in English, Spanish, and Tongan.

- **Date:** July 27, 2023
- **Participation:** Approximately 40 individuals participated in this event.

**Other Forms of Engagement:**

- Social media posts with links to the online survey were posted on Salt Lake City’s Public Lands Instagram and Facebook accounts.
- Yard signs with the QR code for the online survey were placed in the community.
- Paper surveys distributed in the community.
- Tabling information at Partners in the Park on July 25, 2023.

## Engagement Results

Survey results include responses from participants who completed the survey online and paper copies.

- Online surveys completed: 340
- Paper surveys received: 54

**Throughout our public engagement process, we learned the following:**

79.7% (314 respondents) live in Glendale neighborhood, while 12.18% (48 respondents) belong to the "Other" category. These individuals visit the park frequently, previously lived nearby, or live in a neighboring community. Refer to [Figure 1](#) to see the overall results for this question.

When survey respondents were asked how often they use the existing tennis courts, 47.21% (186 respondents) reported they have never used them, while 22.34% (88 respondents) use them more than once a week. Respondents who indicated they never or rarely use the tennis courts still outnumbered other options. Refer to [Figure 2](#) to view the results for this question.

Concerning repurposing the existing tennis courts into pickleball courts at Glendale Park, 61.68% (243 respondents) favor the conversion. An additional 21.07% (83 respondents) in the "Other" category primarily want more than six pickleball courts. Refer to [Figure 3](#) to view the submission results for this question.

An in-person engagement event at the park showed unanimous support in votes for converting tennis courts into pickleball courts.

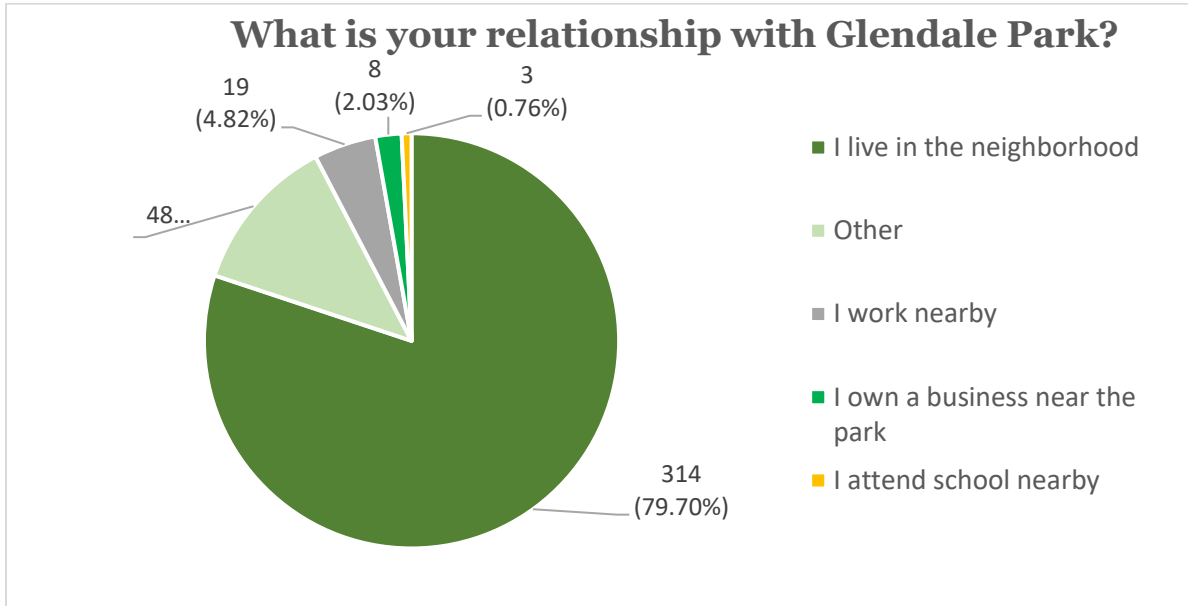
**Open comments revealed community preferences for:**

- Improved lighting for extended play.
- Addressing parking concerns due to increased court usage.
- Maximizing the number of new courts.
- Adding restroom facilities.
- Installing shade structures.
- Ensuring safe street crossings.
- Building a nearby pavilion.

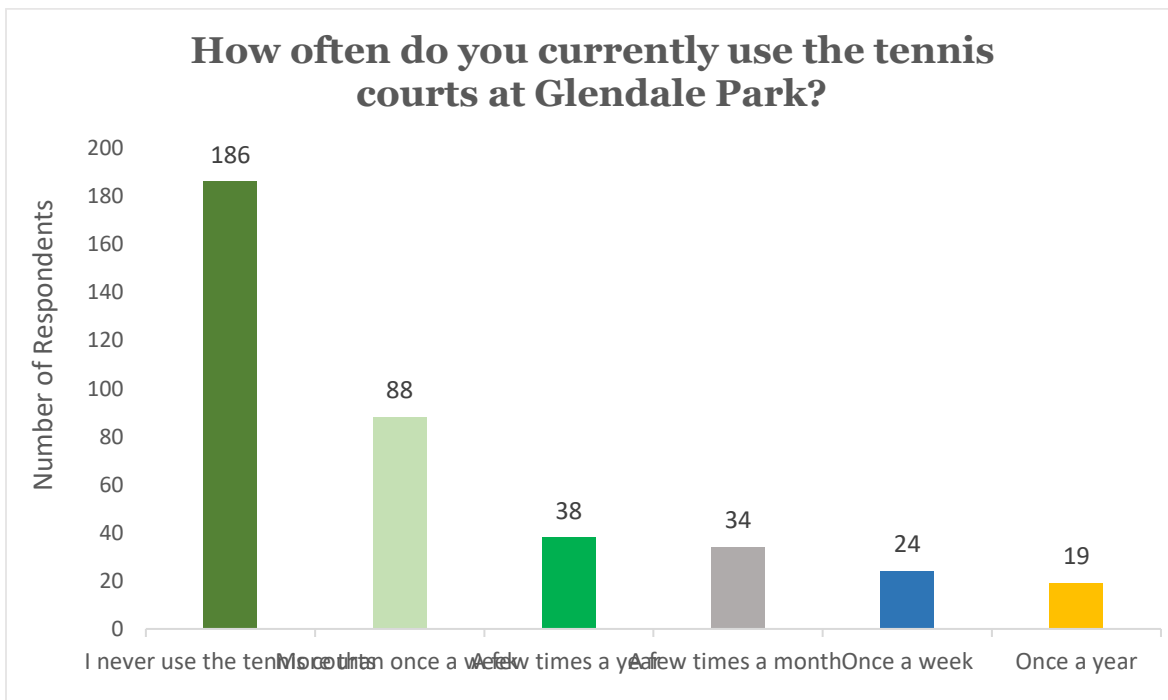
Overall, there’s strong community support for repurposing the tennis courts into pickleball courts, along with suggestions for additional amenities and safety measures.

## Visuals

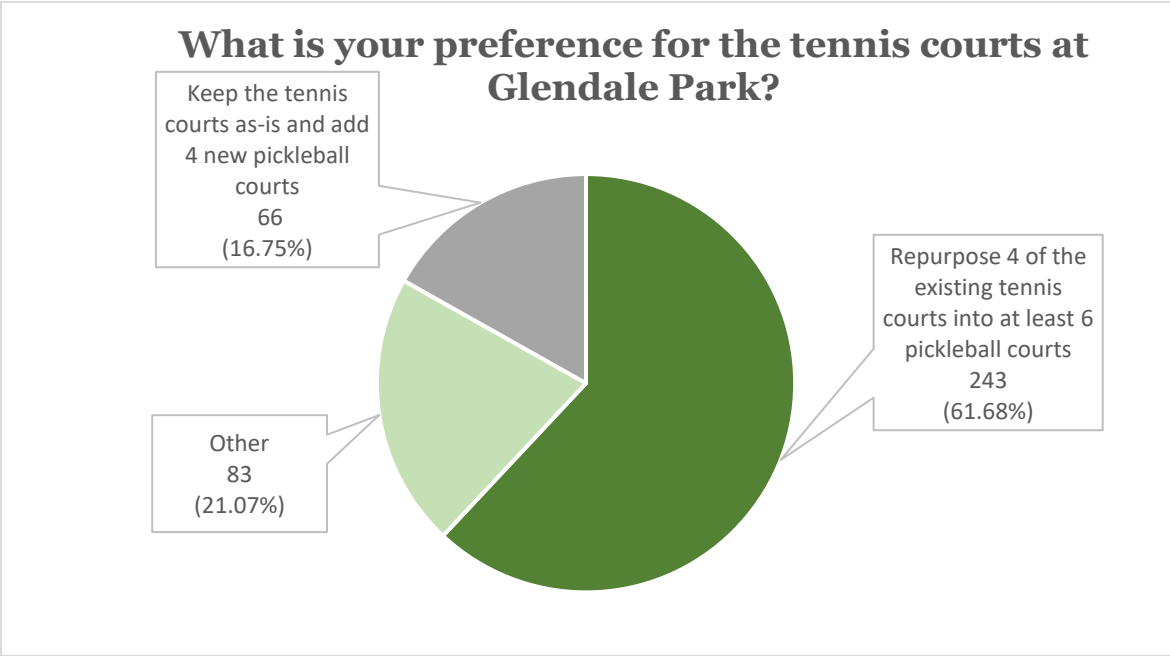
The numbers reflect the number of responses and percentages of total responses for each option.



Figure\_1: The chart shows survey respondents' relationship with Glendale Park. The total number of responses to this question is 392.



Figure\_1: Survey respondents were asked how often they currently use the tennis courts at Glendale Park. The total number of responses to this question is 389.



Figure\_2: The chart shows survey results when respondents were asked about their preference to repurpose the tennis courts. The total number of responses to this question is 392.

**Next Steps**

Based on the support from the public engagement period, **the City will move forward with the option to repurpose four of the existing tennis courts into at least six pickleball courts.** Assessment of the existing courts’ condition will occur in the Fall of 2023, determining the investment level and time needed to complete the project.

The design will be completed with the first round (or “tranche”) of Parks, Trails, and Open Space GO Bond funding, available as soon as late Fall 2023. The extent of the design will be contingent on the condition of the courts but may include the conversion of four tennis courts into at least six pickleball courts, new nets and fencing, and study of whether seating and shade can be included. Lighting and additional amenities suggested in the surveys and in-person engagement activities may be considered later.

Design for the courts is anticipated to begin in the Winter of 2023/24 and continue through Spring 2024, with construction to follow. For more information and project updates, visit <https://www.slc.gov/parks/parks-division/glendale-waterpark/>.