

March 10, 2023

TO: City Council Member Sasha Naiman, Chair
Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council

FROM: Brian K. Riblet, City Manager *BKR*

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting on Monday, March 13, 2023

As a reminder, the Parks and Recreation Committee is scheduled to meet on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. at City Hall. Those items to be discussed include:

1. Pickleball Discussion—Staff would like the opportunity to speak to the Committee regarding pickleball participation in the parks and to obtain feedback from the Committee at the meeting.
2. Other Business—The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an opportunity to discuss any issue or ask questions that may be on your mind.

Also attached are the minutes from the November 14, 2022 meeting of your Committee for review and approval at Monday's meeting.

Should you have any questions or concerns pertaining to these topics or have additional items to be discussed at the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact me.

c: Mayor and City Council Members (3)
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council
Department Heads
File



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF CITY COUNCIL

10101 Montgomery Road • Montgomery, Ohio 45242
(513) 891-2424 • Fax (513) 891-2498

AGENDA
March 13, 2023
3:30 P.M.
City Hall

1. Call to Order
2. Guests and Residents
3. Old Business
4. New Business
 - a. Pickleball Discussion
5. Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2022
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

basis in the history of the survey.

In the world of parks and recreation, we often take for granted that our workers are very satisfied with their jobs. But the reality is that our workers face the same stresses as other occupations. Gallup emphasizes that organizations should be concerned about the whole person, not just the worker. Employee well-being should be a top goal of organizational culture.

Jim VandeHei, CEO of Axios, the influential news organization, says regarding the depressing data published in the Gallup report, that he advises any college graduate hitting the job market to “persistently pursue work so personally satisfying that you would do it for free.”

Recreation Program Trends

Pickleball Noise Complaints

There is one recreation trend that stands alone among all others: pickleball! What seemed to be a niche activity for older adults with bad knees has exploded into a full-fledged recreation trend, complete with pickleball performance appar-

el, celebrity influencers and even professional leagues.

Park and recreation agencies are flooded by public demands to build more courts, and the popularity of the sport has even reached the level that it is generating complaints from nearby neighbors about the incessant day and night “thwack-thwack” emanating from pickleball courts. Nearby residents claim the noise can reach 70 decibels from 100 feet away, noise that exceeds most local community standards.

According to FindLaw.com, standoffs between local residents and pickleballers have led to altercations on courts and at public meetings that were so heated that the police had to be called to restore order. Dozens of lawsuits have been filed to stop tennis court conversions to pickleball. Among the strategies that FindLaw.com recommends to aggrieved neighbors: Build a soundproofing wall; prohibit play early in the morning and late in the evening; and if all else fails, find a partner, pick up a racket and start playing.

You Can Make More Money Working at McDonald's

The childcare crisis and lack of lifeguards for both indoor and outdoor pools have seriously impacted park and recreation agencies, and the trendlines don't look favorable for recruiting adequate numbers of workers for either of these positions in the near future. The childcare workforce is down 88,000 workers since the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, one of the only occupations in the job market that has not yet rebounded, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The conditions causing the lack of qualified workers have not changed substantially in the past year, despite some increases in the salary scales of park and recreation agencies hiring childcare, daycare and lifeguard positions. After all, as frustrated managers say, “You can make more money working at McDonald's.”

Mindfulness, Nutrition and Stress Reduction

One trend that aligns with the growth of Community Wellness Hubs and a greater focus on individual and community health are programs that support mental, emotional and social health. Yoga, tai chi, guided meditation, nature therapy — including forest bathing — and especially programming to teach mindfulness and stress reduction are all growing in popularity.

“I have found that people are more concerned about getting and staying healthy, especially given the effects of COVID-19. People want to learn more about nutrition,



A vehicle-to-building charging station at the North Boulder (Colorado) Community Center is bi-directional, allowing the electric vehicle to feed power to the building at times of peak demand.

What is Acoustifence

Acoustifence is a unique 1/8th inch, (3mm x 1.83m x 9.14m) heavy mineral filled visco-elastic acoustical material. It is unique and unlike any other vinyl or rubber barrier material that is currently on the market. It is made in the U. S. A. (from all USA materials) and, unlike fences or shrubs, this material does extraordinarily well in not only blocking direct sound, but also has a tendency to reduce sound from reflecting off it. This occurs as the flexible heavy mass Acoustiblok material actually vibrates from sound, transforming some of it into inaudible trace amounts of heat (sheet lead works in the same manner). Considering that the ideal sound reducing construction is heavy, limp and air tight, the 1.1 lb. per sq. ft. flexible Acoustifence can be an excellent first step in reducing your noise level.

Acoustifence® Benefits and Specifications

- STC (Sound Transmission Class) with a value of 28/ OITC 22
- The material was lab tested and performance certified by an independent lab, Riverbank Acoustic Laboratories (see attachment)
- Barium Free
- UV Tolerant
- Paintable (acrylic latex vinyl based)
- Hydrophobic (impervious to water)
- Totally non-mold (rated 10 of 10)
- No fungal or algal growth and no visible disfigurement, per ASTM D3273 and ASTM D3274 (rating = 10)
- Tensile strength min. 510 PSI
- Besides having a High UV resistance, Acoustifence material has a High Heat tolerance: 200 degrees F (93 ° C) for 7 day
- Safe for outdoor use in cold climates too. It since it doesn't freeze until -40 ° F (-40 ° C) and is not affected by freeze and thaw cycles
- Less than 1% shrink with no deformation
- Made from over 90% recycled or organic material
- 100% recyclable
- Vermin proof
- Easily washed
- STC 28 independent lab certified
- **Made in U.S.A. from all U.S. material**

Acoustiblok Curtains

Designed for use on tennis/ Pickleball courts as well as many other outdoor sport courts, Acoustifence vertical curtains are 6' wide and can be made as tall as your fence requires. Each curtain is made of our Industrial, UV resistant Acoustifence material. Curtains come in Black or Green, and are Internally Reinforced (IR) with additional reinforcement for areas that have more wind (Highly recommended where wind is an issue, which is what we recommend for municipal courts).

Curtains below are priced individually and complete with rows of grommets installed 1.0" in from the edges, along with a matching quantity of 14" stainless steel wire ties (each tie is load rated to 250 pounds). For installation you overlap the curtains by 1" and run the steel wire ties through the overlapped grommets and attach the curtains to the fence. This will allow you to securely attach each

curtain panel together to create a gap-free run of Acoustifence and maintain the noise abatement integrity for the entire length of the barrier. The curtains shown below are standard heights that we get requests for. But since we custom make all curtains to order, we can make them to any specific height that you require. We can also make a custom width curtain (less than 6 ft) to complete your fence project to the exact dimensions.

Start Small or do it All - Do I have to cover all four sides, or can I do less?

One of the most common questions I get asked is, *do I have to cover all four sides, or can I do less?* The answer is, 'It depends...'. There are many variables that come into play, but the simple answer is that if you have one side that faces a conservation area, woods, parking lot, waterfront, etc., where the noise will not bother anyone, you might be able to leave that side open. But if there are nearby homes that are already upset with the noise, you might not want to because of how the noise propagates (and just like with fire, it's always easier to put it out when it's still small. Because once it grows, it takes a lot more to extinguish it).

Another question I frequently hear is, *can we just cover the one side that faces the homes?* That might be possible, but since noise will flank a barrier's straight edges, we recommend adding a couple of curtains on each of the perpendicular/return fences to create what I like to call a truncated U-shape barrier. That will help to contain the noise from escaping to the surrounding area.

Suffice it to say that when we talk, I can give you a better idea as to the feasibility of options for your specific situation. But if you start small and need to add curtains for greater coverage on an existing project, with our **patented modular curtain system** you can always order additional curtains and retrofit them to give you the coverage that you need.

The only caveat I would add is if you have a resident that's already at the 'torches and pitchforks' stage. Those people are difficult to deal with and you may only have one shot to get it right before they call their attorney (who is probably on speed dial), so you can't afford to try a section and add more if needed. If they don't hear a noticeable improvement, they may not give you a second chance. And if they do, they are already in a negative mindset, and it will take a lot to overcome that. **Sadly, these people personify the adage "I'm not happy until you're not happy".**

Acoustifence Curtain Pricing shown on some of our most popular sizes (since all curtains are custom made, we can make them any height your project requires). Curtain panel standard width is 6' wide (we can make them less to create a custom width curtain to fill a gap). All curtains are Patented and made with our newest Internally Reinforced AF6 material. Prices shown are for material only (Shipping is FOB Tampa).

BLACK Patented 6' wide Pickleball noise curtains in the most popular sizes (remember - we can make a curtain any height you need).

- 8' high - \$520
- 10' high - \$650
- 12' high - \$780

NEW FOREST GREEN Patented 6' wide Pickleball noise curtains (color shown below)

- 8' high - \$616

- 10' high - \$770
- 12' high - \$924



When it comes to noise mitigation, the performance of all of the material is identical. The only difference is the color. All our Acoustifence is made from recycled material, is 100% recyclable and is entirely **MADE IN THE USA**.

References

This is from a satisfied customer with Pickleball courts in upstate New York; *Charles, Thank you for all of your help and advice on this project. It would not have happened without you!! Sound benefits appear right in line with what you advertise. 83 max. inside the court. 60 max. outside the court behind the fence (a 20-dB reduction). Hoping this helps keep peace with my neighbors. Again Charles, thank you!*

In addition to the hundreds of HOAs and Country Clubs that I have dealt with, here is a sampling of cities across the country that have purchased Acoustifence Pickleball curtains for noise control.

- Punta Gorda, FL
- Indian Rocks Beach, FL
- Beach Haven, NJ
- Berkeley Heights, NJ
- Livingston, NJ
- Margate, NJ
- Ocean City, NJ Steve Longo (slongo@ocnj.us) Manager, Ocean City Department of Public Works (609) 425-7373 cell
- Ridgewood, NJ
- Borough of Tinton Falls, NJ
- Little Egg Harbor
- Sea Girt, NJ
- Lower Moreland Township, PA
- Burlington, MA
- Mashpee, MA

- Millis, MA
- Sylvania, OH
- Shoreview, MN
- Grosse Pointe Shores, MI
- Highland Park, IL
- Western Springs, IL
- Carmel, IN
- Beaver Creek, CO
- Ft. Collins, CO
- Cedar Hills, UT
- Clinton City, UT
- Lindon City, UT
- Orem, UT
- Pleasant Grove, UT
- Providence City, UT
- Provo, UT
- Salem City, UT
- Carlsbad, CA
- Berkeley, CA
- Laguna Beach, CA
- Moorpark, CA
- Ojai, CA
- San Clemente, CA
- Yountville, CA
- District of North Vancouver, BC Canada
- Town of Coquitlam, BC Canada
- Penticton, BC Canada
- City of Cranbrook, BC Canada
- Medicine Hat, AB Canada

Product Name

AcoustiFence® Noise Reducing Fences

For Manufacturer Info:

Contact:

Acoustiblok, Inc.

6900 Interbay Boulevard

Tampa, FL 33616

Call - (813) 980-1400

Fax - (813)849-6347

Email - sales@acoustiblok.com

www.acoustiblok.com

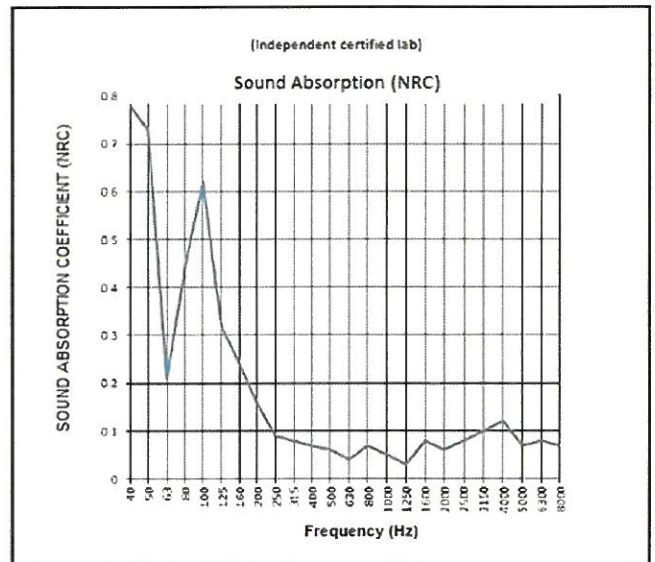
Product Description

Basic Use

AcoustiFence was originally developed by Acoustiblok, Inc. for noise isolation on offshore oil rigs, but has since proven successful in many other demanding outdoor settings, such as construction sites, commercial/industrial facilities, and residential communities.

AcoustiFence Noise Reducing Fences

AcoustiFence is a unique, heavy-mineral filled, barium free, viscoelastic acoustical material that is made in the U.S.A. Unlike fences or shrubs, this material does extraordinarily well in blocking direct sound, and a unique characteristic of the material sets it apart from other sound barriers when dealing with very low frequencies.



Sound Absorption Test Results

Benefits:

- Effectively reduces exterior noise
- Over 300 UL Classifications
- Easy to install
- Resistant to UV, dirt and water
- Resistant to corrosion, mold and mildew

Product Name

AcoustiFence® Noise Reducing Fences

AcoustiFence Noise Reducing Fences continued...

In frequencies of 50Hz and below, the heavy limp AcoustiFence material actually begins to vibrate from low frequency sound waves. In essence it is transforming these low frequency sound waves into mechanical movement and internal friction energy. Laboratory tests indicate that this transformation process inhibits these lower frequencies from penetrating AcoustiFence, reducing their level by over 60 percent relative to the human ear. In addition, AcoustiFence becomes an absorbent material in these frequencies with test results show an NRC (noise reduction coefficient) as high as 0.78 (with 1.00 being the max). As such it is clear that AcoustiFence not only reduces sound as a barrier, but also acts as an acoustical absorbent material in very low frequencies, as opposed to reflecting those frequencies back like most other barriers. It is worth noting that lead sheets (which are toxic) work in the same manner.

Green AcoustiFence has the same sound deadening properties and features as our original black AcoustiFence. In addition, this new version features advanced reinforced edging and stainless steel cable ties. Made and sourced in the USA, It comes in 6x30 foot sections and is one of the most effective first steps in reducing noise for industrial, commercial and residential projects.

Green AcoustiFence

One of Acoustiblok's most popular products, designed as an advanced sound barrier that easily attaches to most types of fencing, is now available in a new green shade that easily blends into the environment. This makes it ideal for landscaping projects, residential home use and any outdoor applications where blending into the natural foliage is a concern.

Product Name

AcoustiFence® Noise Reducing Fences

Sound Transmission Class (STC)

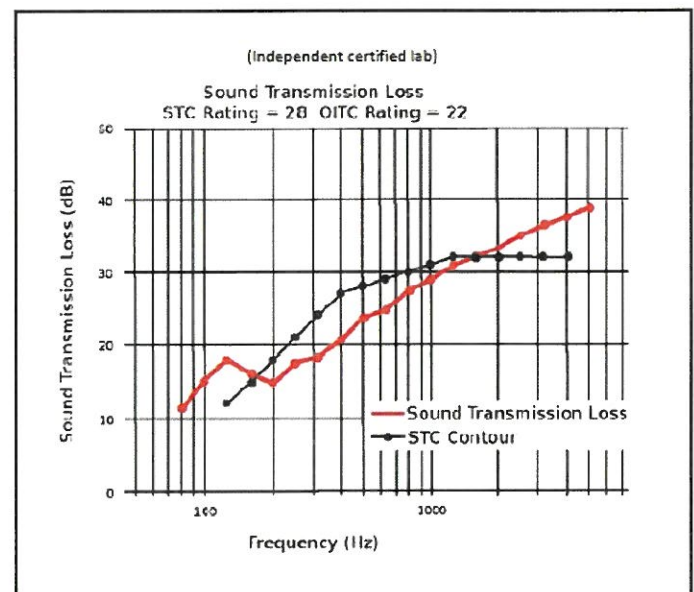
Sound Transmission Class (STC) is a single number that represents the sound blocking capacity of a partition such as a wall or ceiling.

STC numbers are often called out in architectural specifications, to assure that partitions will reduce noise levels adequately. For performance similar to laboratory test numbers, it is necessary to adhere closely to the construction materials and techniques used in the tested partition.

STC is calculated by comparing the actual sound loss measured when 18 test frequencies pass through a partition, with fixed values for each STC level. The highest STC curve that the measured sound loss numbers fit under, determines the STC rating of the partition.

STC calculations emphasize sound frequencies that match the human voice. A high STC partition will block the sound of human speech and block noise that interferes with human speech. To estimate high and low frequency performance, consult the Sound Transmission Loss graph included in STC test reports. Impact Insulation Class (IIC) measure transmitted impact noise and are specified for floor-ceiling assemblies only.

Acoustical test reports for numerous wall and floor/ceiling designs are available from Acoustiblok on request. All our test data is taken directly from independent 3rd party laboratories under NVLAP certification.



Sound Transmission Loss Test Results

Product Name

AcoustiFence® Noise Reducing Fences

Physical Properties

- Barium free
- Minimum STC 28 per ASTM E90-02 & ASTM E413-87
- Minimum sound attenuation 24 dBA @ 100Hz & 16dBA @ 40Hz
- Size - 6 ft.(1.83m) x 30 ft.(9.14m) x 0.125 in. (.3mm) – 180 ft² (16.83m²)
- Color - black or green
- High UV resistance
- Heat tolerance: 200°F (93°C) for 7 days, less than 1% shrinkage with no deformation.
- Freezes at -40°F (-40°C). Do not unroll or flex frozen material. Properties not affected by freeze/thaw cycles.
- No fungal or algal growth and no visible disfigurement, per ASTM D3273 and ASTM D3274 (rating=10)
- Tensile Strength - min. 365 PSI
- Weight per section: 185 lbs. (84Kg)

Material Specifications – Part # “Acoustifence 6x30 Industrial”

Acoustical Rating	STC 28 / OITC 22
Size	6 ft. (1.83m) x 30 ft. (9.14m) x 0.125 in (.3mm) 180 ft ² (16.72m ²)
Weight	185 lbs. (84Kg)
Fastening	Black brass grommets every 6 in. (152mm) along top edge with four grommets spaced along the bottom edge. Commonly installed horizontally.
Color	Black
(This is an industrial product and minor surface blemishes are a possibility.)	



6900 Interbay Blvd
Tampa, Florida USA 33616
Telephone: (813)980-1440
www.Acoustiblok.com
sales@acoustiblok.com

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6315 Wiehe Road | Cincinnati, OH 45237
(513) 631-0333 | www.millsfence.com

Notes Continued...

attorney's fees incurred by Mills Fence, shall be paid by customer. Mills Fence reserves the right to cancel this order, delay delivery, repossess materials or demand immediate full or partial payment in advance of delivery if customer's credit standing, or ability or willingness to pay, is called into question by an event or circumstance, including, but not limited to customer's default of any obligation owed to Mills Fence. 50% deposit required upon proposal acceptance for all residential installations. Deposit only refundable within 72 hours of transferring funds to Mills Fence. Installation dates and times are approximate, are not guaranteed and are subject to change.

Mills Fence will arrange to have public underground utilities marked prior to installation. Mills Fence assumes no responsibility for any unmarked public or private underground obstructions such as underground utilities, sprinkling systems, pipes, cables, drain tiles, tree roots, vegetation, or property lines. Customer understands that the fence line must be clear of all obstructions and that s/he will stake or mark the fence line. All customers are required to obtain their own permit, by contacting their local municipality.

All material is guaranteed to be as specified. All work to be completed in a workmanlike manner according to standard practices. Any alteration or deviation from above specifications involving extra costs will be executed only upon written orders and will become an extra charge over and above the estimate. Mills Fence will repair or replace at our option any of our work that may prove to be defective in its workmanship or materials within a period of one year from the date of installation. As a condition precedent to this warranty, Customer grants Mills Fence the right to place a sign on the fence that is no more than 12" wide and no more than 6" high in a location solely determined by Mills Fence. MILLS FENCE HEREBY DISCLAIMS ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AS TO THE QUALITY OF MATERIAL (i.e., WOOD PRODUCTS) SOLD BY MILLS FENCE. ALL WARRANTIES, IF ANY, BY A MANUFACTURER OR SUPPLIER OTHER THAN MILLS FENCE ARE THEIRS, NOT MILLS FENCE'S, AND ONLY SUCH MANUFACTURER OR SUPPLIER SHALL BE LIABLE FOR PERFORMANCE UNDER SUCH WARRANTIES.

Wood will warp, twist, and develop small cracks during the drying process. Wood privacy fence will also develop small gaps between boards due to shrinkage. This is natural and expected and is not covered under warranty. Gates should be kept in a locked position when not in use. All agreements contingent upon strikes, accidents, or delays that are beyond our control. Owner to carry fire, tornado and other necessary insurance. Our workers are fully covered by Workers' Compensation insurance. The laws of the State of Ohio shall apply in the construction of these terms of the contract or any dispute arising hereunder without giving effect to such jurisdiction's conflict of laws principles. Customer submits to jurisdiction in the courts of Hamilton County, Ohio.

In the event any one or more of the provisions contained herein should be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, the remaining provisions contained herein shall not be affected or impaired in any manner. This proposal may be withdrawn if not accepted within 30 days

Signature: _____ Date: _____



An Age 55 and Over Homeowner Community Association

June 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

Country Roads RV Property Owners Association, Inc. recently purchased and installed Acoustifence® on the Pickleball court within our community. Since being installed only a few years ago, the Pickleball court has been considered a nuisance by some of the nearby residents because of the sound that the paddle makes when hitting the ball. Pickleball is a mixture of badminton and tennis however; the ball is a large type of wiffleball.

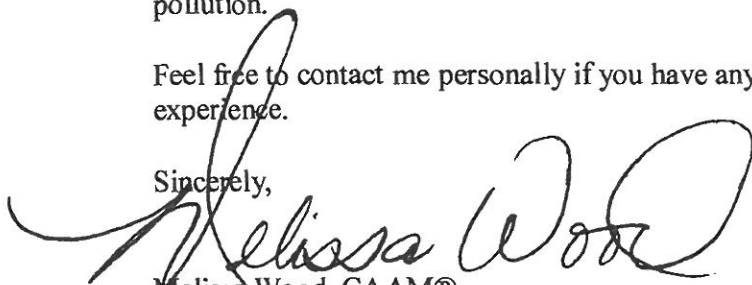
The Board of Directors saw the need to keep the game because of its growing popularity and abate the noise for the neighboring homes. In researching on the internet, a Board member found the website for Acoustiblok, ® Inc. After much research the Board of Directors voted unanimously to purchase and install the Acoustifence®. Upon installation the neighboring homes noticed a considerable reduction of the repetitive ball play.

With our close proximity to Phoenix, Arizona, other communities have asked to see and test for themselves the Acoustifence® product. I have attached to our testimony the correspondence from Bill Booth, President of The USA Pickleball Association.™

I can attest that Acoustifence® material is not difficult to install, can be easily blended into the aesthetics particularly if you have existing wind screens and does abate any noise pollution.

Feel free to contact me personally if you have any questions about our Community's experience.

Sincerely,



Melissa Wood, CAAM®
Community Association Manager

Acoustifence Testing

Date:

April 17, 2012

Location:

Country Roads RV Village in Yuma.

Weather:

Temperature was approximately 85 degrees, wind 3-5mph.

Testers:

Bill Booth

Harry Kirkpatrick (designated hitter)

Pickleball Equipment:

S-Type Composite Extreme Paddle.

New Dura Fast 40 outdoor balls.

The S-Type paddle was used because, of the paddles in our possession at the time, it was closest to the mid-range of paddles in the Grand Pickleball Club sound test.

Sound Meter:

Sper Scientific Digital Datalogging Sound Meter, model 840013

We also had an analog meter provided by SCG CAM. Tests were done with our digital meter because it has the capability of locking on the maximum reading during an interval. That made it easy to identify the maximum instantaneous sound caused by a paddle hit.

Test Method:

Tests were made with the tester attempting to hit the ball with maximum force for a worst-case scenario. Readings were recorded with the meter at 50 feet from the point of impact. In the first case, the reading was taken through the sound curtain next to the home at a point 42 feet from the curtain. The paddle was 8 feet inside the court for a total distance of 50 feet. The second set of readings was recorded inside the court at a distance of 50 feet from the point of impact.

Test results through the sound curtain in decibels (dba):

59.2, ~~51.5~~, 55.9, 54.7, 57

Average: 56.7

Note: the reading that has been struck out above and the readings that have been struck out below were not included in the averages because the hitter recognized that he had mishit the ball resulting in a lower reading than for a clean hit.

Test results for no sound curtain:

71.8, 66.5, ~~62.2~~, 68.9, ~~61.5~~, 71.1, 64.2

Average: 68.5

Homeowner Report:

The homeowner with the most complaints and living closest to the courts reports a significant reduction in sound level. He said that his wife often does not realize that they are playing on that court. He is reserving final judgment until some of the snowbirds return in the fall. The homeowner was very friendly, assisted with the test, and monitored the results. The homeowner had a theory that the sound would be louder at his home if the hits were not so close to the sound curtain. Therefore, we made several hits at the other end of the court, 90 feet from the home. His theory did not prove correct with an average reading of 52.8 db. Ambient sound levels were in the range of 47-51 db if we waited for quiet periods when there was no aircraft noise, traffic noise, or voices. At other times, ambient noise significantly exceeded paddle noise. We have the homeowner's contact information if necessary.

Level Change	Volume Loudness
+40 dB	16
+30 dB	8
+20 dB	4
+10 dB	2.0 = double
+6 dB	1.52 times
+3 dB	1.23 times
---- ±0 dB ----	---- 1.0 ----
-3 dB	0.816 times
-6 dB	0.660 times
-10 dB	0.5 = half
-20 dB	0.25
-30 dB	0.125
-40 dB	0.0625
Log. quantity dB change	Psycho quantity Loudness multipl.

Conclusion:

As shown in the table on the left, a 10 db reduction in sound represents a 50% reduction in sound as perceived by the human ear*. With an average reduction of 11.8 decibels, it is likely that the Acoustifence will result in a at least a 50% reduction to the sound experienced by nearby homeowners. That could be the difference between annoying and just barely perceptible.

*Chart Source:

<http://www.sengpielaudio.com/TableOfSoundPressureLevels.htm>

Photo: It is recommended that the product be installed on the inside of the court if the fence posts are outside the court as shown in the photo on the next page.

[Acoustifence product page.](#)



ACOUSTICS GROUP, INC.
Consultants in Acoustics, Noise & Vibration

September 9, 2012

Mitzi Mills
Sun City Grand
Community Association Management
19726 N. Remington Dr.
Surprise, AZ 85374

Subject: Noise Study for the Cimarron Pickleball Courts In Surprise, AZ.

Dear Ms. Mills:

Acoustics Group, Inc., has reviewed the Sun City Noise Ordinance, conducted ambient and operations noise level measurements, analyzed the future noise levels from the Cimarron facility, assessed the impact of the future operations and evaluated noise control measures. The following provides the results of our work:

NOISE AND THE A-WEIGHTED SOUND LEVEL

Noise is most often defined as unwanted sound. Although sound can be easily measured, the perceptibility is subjective and the physical response to sound complicates the analysis of its impact on people. People judge the relative magnitude of sound sensation in subjective terms such as "noisiness" or "loudness." Sound pressure magnitude is measured and quantified using a logarithmic ratio of pressures, the scale of which gives the level of sound in decibels (dB).

The human hearing system is not equally sensitive to sound at all frequencies. Therefore, to approximate this human, frequency-dependent response, the A-weighting filter system is used to adjust measured sound levels. The A-weighted sound level is expressed in "dBA" or "dB(A)." Figure 1 provides typical A-weighted sound levels measured for various sources, as well as people's responses to these levels.

September 9, 2012
For Sun City Grand Use Only
Not for Public Release

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ACOUSTICS GROUP, INC.
877.595.9988 - Voice
877.595.9989 - Fax

SUN CITY GRAND PICKLEBALL NOISE STUDY

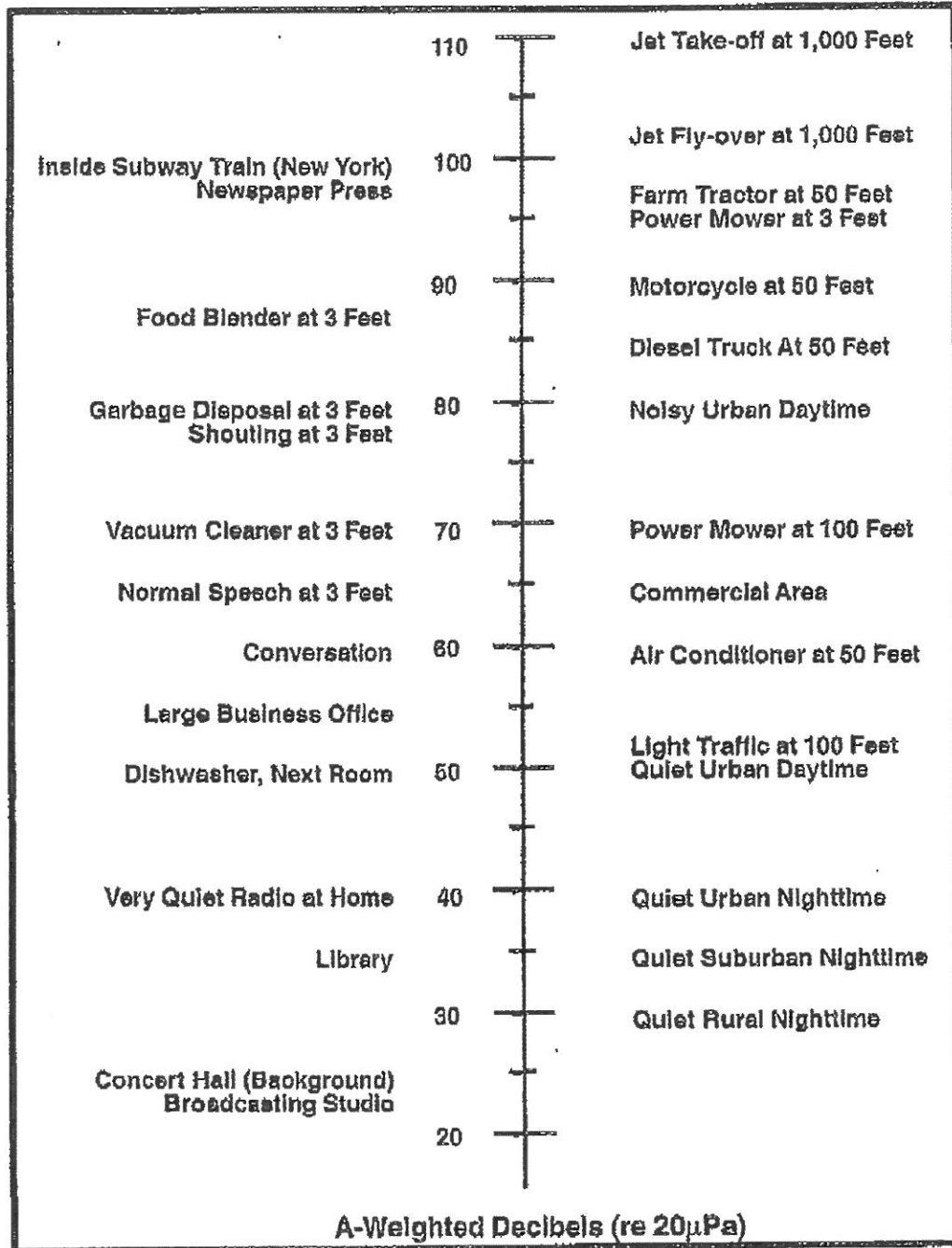


Figure 1. Typical A-weighted Sound Levels from Indoor and Outdoor Noise Sources.



When sound is measured for distinct time intervals, the statistical distribution of the overall sound level can be obtained during that period. The energy-equivalent sound level (Leq) is the most common parameter associated with such measurements. The Leq metric is a single-number noise descriptor which represents the average sound level over a given period of time, where the actual sound level varies with time. Lmax, Lmin, and Lxx are also common noise descriptors. Lmax and Lmin are the maximum and minimum noise levels, respectively, and Lxx, known as a statistical sound level, is the time-varying noise level which would be exceeded xx percent of the time.

NOISE STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

The City of Surprise Municipal Code does not specifically adopt noise standards to regulate noise from recreational activity within parks. However, the 2030 General Plan cites the World Health Organization's "Guidelines for Community Noise, 1999" as a guideline for the city to implement noise regulations. A noise level limit of 50 – 55 dBA at outdoor living areas is identified as a limit of acceptable noise exposure in the general plan.

AMBIENT SURVEY AND NOISE MEASUREMENTS

Ambient Survey

AGI conducted an ambient noise survey on June 10-11, 2012 to document the baseline ambient noise levels directly east of the Cimarron Pickleball Courts. A noise measurement was conducted at the front yard of 19692 W Marcos De Niza Drive, directly facing the pickleball court area. The measurement was conducted with a Larson Davis Model 870 Noise Analyzer and the instrument was operated in accordance with manufacturer's standards. Construction operations occurred during the late night hours between midnight and 9 am and the measurement data obtained during the construction period was omitted from this report.

The Leq measured during the ambient survey ranged from 40.8 to 49.5 dBA. The sources of noise that contributed to the ambient baseline were distant traffic, wildlife birds, and insects. Noise levels during the evening period were generally between 44 and 47 dBA. During the late night and early morning hours, the ambient baseline dropped to nearly 40 dBA. The measured baseline ambient noise levels are considered very quiet for a residential community. Table 1 summarizes the ambient noise measurement data. Figure 2 shows the location of the noise measurement relative to the Cimarron Pickleball courts and the nearby residences.

SUN CITY GRAND PICKLEBALL NOISE STUDY



Table 1
Measured Ambient Noise Levels Adjacent to the Cimarron Pickleball Courts

Date	Time	Leq, dBA	Description
June 10, 2012	7:00 pm	44.2	Evening Ambient Distant Traffic, Wildlife, Insects
June 10, 2012	8:00 pm	46.3	" "
June 10, 2012	9:00 pm	46.6	" "
June 10, 2012	10:00 pm	43.5	Nighttime Ambient Distant Traffic, Wildlife, Insects
June 10, 2012	11:00 pm	40.8	" "
June 11, 2012	10:00 am	49.5	Morning Ambient Distant Traffic, Wildlife, Insects

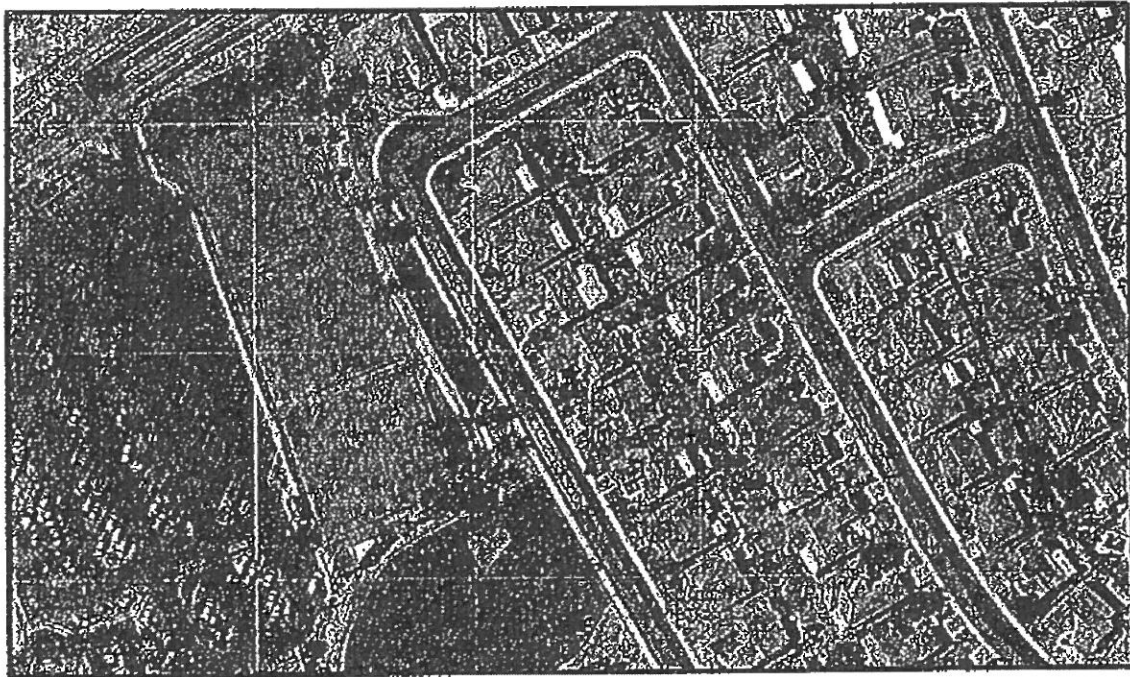


Figure 2. Location of the Ambient Noise Measurement



Pickleball Noise Measurements

AGI conducted acoustical tests on June 12 and 20, 2012 to measure the noise from pickleball operations, different paddle types, and a noise barrier system. The measurements were conducted at a nearby facility while the Cimarron courts were being renovated. A controlled test was conducted on June 12, 2012 with 32 players playing pickleball simultaneously. Noise measurements were also conducted with four players playing pickleball with various paddle types. The tests were then repeated on June 20, 2012 after the installation of an Acoustifence noise barrier system. On August 22, 2012, additional noise measurements were conducted utilizing 8 different pickleball paddles, but without the Acoustifence. For each acoustical test, both A-weighted sound level and One-Third Octave Band Sound Levels were measured from a position 10 feet from the sideline fence.

The initial test conducted with 32 players resulted in an Leq of 66.9 dBA. Paddle tests with the Whipper Snapper, Graphite, ZYT, Blaster, Striker, Graphite Magnum, Prolite Magnum, and Paddle Tech, resulted in an Leq of 64.7, 60.1, 57.0, 61.4, 61.3, 57.9, 62.8, and 59.3 dBA, respectively. After the installation of acoustifence, the 32 players test resulted in an Leq of 51.1 dBA. The Paddle tests with the Whipper Snapper, Graphite, ZYT, Blaster, Striker, Graphite Magnum, Prolite Magnum, and Paddle Tech paddles resulted in an Leq of 54.9, 48.8, 46.7, 50.9, 49.1, 46.2, 50.8, and 49.4 dBA, respectively. As a result of the acoustifence, noise reductions of 15.8, 9.8, 11.3, 10.3, 10.5, 12.2, 11.7, 12.0, and 9.9 dB were achieved for the 32 players and the respective paddles. The average noise reduction achieved by the acoustifence was approximately 13 dB. Table 2 summarizes the test data and noise reduction for each paddle type.

Additional paddle tests were conducted on August 22, 2012, but without acoustifence. The paddle tests with the Pro Lite Enforcer, Pro Lite Aero D, Pro Lite Power, Brian Jensen Designs, Pickleball Now Classic Lite, Pickleball Now MetaLite, Pickleball Now Force, and Pickleball Now The Force resulted in an Leq of 58.9, 61.4, 60.1, 61.0, 63.3, 58.1, 64.0, and 57.2 dBA, respectively. Table 3 summarizes the test data for the eight additional paddles. Refer to the Appendix for plots of the noise measurement data.

ESTIMATED CIMARRON COURT NOISE LEVELS

Future pickleball noise at the Cimarron Courts was analyzed using the measurement data and the layout of the new facility and relative geometry to the nearby residences. As summarized in Table 4, the pickleball noise is estimated to be approximately 61 dBA at the front yard of the residences on W Marcos De Niza Drive, which directly face the courts. When compared with the City's General Plan noise guideline of 50 dBA, the noise would exceed the guideline.

SUN CITY GRAND PICKLEBALL NOISE STUDY



**Table 2
Measured A-Weighted Sound Levels
at Sun City Grand's Pickleball Courts with and without Acoustifence**

Test Description/ Paddle	Pickleball Noise Level, Leg, dBA at 10-ft from edge of court		Noise Reduction
	Without Acoustifence	With Acoustifence	
32 players	66.9	51.1	15.8 dB
Whipper Snapper	64.7	54.9	9.8 dB
Graphite	60.1	48.8	11.3 dB
ZZT	57.0	46.7	10.3 dB
Blaster	61.4	50.9	10.5 dB
Striker	61.3	49.1	12.2 dB
Graphite Magnum	57.9	46.2	11.7 dB
Prolite Magnum	62.8	50.8	12.0 dB
Paddle Tech	59.3	49.4	9.9 dB

**Table 3
Measured A-Weighted Sound Levels at Sun City Grand's
Pickleball Courts with Additional Paddles - without Acoustifence**

Paddle	Pickleball Noise Level, Leg, dBA at 10-ft from edge of court
Pro Lite Enforcer	58.9
Pro Lite Aero D	61.4
Pro Lite Power	60.1
Brian Jensen Designs	61.0
Pickleball Now Classic Lite	63.3
Pickleball Now Metalite	58.1
Pickleball Now Force	64.0
Pickleball Now The Force	57.2

**Table 4
Estimated Pickleball Noise from Cimarron Courts with and without Acoustifence**

Description/Paddle	Pickleball Noise Level, Leg, dBA at 100-ft from edge of court		Noise Guideline
	Without Acoustifence	With Acoustifence	
32 players	61	48	50 dBA



NOISE CONTROL MEASURES

The following measures are identified to minimize pickleball noise at the nearest homes to the Cimarron Courts:

1. Install a full height (minimum height of 10-ft) continuous noise barrier on the north, east and south sides of the chain link fence surrounding the pickleball courts. A material acoustically equivalent to the Acoustifence product should provide the sound transmission needed.
2. Require pickleball players at the Cimarron Courts to only use the quietest or quieter paddles identified in Table 5.
3. Consider limiting the hours of pickleball play to time periods that are less intrusive to nearby homeowners.

**Table 5
Ranking of the Tested Pickleball Paddles by Sound Level**

Paddle	Pickleball Noise Level, Leq, dBA at 10-ft from edge of court	Description
ZZT	57.0	Quietest
Pickleball Now The Force	57.2	Quietest
Graphite Magnum	57.9	Quieter
Pickleball Now MetaLite	58.1	Quieter
Pro Lite Enforcer	58.9	Quieter
Paddle Tech	59.3	Quieter
Graphite	60.1	Moderately Quiet
Pro Lite Power	60.1	Moderately Quiet
Brian Jensen Designs	61.0	Moderately Quiet
Striker	61.3	Moderately Quiet
Blaster	61.4	Moderately Quiet
Pro Lite Aero D	61.4	Moderately Quiet
Prollite Magnum	62.8	Moderately Quiet
Pickleball Now Classic Lite	63.3	Loudest
Pickleball Now Force	64.0	Loudest
Whipper Snapper	64.7	Loudest

SUN CITY GRAND PICKLEBALL NOISE STUDY



CONCLUSION

AGI has reviewed the Sun City Noise Ordinance, conducted ambient and operations noise level measurements, analyzed the future noise levels from the Cimarron facility, assessed the impact of the future operations and evaluated noise control measures. Noise control measures have been identified for reducing the future noise at the Cimarron Courts.

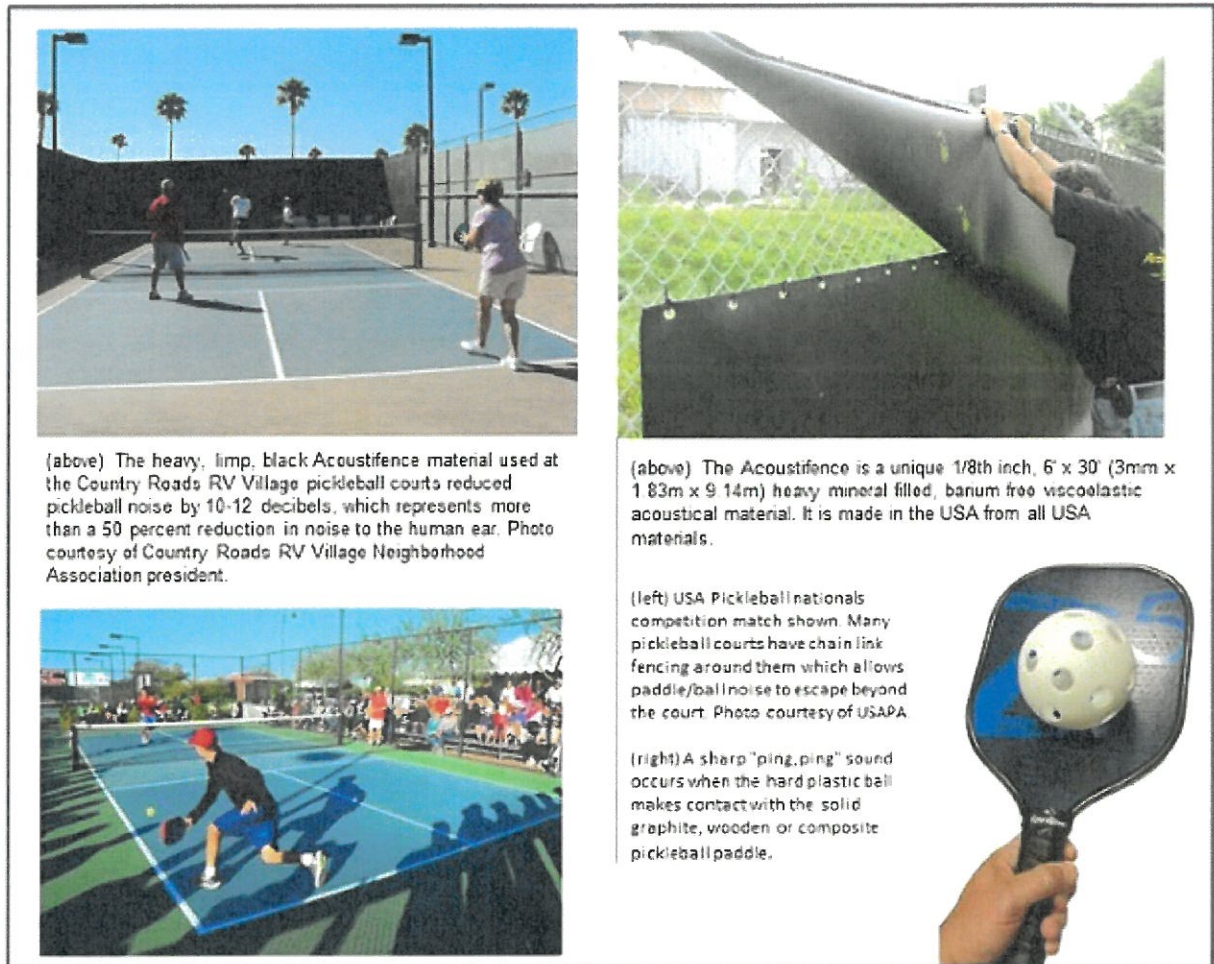
Please contact Mr. Robert Woo at 602-635-6196 if you have any questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,
ACOUSTICS GROUP, INC.

Robert Woo
Principal Consultant

Acoustifence Reduces Pickleball Court Noise by More Than 50 Percent USA Pickleball Association Test Shows

Posted by [Thomas Wiseman](#) on Mon, Apr 8, 2013 @ 01:38 PM



(above) The heavy, limp, black Acoustifence material used at the Country Roads RV Village pickleball courts reduced pickleball noise by 10-12 decibels, which represents more than a 50 percent reduction in noise to the human ear. Photo courtesy of Country Roads RV Village Neighborhood Association president.

(above) The Acoustifence is a unique 1/8th inch, 6' x 30' (3mm x 1.83m x 9.14m) heavy mineral filled, banum free viscoelastic acoustical material. It is made in the USA from all USA materials.

(left) USA Pickleball nationals competition match shown. Many pickleball courts have chain link fencing around them which allows paddle/ball noise to escape beyond the court. Photo courtesy of USAPA

(right) A sharp "ping, ping" sound occurs when the hard plastic ball makes contact with the solid graphite, wooden or composite pickleball paddle.

YUMA, Ariz., April 3, 2013 - [Acoustifence](#) soundproofing material placed around a pickleball court reduced noise by 10-12 decibels in a sound meter test conducted by [USA Pickleball Association](#) president Bill Booth on April 17, 2012 at the [Country Roads RV Village](#) pickleball courts in Yuma, Ariz. This represents more than a 50 percent reduction in sound as perceived by the human ear the report concludes.

Even as one of the fastest-growing sports in the United States continues to gain new participants and fans every day, pickleball is disturbing some neighbors and communities who don't want the courts around because paddle noise has become a nuisance issue for some people living close to the courts.

In addition to being one of the fastest-growing sports in the United States today, pickleball has spread overseas into Canada, Singapore, India, Pakistan and other places. According to the USA Pickleball

Association, the sport boasts an estimated 100,000 adult players in the United States now, more than triple the number in 2003. There are about 2,500 public courts, versus just 150 in 2003.

For decades, the game of pickleball was little known outside the Pacific Northwest United States. Since its inception in 1965 as a backyard pastime, it is now an organized sport represented by national and international governing bodies. While people ages 6 to 70-plus play pickleball and even compete in local, regional and national tournaments, the main driver of the recent growth is the 55-plus demographic who have taken a liking to the sport. They view it as a way to exercise, burn calories, socialize, and get outdoors. More and more pickleball courts are being built in community parks and especially into 55-plus housing developments. Some communities are converting sporadically used tennis courts into pickleball courts or painting additional lines on tennis courts so pickleball can also be played. Pickleball is played on a smaller court size than tennis but has a similar court design.

More courts, participants, tournaments, and attention to the game has brought on more public complaints and even noise or nuisance related lawsuits attempting to stop play on existing courts or stop construction of new courts.

Racquet and paddle sports like tennis, badminton, and table tennis (ping pong) each produce a unique sound when the racquet or paddle hits the ball. In pickleball, there is a “ping, ping” sound made when the paddle hits the ball because the sport uses medium-sized, solid faced wooden, composite or graphite paddles and a hard plastic perforated ball (resembles a Wiffle ball) that is larger, stiffer and less resistant than a tennis ball. The noise generated by the game is louder, sharper and at a higher pitch than tennis which generates a deeper “thwack” sound that registers far lower on a sound meter.

Pickleball paddle noise is in a sound classification called impact noise – noise that occurs when an object collides with another object. It is a high frequency noise that is at a frequency that our ears are most attuned to. Through Acoustiblok’s analysis and modeling efforts of various pickleball noise related projects, the company says there’s one limiting band of approximately 1.25 KHz (1250 hz) that spikes when the paddle hits the ball. Acoustifence blocks much of the noise and reduces it to below a nuisance level for nearby neighbors, becoming barely perceptible among other outdoor background noises such as automobile, airplane, human, and machine noise.

You can hear the pickleball paddle noise for yourself by watching the following YouTube video of a tournament match at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pdVMcIDQJIA>
[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pdVMcIDQJIA> title USA Pickleball Association nationals competition]

Unlike often tried natural sound barriers such as fences or shrubs, the Acoustifence material does extraordinarily well in not only blocking direct sound, but also has a tendency to reduce sound from reflecting off it. Acoustifence is a revolutionary heavy mineral filled viscoelastic polymer sound deadening material which is only 3mm (1/8 inch) thick. It’s made in the United States and compared to other soundproofing alternatives, is an economical way to reduce outdoor noise.

The ultraviolet (UV) tolerant Acoustifence is hung via grommets onto the top line of existing chain link, panel, security or support pole fencing systems. It comes in 6 X 30 foot-sheets and can be easily cut and shaped into custom sizes with a craft knife. On solid structure fence surfaces, Acoustifence can be installed by nailing, stapling or gluing. Acoustifence is one of the most effective first steps in reducing

outdoor noise. The amount of noise Acoustifence reduces however is much related to other reflective structures in the area. More details on Acoustifence can be seen at:
http://www.acoustiblok.com/acoustical_fence.php

Country Roads RV Resort is a 55-plus gated community which boasts 150 acres of lavish, mature landscaping and 1294 privately owned home sites. The Acoustifence testing was conducted by USA Pickleball Association president Bill Booth. Tests were made using a Sper Scientific Digital Datalogging Sound Meter (model 840013), a S-Type Composite Extreme Paddle, and New Dura Fast 40 outdoor balls. Tests were made with the tester attempting to hit the ball with maximum force for a worse-case scenario. A series of readings were taken both through the Acoustifence sound curtain and with no sound curtain. Readings were recorded with the meter at 50 feet from the point of impact. In the first case, the reading was even taken through the sound curtain next to a nearby home at a point 42 feet from the sound curtain. The paddle was 8 feet inside the court for a total of 50 feet. The second set of readings was recorded inside the court at a distance of 50 feet from the point of impact.

With no sound curtain, readings ranged from 64.2 – 71.8 decibels for an average of 68 decibels. Through the Acoustifence sound curtain, the meter readings were between 54.7 – 59.2 decibels for an average reading of 56.7 decibels. **The report concluded that an 11.3 decibel reduction in sound was achieved. This represents more than a 50 percent reduction in sound as perceived by the human ear by nearby homeowners.** That reduction in sound takes the pickleball noise from being annoying to someone to being just barely perceptible, the report conclusion stated. The report also recommended that the Acoustifence product be installed on the inside of the pickleball court if the fence posts are outside the court. The report went on to say that homeowners near the Country Roads RV Village pickleball courts who had the most complaints and lived closest to the courts reported a significant reduction in sound level from having the Acoustifence material up. He said that his wife often does not realize that they are playing on the court. At times, ambient noise significantly exceeded paddle noise.

Lahnie Johnson is president and founder of Acoustiblok, Inc., a NASA spinoff listed company in Tampa, Fla., that invented and manufactures the Acoustifence product.

“Acoustifence serves as a barrier and blocks high frequency sounds very well. The material actually flexes with certain frequencies. In the process of sound waves physically moving it, the product transforms sound wave energy into inaudible internal friction energy. It’s Underwriters Laboratories listed and has attained an STC (Sound Transmission Class) of 28 decibels in independent laboratory tests,” said Johnson.

“Like all our [products](#), Acoustifence is made in the USA with all USA materials. Besides the primary benefit of reduction in perceived levels, there are many reasons why Acoustifence is being used not only in the United States, but across the globe for many applications,” he said.

“There are many reasons why Acoustifence is a good solution for pickleball noise. For homeowner associations and developers, Acoustifence easily attaches to existing fencing found around most existing pickleball courts and complexes and can be put up in a matter of hours with a few minor hand tools. It is easily configurable to add height and length so it can be used on fences of any size. The material is paintable to meet the needs of the environment,” said an Acoustiblok sales associate who has worked with various pickleball related customers

"There are vinyl photographic coverings for the fence called Acoustiblok landscapes. Hundreds of different unbelievably realistic landscapes are available, from vines and flowers to even antique brick wall, or stone fence photographs. So real one of our customers drove right by their home forgetting they had it installed," he added.

"Acoustifence is also one of the best priced first response soundproofing solutions in the industry" .

Melissa Wood is community association manager at Country Roads RV Village. In a related World Fence News article about pickleball and Acoustifence, she said, "I can attest that Acoustifence material is not difficult to install, can be easily blended into the aesthetics, particularly if you have existing wind screens." She added that Country Roads RV Village is located near Phoenix and other communities have seen the installation and have inquired about it.

Besides pickleball, Acoustifence is commonly used to quiet generator and motor noise at industrial sites, highway and construction related noise on bridges, mass transit rail line noise, shooting/gun range noise, and even dog kennel noise. It is also being used at college sports complexes and athletic parks and on private backyard residential fences to create a quieter and more peaceful environment.

"People are discovering that there are a lot of great uses for this modern day soundproofing product," Johnson said.

Johnson went on to say, "We're not just a soundproofing products company, we're a noise solutions company. Sometimes, prior to the sale of Acoustiblok's products, we perform computer-based sound propagation modeling when customers are unsure if Acoustiblok's materials will work in their specific application.

"We use advanced software called Cadna-A, a top acoustical software made by DataKustic used in the prediction of environmental outdoor noise. It calculates sounds through mediums and different barriers and terrains. We have used it for pickleball-related customers who all have a different set of circumstances associated with their noise. We also use DataKustic's Cadna-R software for prediction and presentation of inside noise in industrial facilities, rooms and workplaces."

"We use this acoustical modeling to say to the potential customer 'here's your noise level now without Acoustiblok's material and here's the noise level with our material based on the noise information we have available to us right now.'"

For more information about Acoustiblok Inc., or Acoustifence visit the Acoustiblok website (www.acoustiblok.com), send an Email to comeara@acoustiblok.com, or call 813-980-1400 ext. 3202 and ask for our Pickleball specialist, Charles O'Meara.

Finally, prepare to be amazed. This is a link to an excerpt from the **National Geographic Channel television show, Showdown of the Unbeatables**. We won the challenge by blocking the sound of the world's loudest train horn, a whopping 143 dB. But rather than watch a 30 minute show here is video clip of the box that we built with a loud guitar playing inside. The box is made with our namesake Acoustiblok barrier material, the basis for our Acoustifence (one layer of Acoustiblok in a wall assembly is more effective at blocking noise than 10 inches of poured concrete). <https://vimeo.com/123010204>

Red and Green Paddle List

Here is the link to the approved paddle list from the community in Surprise, Arizona. While the list has not been recently updated, it still contains some valuable information about some of the paddles people are using. [Quiet Pickleball Paddle Approved/Banned List Noisy Pickleball Paddles list.](#)

Unfortunately, there is no 'Cone of Silence' to completely eliminate Pickleball noise. That's why I recommend setting a realistic expectation so the affected homeowners understand that you can reduce the noise (by 50% or even more), but you cannot make it completely disappear...unless you cease playing. Just my two cents.

As questions come up, I am an email or phone call away. Looking forward to speaking with you again.

Charles O'Meara, MBA | Director - Pickleball Noise Abatement | Acoustiblok, Inc....*Quieting the world*

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Made in the USA



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Acoustifence® – Pelican Landing Pickleball Court

Acoustiblok Inc. was contacted about a noise issue with a Pickleball Court (Of which we supply many). Green Acoustifence Curtains were easily installed on the existing chain link fence. Per the customer: "No more complaints since the Acoustifence has been installed."



Check out the report that gentleman sent me. His measured results are pretty impressive.

Observations at Pickleball Courts at Pelican Landing, Bonita Springs Florida , February 2018

Connie and Tom A... visited the courts on 2/25/2018. These are private courts for the use of Pelican Landing residents only. Access to the courts is by card key. There are a total of six courts. The courts are surrounded by a 10-foot high chain link fence. The side facing the community center, and the side facing the road are covered with standard wind/sun screening. An adjacent high-end trailer park is located approximately 100 feet from the north, long fenced side. This side is draped with green Acoustifence, for the purpose of blocking sound. The shorter east side fence is also draped with Acoustifence to block additional noise from traveling diagonally towards the trailers. Using a TACKlife sound level meter, (claimed accuracy +/- 1%) we recorded sound levels from many locations;

South side 5 feet away no Acoustifence - Max reading 88 DB, readings in 6 spots

North and East sides 5 feet away with Acoustifence - Max reading 64 DB, readings in 9 spots

South side 50 feet away no Acoustifence - Max reading 85 DB, readings in 4 spots

North and East side facing the courts 50 feet away with Acoustifence - Max reading 61 DB, readings in 6 spots

South side 100 feet away, no Acoustifence - Max reading 79 DB, readings in 6 spots

North and East sides 100 feet away with Acoustifence - Max reading 60 DB, readings in 6 spots

Notes: All six courts were in use during these measurements. The ambient sound level when no balls were being struck, approximately 100 feet from the courts was generally 46 DB.

On the north side of the courts (Acoustifence side), there was shrubbery and a second 6 foot chain link fence with privacy lattice, but this additional fencing and vegetation had no appreciable effect on noise transmission, as we measured on both sides of the second fence.

There was a gentle breeze, (estimated Beaufort force between 2 and 3) blowing out of the south, which should have a slight effect of increasing the noise level on the Acoustifence side and decreasing the noise level on the non Acoustifence side

Our conclusions from these observations was that the Acoustifence dramatically reduced the sound level of the Pickleball activity both up close and a distance from the courts. From the patio of the nearest trailer the perceived sound level, (while the sound of play could still be heard), was much lower and the sharpness of the ping was muffled considerably, compared to the same distance on the non Acoustifence side. The spoken sounds of the players were also substantially reduced.

These Minutes are a draft of the proposed minutes from the Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council meeting. They do not represent the official record of proceedings until formally adopted by the Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council. Formal adoption is noted by signature of the Chair within the minutes.

City of Montgomery
Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes
November 14, 2022

Staff Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager
Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager
Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director
Mike Rogers, Asst. Public Works Director
Julie Machon, Recreation Director
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council

Committee Members Present

Sasha Naiman, Chair
Chris Dobrozsi
Mike Cappel

The Parks and Recreation Committee of Council convened its meeting for November 14, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. with Mrs. Naiman presiding.

New Business

Pool Rates Discussion

Ms. Machon explained In March 2022, SwimSafe Pool Management contacted staff and indicated that the contractual amount of \$131,960.00 for 2022 was insufficient due to unforeseen increased costs for pool chemicals and staff wage rates. Information was provided to City staff at that time substantiating their claim. Staff reviewed that information and agreed that a new negotiated contract cost for 2022 was appropriate. Thus, the contract was increased \$30,928.00 by Council legislation bringing the total contract cost to \$162,888.00 with the increase of \$30,928.00 being covered by ARPA funds the City received. In September 2023, Staff met with SwimSafe and discussed the 2023 pool season. City staff would again like to extend the contract with SwimSafe and similar to last year, SwimSafe provided an increased cost of \$32,112.00 for 2023 based on increased costs for pool chemicals, staff wage rates, and other items. Thus, the new contract amount for 2023 would total \$195,000.00, however staff believes the overall contractual costs will stabilize in the outer years.

Ms. Machon explained staff proposes adjustments to pool membership rates, daily admission fees, and concession prices to help mitigate the increased costs of pool operations for the 2023 pool season and subsequent years.

The Committee discussed the request to raise all membership types by \$25 which is anticipated to bring in an additional \$18,825 in revenue per year. Additionally, daily admission would be increased by \$2 for all types which is anticipated to bring in an additional \$8,656 in revenue per year. Daily admission is offered to residents only. Concession pricing would be increased by an average of .50 per item which is anticipated to bring an additional \$6,191 in revenue per year. Ms. Machon stated that the three recommendations outlined above are anticipated to bring an additional \$33,672 of revenue per year, which would help cover the increase in pool management expenditures.

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Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council Minutes

November 14, 2022

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Mr. Cappel stated that he felt the increases looked fair. He asked if there were reduced rates for anyone who was financially challenged.

Ms. Machon replied that in the past there has not been.

Mr. Dobrozsi stated that it was a significant increase from 2021 to the new proposed amount and that he understood it was largely due to increased demands for labor.

Mr. Heitkamp agreed stating the bulk of the increases were labor costs.

Mr. Dobrozsi asked if staff knew the number of daily admissions there were.

Ms. Machon replied that in this year's pool season there were 4.328 daily admission visitors.

Mr. Riblet explained that if the Committee is supportive of the proposed increases and the new contract, he anticipates it will be net even because of the estimated \$30,000 in increased revenue. He stated that at the December Work Session the appropriation for the 2023 Budget would be increased to meet the new contract amount. Mr. Riblet added that there are other costs included in the budget outside of the SwimSafe contract such as maintenance costs of the pool.

Mrs. Naiman asked if revenue projections were based on last year's data.

Ms. Machon replied that revenue was based on an average of the 2018, 2019 and 2021 years. She stated that membership increased by 90 members in 2022 as compared to 2021.

Mr. Cappel moved to approve the new rates. Mr. Dobrozsi seconded. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Memorial Gifting Rate Discussion

Mr. Rogers explained that staff reviewed the memorial gifting program that allows for the purchase of benches, bricks and trees in recognition or honor of a community resident or business. He stated that after the review it was found that the current fees do not cover the costs to purchase the items as well as the maintenance. He explained that the increases would cover those costs and will help to balance revenues and expenses.

Mr. Rogers proposed the following increases:

Item	Current Donation Cost	Proposed Donation Cost
Standard Park Bench	\$500.00	\$850.00
Victorian Park Bench	\$800.00	\$1250.00

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Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council Minutes

November 14, 2022

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Memorial Tree and Plaque	\$250.00	\$300.00
Commemorative Brick	\$55.00	\$55.00
R.O.W. Tree Program	\$100.00	\$150.00

Mr. Riblet explained that the City funds the right of Way Tree Program at \$8,000 a year to incentivize urban canopy. He stated that all costs collected are a in and out and we do not charge for labor.

Mr. Dobrozsi asked when the fees would be effective.

Mr. Riblet stated January 1 2023.

Mr. Cappel moved for approval of the proposed increases for the memorial gift items. Mr. Dobrozsi seconded. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Minutes

Mr. Cappel moved to approve the September 12, 2022 Committee minutes. Mr. Dobrozsi seconded. The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

Adjournment

Mr. Cappel moved for adjournment. Mr. Dobrozsi seconded. The Committee unanimously agreed.

The Parks and Recreation Committee of Council meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Chair