

PRC Meeting

June 5, 2025

Written Communications

From: [Santosh Rao](#)
To: [City of Cupertino Parks and Recreation Commission](#); [Rachelle Sander](#); [City Clerk](#); [Alex Corbalis, CPRP](#)
Subject: parks and rec facilities overrun by non-residents.
Date: Thursday, June 5, 2025 12:59:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Parks and Rec staff/clerk,

Please include the below in written communications for the upcoming parks and rec commission meeting.

[Writing on behalf of myself only, as a Cupertino resident and taxpayer]

Hi Parks and Rec Commission,

I ask you some fundamental questions below.

I urge you to agendaize these questions in a future agenda item. I implore you to deliberate on these questions. Please make the deliberations actionable such that coming out of your deliberations will be a resolution or a motion to give explicit direction to parks and rec department leadership and staff based on the outcome of your deliberations. Please turn the output into a resolution that shall guide the priorities of parks and rec leadership and staff when future such questions shall arise. If necessary please forward the approved motion or resolution to a city council agenda item to further seek council approval and memorialize a set of edicts on the core charter and purpose of parks and recs facilities and offerings such as but not limited to tennis and pickleball courts.

What is the core purpose of parks and rec facilities such as city parks tennis and pickleball courts?

Is it to exclusively or primarily serve Cupertino residents or non-residents or if both to what ratio should it serve Cupertino residents?

Should our public park sports facilities like tennis courts and pickleball courts be free, paid for annually, pay per use, or free for use but by reservations.

Should all public park tennis courts be for use by reservations with enforcement via gate codes only obtained when a successful reservation is made? Should court gates be lockable and unlocked only via a reservation code ?

Should reservations be allowed for non-residents?

If pay per use, what significant premium should non-residents have to pay?

Should our city tennis and pickleball courts be open to league play whereby a large number of teams consisting of over 80-90% non-residents use the courts take over these facilities courts during peak hours on weekday evenings? Or should the city limit the number of league teams

and apply regulations to limit the uncontrolled growth of these league teams and the number of non-residents they bring in?

As an example I have included screen shots of an upcoming season of USTA league teams and their rosters with city of residence. As you can see ratios are predominantly non-residents.

Should non-residents albeit paying members have input on city policy on the priority and use of parks and rec city facilities? Keep in mind that a league team is 15 - 20 players and a set of 10 league teams can bring in 200 players of which 150 - 175 could be non-residents. If all input is equal as a sheer numbers game non-residents will overwhelm the amount of input that parks and rec can receive and act on.

Is the purpose of any fee charges to recover costs or to serve as profit centers?

Should costs be fully recovered or if partial what is the right % of cost recovery?

Should public works facility maintenance, operations and improvement costs be charged to the parks and rec facility or handled independently under public works budget?

Should cost recovery factor in the public works component. Which can be a sizable factor.

Should any city contracts with vendors offering programs seek to create competitive vendors at the facility so as to improve services and increase revenues to the city from the vendors by achieving competitive RFP bids and improving the profit or revenue sharing split to the city?

Should parks and rec staff operate these facilities with the use of contractors so as to wholly or largely retain the revenue and profits from the operations of any pay for use facilities? Or should these be outsourced to vendors for convenience with the city getting a 10% split in profits?

If wonder why I raise these questions it is because our city offers superior parks and recs infrastructure and offerings compared to neighboring cities and we are inundated with non-residents taking over our facilities be it our free courts in public parks or paid courts in city facilities or in-demand classes, and events. Our public courts are almost unusable for residents. At 6am large groups enter and take over public courts and set camp never to leave while rotating amongst themselves. No resident stands a chance amidst such large group coordinated takeovers.

I will be happy to raise these points and more in front of you at oral comments and public comments but ask that you please agendaize a discussion on these questions with intent to make the output actionable so as to direct staff or to send your recommendation to council so as to have council direct staff.

While you may wonder if these are operational matters let me remind you that the core and fundamental starting question is the matter of the policy setting aspects of what should be the mission and purpose of our parks and rec city facilities and offerings such as but not limited to tennis and pickleball courts. (Using two heavily used examples but could apply to any in-demand parks and rec facility, class, camp or program).

Thanks,

San Rao (writing on behalf of myself only, as a Cupertino resident and taxpayer)

Screen shots of upcoming league season team rosters with city of residence by player

City	Gender	Rating	
San Jose	M	3.5C	
Los Altos	M	3.5C	
San Jose	F	3.5C	
Cupertino	M	3.5s	
San Jose	M	3.5C	
Sunnyvale	F	3.5C	
Sunnyvale	F	4.0C	

San Jose	F	3.5C
Los Altos	F	3.5s
San Jose	M	3.5C
San Jose	F	3.5C
San Jose	M	3.5C
Los Altos	M	3.5C
Cupertino	M	3.0C
Cupertino	F	3.5C
Sunnyvale	F	3.5C

City	Gender	Rating
Cupertino	F	3.0C
Los Altos	F	3.0C
San Jose	M	3.5C
Cupertino	F	3.5C
Cupertino	F	3.5s
San Jose	M	3.5s
Sunnyvale	M	3.5C
Los Altos	F	3.5C
San Jose	M	3.5C
Sunnyvale	M	3.5C

Hayward	F	3.5C
San Jose	F	3.0C
Mountain View	M	4.0C
San Jose	F	3.5C
San Jose	F	3.5C
Sunnyvale	F	3.5C
Saratoga	M	3.5C
Los Altos	M	3.5s
Saratoga	M	3.5C

City	Gender	Rating

City	Gender	Rating
Saratoga	F	3.5C
Cupertino	M	3.5C
San Jose	F	3.5C
CUPERTINO	M	4.0C
Los Altos	M	3.5C
Cupertino	F	3.5C
San Jose	F	3.0C
East Palo Alto	F	4.0C
San Jose	M	3.5C
Cupertino	M	3.5C

Sunnyvale	M	3.0C
San Jose	F	3.5s
San Jose	F	3.5C
San Jose	M	3.5C
San Jose	F	3.0C
Sunnyvale	F	4.0C
Cupertino	M	3.5C
CUPERTINO	F	3.0C
San Jose	M	4.0C
Sunnyvale	F	3.5s

City	Gender	Rating
Santa Clara	M	4.0C
Sunnyvale	M	4.0C
CUPERTINO	M	4.0C
Los Altos	F	4.0C
Sunnyvale	M	4.0C
Mountain View	F	4.0C
San Jose	F	4.0C
San Jose	F	4.5C
Mountain View	F	4.0C

LOS ALTOS	F	4.0C
Los Altos	M	4.0C
San Jose	M	3.5C
Sunnyvale	F	4.0C
Mountain View	M	4.0C
San Jose	F	4.0C
San Jose	M	4.0C