

June 8, 2022

Ms. Mercedes Barcia  
Deputy City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 West Venice Ave.  
Venice, FL. 34285

**Subject:** Request for City Council Hearing Delay for item 21-56P, 3 Pickleball Courts to be built at the Venetian Golf and River Club.

Dear Ms. Barcia:

I am requesting a delay of the 6-28-2022 date set for the Venice City Council hearing on our appeal of the pickle ball courts in order to have more time to prepare our case. We have found significant incompatibility issues that are in violation of the City of Venice comprehensive plan chapter 86.

However, many of the condo owners (those most affected, and I am one) have scattered across the country during the summer season and are not able to attend and lack access to Zoom. This puts us at a severe disadvantage and is unfair. This issue is a highly contentious and is pitting neighbor against neighbor.

There are false and misleading statements, omissions, and inconsistencies in the Project Narrative submitted and in the supporting documents. These issues should have been vetted and cleared up by our community before ever being submitted to the City, but they were not.

Areas of incompatibility and Issues of Concern:

- No resident survey has ever been taken to determine the popularity of this plan. This plan is moving forward with about 80% of our community in opposition. In absence of a Board survey, myself and my colleagues have gathered over 1,000 signatures from residents who are opposed by going door-to-door.
- A credible noise impact study has never been completed. Only an acoustical expert with extensive pickleball court experience would be able to produce a futuristic noise impact study that could be trusted. The noise quotes in the Project Narrative are from a non-expert without the knowledge, equipment, database and training that is required. Assessing noise levels are crucial in order to determine the affect court play will have on surrounding residents.
- Intrusive noise levels will negatively impact closeby residential units causing them to experience a negative quality-of-life and suffer from property devaluation.
- The plan is not consistent with City Admin code 86.23 (m) 2, 5, 9 and 10. The city codes used to deny the Pesaro site last year all apply to this location because of the closeness of housing units (38 homes).City Planning did not use the housing unit closeness precedent when reviewing this plan. That is a gross error from City Planning.
- The pickleball courts contain liabilities and safety issues in the form of an open drain trip-hazard and a required reduced court setback that can result in injuries for players attempting to hit balls in the back court. These liabilities should have been addressed and cleared up before ever reaching the City for review. They were pointed out a long time ago, but the Board chose to avoid the issue.

- There are numerous construction problems that our 2 engineers have found, and errors in the submitted supporting documents. One of which is an increase in the impervious surface and the filling of a retention area. Others exist which must require further evaluation.

We ask to delay this hearing in order to enable us to prepare our case.

Sincerely,



Harvey Feltquate

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