

February 1, 2021

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I would like to make some comments on the PUD Amendment Request 20-37RZ.

As you know, a Master Plan was created for the Venetian Golf and River Club with all recreational facilities located at the River Club, except for the Golf Club. The Master Plan thus gave all buyers of homes a layout of the property so they could make the best choice of any lot/ home they wanted to purchase.

Now there are a number of residents who would like pickle ball courts and a dog park. In hindsight WCI did a poor job of considering any more property to add new recreational amenities. This isn't the fault of those who would like these amenities added. However, it is not the fault of all of the other homeowners to have these recreational amenities close to their property which can and very well injure the quiet enjoyment of their homes and maybe property values. All you have to do is Google "Florida pickle ball community problems" to see pickle Ball issues with homeowners in Florida and to see many sad stories which pitted neighbor against neighbor.

The only logical and correct choice, in my opinion, is to locate any new recreational amenities at the River Club. This isn't impossible to do. Some parking places would be taken for 2 courts and one tennis court could be converted to a hard court which could double as a tennis court or 2 pickle ball courts. This is doable with some down sides. Again, the Master Plan designated all recreational facilities in this location.

Anywhere you place a dog park it will be close to existing homes. Those home owners should not suffer through barking dogs that would degradate the quiet enjoyment of their homes. There is not an appropriate area for a dog park on this property.

The location of the proposed pickle ball and a dog park has many issues:

1. Pickle ball courts under power lines is not a really safe location, in my opinion. The lower power line is only some 30 to 40 feet above the ground. And the VCDD has accepted FPL's risk responsibility that if FPL needs access to their property the pickle ball courts could be damaged or destroyed. This provision is not acceptable to a number of residents.
2. There are at least 15 homes that will be directly impacted by this location. Actually, some 57 home are located within 250 feet according to the PUD amendment documents and therefore affected.
3. The pickle Ball layout looks like the 4 courts will be within 20 to 30 feet from Pesaro Drive. Very close to the road and homes.
4. The dog park right behind the courts would be located close to many homes.
5. The newly proposed location will be $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile or so from the designated recreational area, and will be difficult to control and supervise.
6. Pickle Ball is normally a day light activity. In the amendment request it states "There are no lights proposed" However, for some unexplained reason electrical conduit at a cost of over \$22,000 for the possibility of lights is in the approved plan. Nearby residents do not want lighted courts at this location

and the plan for later lighting should not be approved. This provision needs to be stricken from the plan.

7. There are no bathroom facilities in this location. So, maybe porta johns, or a nearest tree?
8. Even though notices were sent out, very few residents had adequate knowledge of the PUD amendment. In addition, there was no community wide survey conducted to get “full” community input. The project, in my opinion, was not vetted properly with the entire community.
9. There is support for this project, and there is considerable objection also. Both sides need to be heard.
10. Regardless if one home is affected, or dozens, the quiet enjoyment of one’s home should not be interrupted by the noise of a dog park or by people playing pickle ball.

As you may be aware there is a project to facilitate a new park in North Venice. The stakeholders committee which is headed up by the city are meeting on a regular basis. There is funding for the study to find an adequate parcel of land and there is some \$2 million set aside for parks with another \$3 million within the next 5 years. This park will likely happen and would include numerous pickle ball courts, a dog park, and a children’s playground. This new park would be at most a couple of miles from our community. The Pickle Ball Committee should be working with the Stakeholder Committee to provide their input. This new park, in my opinion is the best solution for pickle ball and a dog park that will not cause any harm to exiting homeowners in our community.

I hope all Planning Commissioners will tour the property where the proposed Pickle Ball and Dog Park would be located to see firsthand that location’s issues and take all of it in consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

John Moeckel

It is the location that is the largest issue. The application states there are no other options for the pickle ball courts. Not true. there is room next to the existing tennis courts for 2 Pickle Ball Courts. In addition, just one of the Tennis Courts could be re-modelled to have a hard court. This court could then double as a Tennis Court and Pickle Ball court, thus giving a total of 4 Pickle Ball courts for use. There would need to be some cooperation with the tennis activities. The objection was parking. This situation is very rare. This is in the controlled and supervised recreational area and already has bathrooms and within the approved Master Plan for the community. Additionally, when the Master Plan was created, all recreational facilities except for golf would be located in one area. All people who bought into the community understood this and bought their properties based on this Master Plan. The newly proposed location will be ¾ of a mile or so from the designated recreational area, and will be difficult to control and supervise.

I'm opposed to a dog park on the property. The issue would be the dog noise from that park. Everyone in the community is entitled to the quiet enjoyment of their properties. Those properties nearby the dog park would be subjected to any noise from that park on a daily basis. Property values have suffered in other Florida communities when added Pickle Ball and dog parks were added after the communities were established. Property values for the close by properties here may suffer also..

There are as many as 15 properties that will be directly impacted by this modification to the Master Plan. The application says one home is close by, not true. The proposed plan call for the pickle ball courts to be 40 or 50 feet from Pesaro Drive. This is very close to a number of existing homes. Even though notices were sent out, very few residents had adequate knowledge of the amendment. In addition, there was no community survey conducted to get "full" community input. The project, in my opinion, was not vetted with the entire community.

I have read the documents submitted by the VCDD and there are misleading statements. The one that comes most to my attention is that there is overwhelming support, with very little mention of the opposition. This is very misleading and not fair to the residents that have major issues with this location of Pickle Ball and Dog Park. There is considerable opposition.

The property selected is directly underneath FPL power lines. The lowest of those power lines are only approximately 40 feet off the ground. There are dangers with having Pickle Ball counts under those power lines. I hope all Planning Commissioners will tour the property where the proposed Pickle Ball and Dog Park would be located. The best location is near the tennis courts where the other recreational activities are located.

Pickle Ball is normally a day light activity. In the amendment request it states "There are no lights proposed" However, for some unexplained reason electrical conduit at a cost of over \$22,000 for the possibility of lights is in the approved plan. Nearby residents do not want lighted courts at this location and the plan for later lighting should not be approved.

As you may be aware there is a project to facilitate a new park in North Venice. The stakeholders committee which is headed up by the city are meeting on a regular basis. There is funding for the study to find an adequate parcel of land and there is some \$2 million set aside for parks with another \$3 million within the next 5 years. This park will likely happen and would include numeros pickle ball courts, a dog park, and a childrens play groung. This new prk would be at most a couple of miles form our community.

I ask that you do not approve this modification to our PUD. There are many significant problems with it for our residents.

John Moeckel

From: [Rebecca Paul](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#)
Subject: FW: Pickelball Courts in Venetian
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:38:27 AM

Thank you,
Rebecca

Rebecca Paul
Planning Coordinator
City of Venice
401 W. Venice Ave.
Venice, FL 34285
(941) 882-7434
rpaul@venicegov.com



From: Susie Lentile <slentile@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:28 PM
To: Rebecca Paul <RPaul@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Pickelball Courts in Venetian

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I'd like to register my opinion on having Pickelball courts in the VG&RC. I'd love to see such an amenity available to our fine community not only for health reasons, but for socialization and to add to our community for selling purposes! It would be a wonderful addition and many people now and in the future would benefit from it. Little noise, quick turnover of games so many benefit and lots of laughter. Please allow this in our wonderful community! Susie Lentile (resident and former member of the Board of Supervisors).

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: Pickle ball courts in the Venetian golf and river club
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:23:40 AM

Lori Stelzer, MMC
City Clerk
City of Venice
401 W. Venice Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
941-882-7390
941-303-3486 (cell)

-----Original Message-----

From: Sheila LeFevre <swlefevre76@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 6:05 PM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Pickle ball courts in the Venetian golf and river club

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Dear Sirs,

I wish to object to the proposed pickle ball courts under the power lines in Venice Golf and River Club. I live on Pesaro Drive, from which they would be accessed. It is a narrow road. When someone is parked in the street, other motorists have to pass in single file around them. The confusion and delay getting to our houses from parking and traffic would be excessive. I live three houses away from the proposed courts. Isn't there some kind of zoning rule that would prohibit building a facility like the one proposed in a quiet residential neighborhood? The noise and traffic could potentially be very disturbing and could impact both quality of life and house values.

In addition, structures are not built under power lines for several good reasons including access for FPL trucks and potential injuries to persons underneath them. Even now the poles are being changed in the proposed areas.

Many of the houses on this street were built 15 or more years ago. Why a pickle ball court now? Empty house lots could have been set aside for these courts in the past.

If this proposal is approved by the town, my husband and I plan to join with our neighbors in bringing legal action to stop it.

Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely Sheila LeFevreMD

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed VGRC dog park / pickleball courts
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:23:40 AM

Lori Stelzer, MMC
City Clerk
City of Venice
401 W. Venice Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
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941-303-3486 (cell)

From: Robert Pentecost <robt.pentecost@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 6:13 PM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Proposed VGRC dog park / pickleball courts

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Sir / Madam:

I live at 225 Pesaro Dr. near the proposed dog park / pickleball courts which are set for a public hearing on February 2. Please register my opposition to the project.

If built, this proposal will significantly reduce the peace and quiet presently enjoyed by those of us who live nearby. Vehicle and pedestrian traffic will increase and insufficient parking spaces will cause dangerous on-street parking on our narrow roadway. In addition, excessive noise and light pollution will be introduced.

These undesirable effects will almost certainly reduce values of nearby homes. **At present, the three homes nearest this project are all up for sale!** Two of them have been on the market for over a year and remain unsold even in today's brisk seller's market.

This project will unfairly increase POA fees for all homeowners, including those who will not use the facilities and whose home values will be reduced.

This project will be a detriment to me and my family and we oppose it.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Pentecost
225 Pesaro Dr.
North Venice
(706) 306-4100

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Tyler Cassell](#)
Cc: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: RE: Please Do NOT approve the VGRC proposed plan for pickleball courts and dog park
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 4:30:41 PM

Mr. Cassell,

Thank you for your email. It will be provided to the planning commission; however, the agenda has already been published so it will not be included in the agenda materials.

Lori Stelzer, MMC
 City Clerk
 City of Venice
 401 W. Venice Avenue
 Venice, FL 34285
 941-882-7390
 941-303-3486 (cell)

From: Tyler Cassell <CarnesCassell@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 2:56 PM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Please Do NOT approve the VGRC proposed plan for pickleball courts and dog park

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Ref: City of Venice Public Hearing Notice Feb 2, 2021

Ms. Stelzer and City of Venice Planning and Zoning Authorities:

The purpose of this email is to advise you that I fully support the concerns expressed in the emails addressed to the City Council by Anthony Pirrotti, Esq and Cathy Cardona. Additionally, I support that the alternative suggestions submitted by Tyler Cassell be explored.

The pickleball courts and dog park should not be built on the easement under the FPL high voltage wires for the following reasons:

- The site presents serious safety issues for the Venetian residents and guests. The potential danger is supported by 3 recent documented "events" of electrical malfunction in this vicinity.
- The National Safety Code further substantiates the risk as it states: "It is of paramount importance not to erect buildings and structures, such as ...billboards, playground equipment, tall fences and other obstructions under high voltage lines. Obstructions in

the right of way are dangerous... They become even more of a problem during periods of peak electricity usage, when power lines can sag significantly due to heavy loading".

- Further proof of the hazard is legally acknowledged by FPL in the right of way Agreement signed by the Venetian Golf and River Club CDD Board. Paragraph #8 states: "Licensee agrees to warn its employees, agents, contractors and invitees of the fact that the electrical facilities...are of high voltage electricity."
- The right of way Agreement allows FPL to pass an unnecessary financial risk to the CDD and homeowners. Paragraph #10 states: "The use of Lands by Licensee (CDD) shall be at the sole risk and expense of Licensee and FPL is specifically relieved of any responsibility for damage or loss..." The CDD Board should seek a safe location or other alternatives rather than expose the community to the financial risks of injury claims, increased insurance premiums.
- Unacceptable noise levels, increased traffic and intrusive lighting, will undoubtedly negatively impact the value of those homes in the vicinity which were purchased with the understanding that no activity would be undertaken on the FPL easement. This is unfair and unacceptable.

Pleased do not approve the permit for Pickleball Courts/Dog Park at the VGRC proposed location

Thank you.

Elana Carnes

201 Medici Terrace, North Venice, FL 34275

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: Public hearing re courts & dog park in Venetian Golf River Club
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:25:57 AM

Lori Stelzer, MMC
City Clerk
City of Venice
401 W. Venice Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
941-882-7390
941-303-3486 (cell)

From: venicegov@venicegov.com <venicegov@venicegov.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:46 PM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Public hearing re courts & dog park in Venetian Golf River Club

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Message submitted from the <Venice, FL> website.

Site Visitor Name: Karlene Abram
Site Visitor Email: kkabram2003@gmail.com

I oppose the addition of pickle ball courts on Pesaro. I wouldn't want courts going up next to me. I think the property is more suited for a dog park but with entrance from Laurel & the park closer to Laurel rather than Pesaro.

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: To Disapprove and Reject the VGRC Plan for Pickleball Courts and Dog Park
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:28:54 AM
Attachments: [City Council Testimony Final.docx](#)

Lori Stelzer, MMC
City Clerk
City of Venice
401 W. Venice Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
941-882-7390
941-303-3486 (cell)

From: Tyler Cassell <CarnesCassell@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 12:20 PM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: To Disapprove and Reject the VGRC Plan for Pickleball Courts and Dog Park

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Reference: Public Hearing by Venice City Council on February 2, 2021

PUD Amendment Request 20-37ZR
Site and Development Plan Request 20-38SP

I fully disapprove of this plan due to the hazards and dangers by encroaching in the FPL right-of-way.

Attached is my written testimony.

Thank you,
Tyler Cassell - VGRC resident
201 Medici Terrace
Nokomis, FL 34275
(941) 882-4515 Land
(917) 202-0448 Cell

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: Venice Golf and River Club Public hearing 2/2 at 1 pm regarding pickle ball courts
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:12:43 AM

Lori Stelzer, MMC
 City Clerk
 City of Venice
 401 W. Venice Avenue
 Venice, FL 34285
 941-882-7390
 941-303-3486 (cell)

From: marcia camp <marcy5200@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:44 AM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Venice Golf and River Club Public hearing 2/2 at 1 pm regarding pickle ball courts

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

The construction of a pickle ball court, dog park and parking lot under the power lines at VGRC is UNACCEPTABLE for these reasons:

1. The property values will decrease substantially in that area due to noise levels from added traffic, barking dogs, and pickle ball play. What's next, a playground?
2. The homeowners in this area did not buy into this pristine community with knowledge of the above listed property additions and therefore it is not reasonable to consider these additions as an option at this location.
3. Although there is no proof of cancer related incidents, there continues to be research which suggests that the effects of exposure can cause brain tumors and Leukemia in children and adults.

Is it possible to pay to share the Dog Park already built that is rarely used across the street from VGRC?

Are there no other areas being considered for pickleball in the entire community of VGRC?

As a homeowner, it is the vital to this community that safety of our residents, peaceful surroundings, and property values take priority over extra curricular activities.

What is the added insurance liability premium for such risks? Does the insurance include tail coverage for incidents of cancer in the future?

What is the overall effect of lower property values to the area? And is VGRC subject to class action lawsuits?

I am a dog owner and have lived in a community with a Dog Park. People were constantly complaining about the noise factor; even those who lived a fair distance away. Keep in mind that a dog Park is open from early morning until dusk every day.

Also, I love sports and am considering taking up Pickle Ball. However I demand from this community an alternative plan.

Thank you,

Marcia Camp
133 Medici Terrace
8602021052

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Good Afternoon we Mark and Suzanne Jerry are property owners within the Venetian Community at 118 Savona Way .

Addressing today the site and development plan request 20-38SP: To construct Pickleball Courts and a Dog Park , along with Parking and associated improvements at 200 Pesaro Drive (Portion of Parcel No. 0373001050)

Thankyou Venice City Planning Commission Members for permitting commentary during this hearing and a special thank you to the Venetian Committee Members who have dedicated countless hours over the past 3 years studying the feasibility and trying to determine a suitable location of two very desirable warranted appealing amenities for the residents who live in the Venetian River & Golf Club Community. We are in favor of creating both the Pickle Ball Courts and Dog Park however we have reservations and many concerns about the suitability of the proposed location for these amenities. Our first concern is the rational of building these amenities positioned under the High Voltage Power Grid Line area . A second rather alarming concern is the existence of not one but two amenities that elicit continuous disturbing noise all day long on land that is not suitable for Park or Recreational use given the existence of many impacted homes along Pasaro Drive , Savona Way and Medici Terrace . These homes would be negatively impacted by this proposal if approved. Why are two known irritating NOISE producing amenities paired together at one site given the surrounding homes that presently enjoy peaceful tranquility in their lanais that currently face the Pesaro Parcel.

Folks do venture to this parcel with their dogs singly to throw balls on the green space that exists and the well behaved dogs enjoy a good romp in an unfenced area that is green space. We don't need to tar the space and create sound boards for NOISE amplification by building cement Pickleball Courts. Pickleball is played with a hard paddle and hard rubber ball and makes a very irritating popping sound which

reportedly sounds a bit like a gun being fired. On a Sunday in the Community we can hear gun fire sounds rather far away . Barking sounds can travel far as well . Today while walking our dog, two dogs started barking at another dog rather far away I turned around and was surprised how piercing that sound was from a distance of 5 houses away. The distance between us was several hundred yards away yet the noise rather irritating. I started to think and imagine those sounds all day long amplified by ponds that sit on that Pesaro Drive Parcel 200 along with the popping gun shot sounds of hard rubber balls hitting a hard wooden paddle. Add to that not 2 courts of 8 players but the proposed 4 courts of 16 players and the other proposed Dog Park amenity with a few large dogs rough housing around and a few smaller higher pitched dogs enjoying a playful romp together . Add to that the voices of the folks hitting and missing shots and folks gathering together and the reverie and hullabaloo of the noise that is often present at the Tennis Club but those play times are softened by soft strung tennis rackets and clay courts so decibel levels are far more tolerable. This quiet under the high wire voltage now green grid area becomes an amplified stereo system blasting neighbors with unwanted noise all day long . This is not a traditional green space area typically suited to these type of considered amenities and certainly not the most desirable setting for these amenities , not the likely Park Recreational approved setting but an area that requires a lot of special provisions given its erected purpose.

We understand that sometimes like Congress if you lump two items together the chances of getting something passed is greater. In this case the rational is pair the two together and save on the cost of construction and push through two items something everyone wants if not the Dog Park , the Pickle Ball amenity . However these two amenities belong in Park like designated lands and are both extremely loud recreational activities. Both amenities are important and benefit many residents and the Pickle Ball Courts are now a very popular amenity in Communities for all age groups. Dog Parks have their problems with

management of the behaviors exhibited and possible injuries incurred. We believe we live in a community that honors that respectful courteous graceful approach to civility and creating a DOG Park can be a wonderful entity rather than a challenging amenity given its considerate residents. We don't feel the two amenities should be paired and allocated to the same site for many reasons. Foremost is the NOISE factor. We advocate for the Paw Park but feel its location should be at the rear of the Pasaro Drive lot at the very back of the lot so that parking is created near Laurel Rd and the Dog Park is also at the rear of the lot so that Venetian Residents on Pasaro Drive, Medici Terrace and Savona Way are not negatively impacted by the NOISE .

The MILANO Community on Jacaranda near us created their Dog Park outside their community with an access off of Jacaranda Blvd a town road with a parking area just off road and then a gated entry area for the Dogs with fenced play area that requires a key card entry . It is a much smaller park than we hope Venetian creates but it sets precedent. Why can't VRGC set up a parking area off Laurel Rd and then create the DOG PAW PARK area behind that so it sits to the far back of the lot and doesn't impact homeowners. No visual or auditory impact that is objectionable. Certainly locating the Dog Park closer to Pasaro Drive raises many legitimate objections related to infringements related to noise ordinances etc.

We oppose the creation of both amenities on the Pasaro Drive Parcel as it unfairly impacts the quality of life for its residents who live closest to the site, several Pasaro Drive, Medici Terrace and Savona Way home owners. However a back lot Laurel Rd Paw Park may be a conciliatory wise measure to appease everyone . A lot of Dog Parks have multiple entrances and the recommendation is the creation of two different areas for big and small dogs and an elongated not square shaped Dog Park area with numerous buffers to prevent chase scenarios and butting runs at one another . Entry by a long driveway off Pasaro Drive and an entry parking lot access off Laurel may be a solution . We don't know what the proposal looks like.

We do feel the amenities don't need to be paired . We do feel better options exist on separate parcels without the need to pair two NOISE producing amenities together. We want to see them both as Communities around us are offering these outlets and we should as well growing recreational opportunities and desirable offerings within Venetian to grow with the times .

We are not convinced that FAR MORE SUITABLE sites don't exist for both of these amenities, not together but on separate parcels . We feel and we are not alone in this belief that The PICKLE BALL Courts should be built in the unused parking lot that sits directly behind Tennis Courts 5 & 6 at the RIVER CLUB. Other residents feel this is a more viable suitable location than the HIGH POWER GRID LINE parcel area proposed at the Pasaro Parcel.

So the big questions we ask ??? ISthe generated NOISE created by Pickle Ball Courts out of place for the environment it is planned for under the power lines ,that answer is YES. NEXT question ?? IS this a park area where you expect to hear an array of NOISE, the answer in this case is NO . Would the Noise be a problem if located closer to the RIVER CLUB near other court areas? That answer is NO . The COURTS belong at the RIVER CLUB . UNDER THE HIGH WIRE GRID IS NOT A WISE PLACEMENT for many reasons including the emissions of electricity from said GRID. There exists a large parking area that is not utilized behind Tennis Courts 5 & 6 at the River Club near all of the other fitness facilities offerings, where parking exists, where bathrooms, bubblers, the racket pro club offices and scheduled courts are posted.

It doesn't make sense to create a Pickle Ball courts near a more residential setting because that will negatively impact existing homes given that it is a known irritant as reported and easily verified on the internet . Just google Pickleball Courts complaints and you will see that many have been erected without proper protocols and are creating

vast problems with neighboring residents. It is not just the Courts but the noise when it becomes a gathering site as well and the traffic and tarred surface areas that are created where green space existed. Accoustic fencing and barriers need to be factored into any proposal and an acoustic abatement engineer which then creates an upward spiraling cost of 20K-30 K for just these considerations. Our preference would be a cement wall enclosure around the amenities unless they are set far back by Laurel Rd. Noise levels where these courts have been built not factoring all these considerations in has become a nightmare for home owners living near the amenities and Town Council Members who permitted the builds to take place and then have to determine how to rectify and mitigate the problem with costly barriers. If it was problematic for other Councils when they were erected without considering the ramifications of the noise factor on its residents why would we permit them to be built under a HIGH POWER ELECTRICAL GRID where they don't belong anyway.

The Dog Park could also easily be created at the other end of the Power GRID off Veneto Blvd. Has the committee looked into the feasibility of the High Voltage Grid Line lands that sit directly off of Veneto Blvd approaching the River Club . There is a rather substantial piece of land after Cipriani on Veneto Blvd. closer to the River Club. The parking area already exists on a grassy area off a cement block exit ramp there not on Golf lands and the land to the left of the entry area is a long rectangular elongated grassy area that has natural brush buffers and does not impose on residents visual or auditory senses . It is a rather large area that could easily be fenced in and has natural sound cushioning around it not infringing on any residents views . I have photos of these sites I have embellished with text to share and will send these along to interested parties for consideration and reply to the merits of these sites or the rational for why they were bypassed or rejected for consideration

Have you factored into this proposal the cost of hiring an abatement noise engineer and the cost related to the studies of decibel levels emitted by the courts once they are erected to determine what the necessary structures need to be built to help muffle , contain, cushion the NOISE . That NOISE factor is a clear and present danger that will reek havoc with complaints . It is a real problem now within other communities that have built these PickleBall COURTS , communities that built courts before studying the noise impact or making necessary acoustic fencing barrier considerations . Presently there is a great deal of internet news related to real problems in communities where these factors have not been considered with legal class action suits being taken and levied by its residents related to the impact the creation of Pickleball courts have had on neighboring residents.

Apparently numerous considerations need to be factored into construction of these Courts including : the contour of the landscape , homes within 300 to 600 yards , sound amplifiers like ponds & nearby golf courses landscapes . The recommendations vary dependent on the acceptable noise ordinances in place in communities . Certain decibel levels are an auditory irritation causing extreme anxiety , frustration & anger among residents . Many courts have tried to rectify the situation and erected at great costs solid fencing or cement wall barriers and the direction the courts face... studies need to be conducted to determine barriers needed , some are built with berms and then fencing . There are 4 ponds in the immediate vicinity of the proposed pickle ball courts and water amplifies the sound and allows it to travel especially smaller bodies of water . Have you considered just a build of two courts for starters rather than the 4 and locate these in the parking lot area behind Tennis Courts 5 & 6 ? What is the cost differential of building them at the Club House vs the Pesaro Drive proposed parcel ?

Certainly we see the value of a dog park and applaud the efforts and ingenuity in the task of sourcing the land to meet the needs and don't disagree with expenditure. We are encouraged by the efforts in getting the proposal to the Venice City Council but feel ill informed about the actual perimeters of just what it all looks like from a birds eye map view. We apologize to the well intentioned group of residents who have pursued this avenue and you may have studied these concerns and have remedies and wise decisions we are not privy to . However we could not find information related to the particulars showing the parcel with any drawings to give it any proper consideration with renderings that show how far the set back the proposed amenities will sit related to the NOTICE that arrived about the Hearing. We have not been able to find notes sharing the Venetian Committees proposal with an actual site plan or specifics. No one yet is privy to the actual onsite drawings of the proposed location of the parking lot , Dog Park and Pickleball Courts which we found rather frustrating , so hoping todays presentation will reveal the exact location of these proposed amenities and why the other sites we saw as more suitable are not being pursued as build sites. We apologize if there is information readily available that we couldn't find in reports available to Venetian Residents clarifying our questions .

We oppose the Pickle Ball Court construction on this Pesaro Drive parcel and advocate for the Dog Park on this site but ONLY IF Laurel Rd is the access utilized for parking and then the PAW PARK area is located again near the parking lot area at the rear of this Parcel again near Laurel Rd to minimize impact on Venetian Residents. We oppose a Dog Park and parking area close to the Pasaro Drive roadway. If this is not possible, we advocate for it to remain as an open green tranquil space where people can throw a ball away from the road area without fencing as residents do presently. No tar pavement parking area is needed.

The proposal of two rather noisy amenities existing in an area now that is not presently designated for this use under high tension power grid

lines creates a big impact scenario we are opposed to. It requires a variance for approval but should also require a notification to all impacted local home owners / residents within the sound impact zone which has yet to be studied and the cost of auditory engineering consultants is a great expense but more information should be gleaned and shared about the sound impact , buffers needed and the true perimeters and specifications of the proposed location not the reference we received on a postal card that was difficult to determine what portion of the parcel was being proposed / considered for which amenities. We need the true renderings presented. We received the post card Notice of Hearing from the city of Venice but several neighbors did not. The map showing the parcel was not helpful and we had great difficulty interpreting the map provided. We went online to satellite zoom into the land but very unclear what portion of that parcel would house just what.

We do not support both amenities on the proposed Pesaro property and oppose the Pickle Ball Court amenity there and feel residents with existing homes should not be negatively impacted given the decidedly dual facility noise impact level that will exist and become a strain on nearby residence enjoyment of their homes and will also negatively impact the resale value of their homes.

The amenities are needed and increase home value for most residents. We are encouraged and appreciative of the preliminary work spearheaded by the Venetian Committee but question the location hoping that several factors are also guaranteed in the proposed expenditures of money to achieve the amenities such as the construction of perhaps a cement wall enclosure to mitigate the noise factor that will occur or the creation of soil bank berms , fencing and plantings that create a greener looking site to help absorb the noise factor that can not be masked unless it is muffled .

We understand that the proposal may be tabled for future consideration and discussion today : However if this proposal presented by the VGRC is awarded approval to proceed we have grave concerns and would ask that stipulations exist related to mitigation of the NOISE and strict regulations around usage of the courts/dog park would reflect oversight to insure residential courtesies .

Many assurances would need to be provided related to the use of these amenities. Park hours for Dogs and Pickleball court times would need to be restricted. Will there be lighting or water supply for the residents and dogs using the dual park area? Would there be a fob system that players or dog owners utilize for entry so that entrance can be controlled by a timer device and dog park owners can be monitored in the event issues arise with a dog presence that becomes problematic. A web cam could be installed so residents can determine if amenities are in use to gauge time to visit the amenity if resident wishes to go at a quieter less active time on the courts or at the park. Will dog owners be expected to register their dogs and provide proof of vaccinations to utilize the facility. Will there be a supply of water for dogs or a hose off area? Will there be designated areas for large and small dogs with two different fenced in areas. Larger communities do this rather effectively and it results in fewer injuries and misunderstandings given that size matters with dogs. Will dog owners pay a fee to utilize the park either monthly, seasonally or yearly to assist with the management of the park and hopefully ability to evolve the dog park into a desirable realm with hopefully a covered tiki like roofed shaded area with picnic tables set on a ground level cement platform for its residents to congregate socially?

We want to see a dog park in the Venetian Community but it does require a sound impedance structures natural or otherwise to muffle the barks for its nearby residents who haven't had to contend with barking dogs during the day? The park could evolve into a nicer park over time dependent on its use. We have lived in other communities in the Naples area that have lovely well thought out Paw Parks with fob systems, a water fountain bubbler for residence and a spicket below to

draw water for the dogs, hose off areas and nicely constructed resident shade covered structures with Tiki roofs. Many residents who do not utilize but still pay CDD fees for the club, tennis courts, pool, exercise classes due to physical limitations, age mobility issues, work schedules etc could enjoy the social interactions with others daily in a dog park. For some folks it may be their only outlet during the day, folks who have lost a spouse or recently had surgery but have a dog that is a therapeutic dog with needs as well. It is a wonderful mental health outlet for owner and dog. Dogs have their purpose and so do Dog Parks. Dog parks appeal to buyers and assist sellers but the land has to be suitable and not impede the welfare of nearby home owners who bought before the existence of the amenity and its noise factor could even conceivably be a pipe dream for others due to existing restrictions related to land use & allotted erected structures. Variances exist for a reason because restrictive land use is why some folks buy the homes and land they do to insure nothing disturbs their view or their peaceful abodes.

We want to see the dog park here in Venetian both applaud and appreciate everyones efforts to do this. We love dogs have a dog and find walking the community daily with a poop bag in hand for an hour with no place to dispose of it rather a nuisance. We almost didn't buy here because we wanted a community with a dog park and I have heard folks who did buy elsewhere because a dog park doesn't exist. Dogs that attend the park should be temperament tested and have non-aggressive personalities. We believe we live in a community that honors that respectful courteous graceful approach to civility and this can work but only if the allocated area considers to impact on existing homes and that impact is not negative but aims to do everything possible to limit the noise factor and visual alteration of green space by creating the right look to mask with plantings an improved space with attractive plantings and well conceived planning that truly adds to the value of homes for all residents. Right now the Golf Maintenance building detracts from the ambience of the site itself and the exit gate area is

also a bit of an eyesore area. Lenmar controls the Golf Maintenance areas presently so that eye sore unfortunately exists and impacts the design of what you can achieve working around what exists there but hope Venetian Landscape and Architect committees can make this work as a true welcoming appealing amenity.

Thank you for your pursuit of these realms for the Venetian just hope you can adjust and alter proposal ideas to accommodate all Venetian residents legitimate concerns and the impact is a balance of positive solutions for all . Thank you for your patience allowing us to share our concerns , questions and suggestions .

Thank you for you time today

Mark and Suzanne Jerry

118 Savona Way



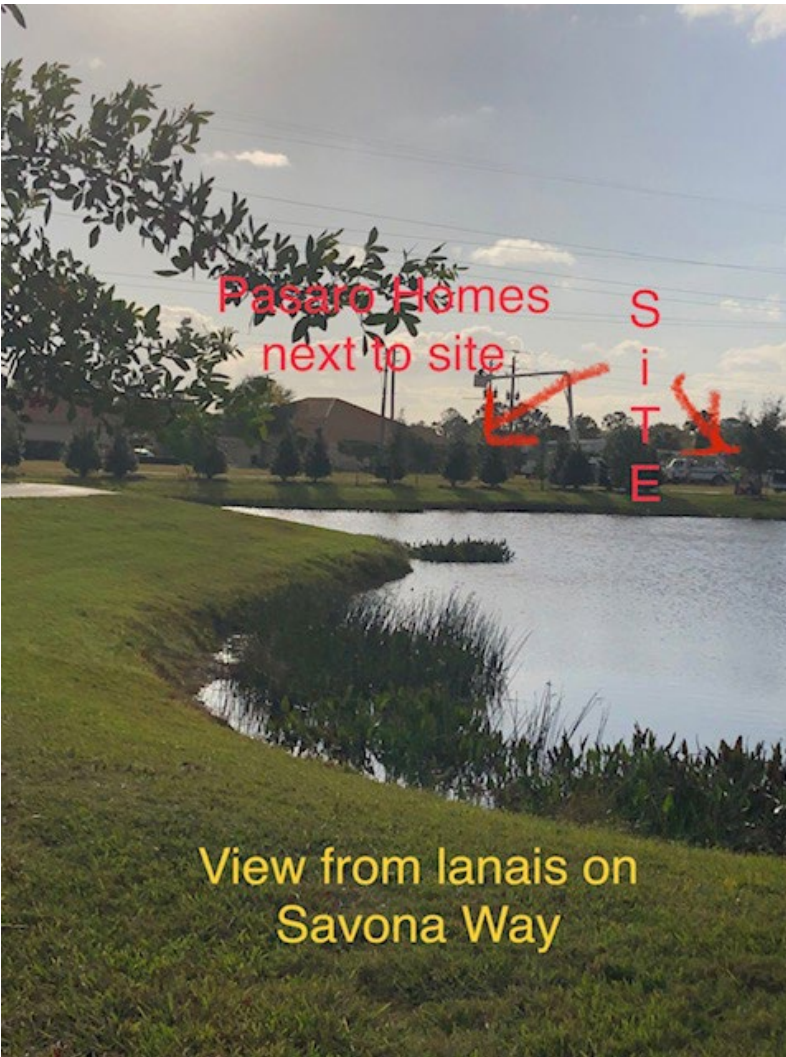


Homes next to
proposed build
within few hundred
yards on Pasaro Dr



Homes on Savona impacted





Pasaro Homes
next to site

S
i
T
E

View from lanais on
Savona Way



Home on
Pasaro

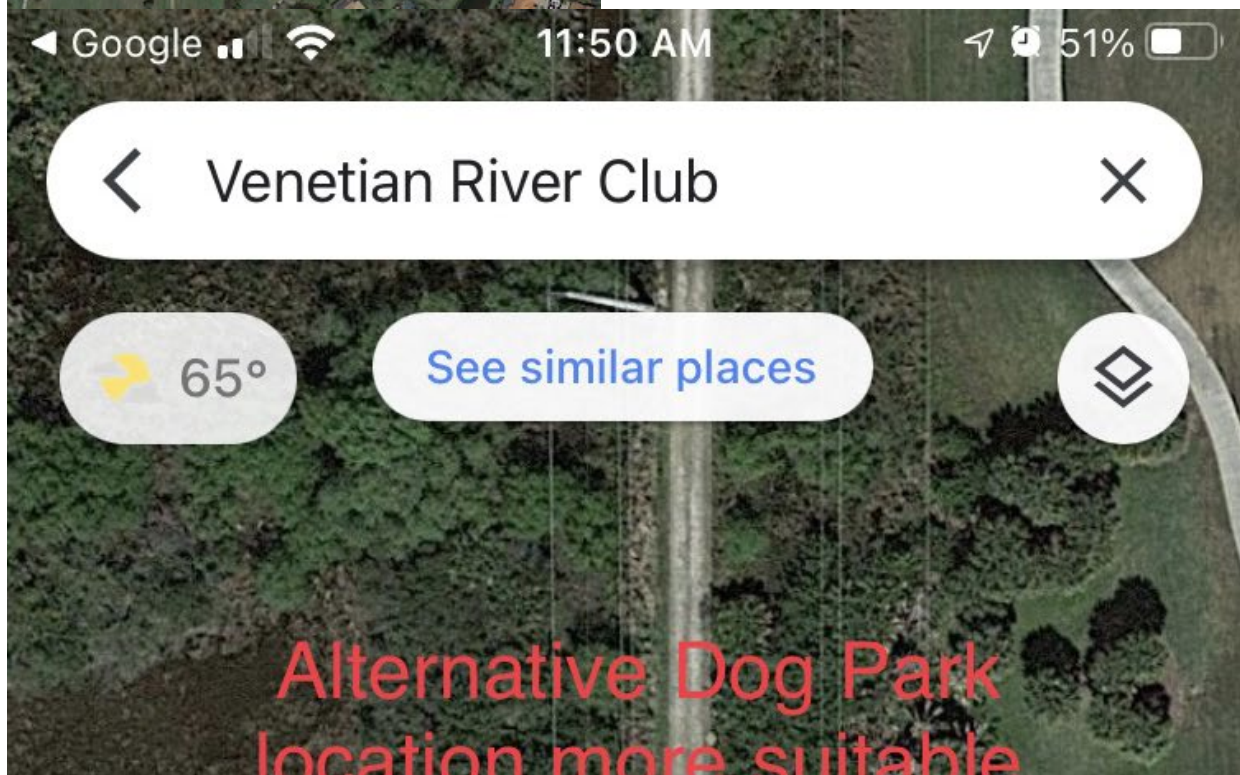
Site area Proposed

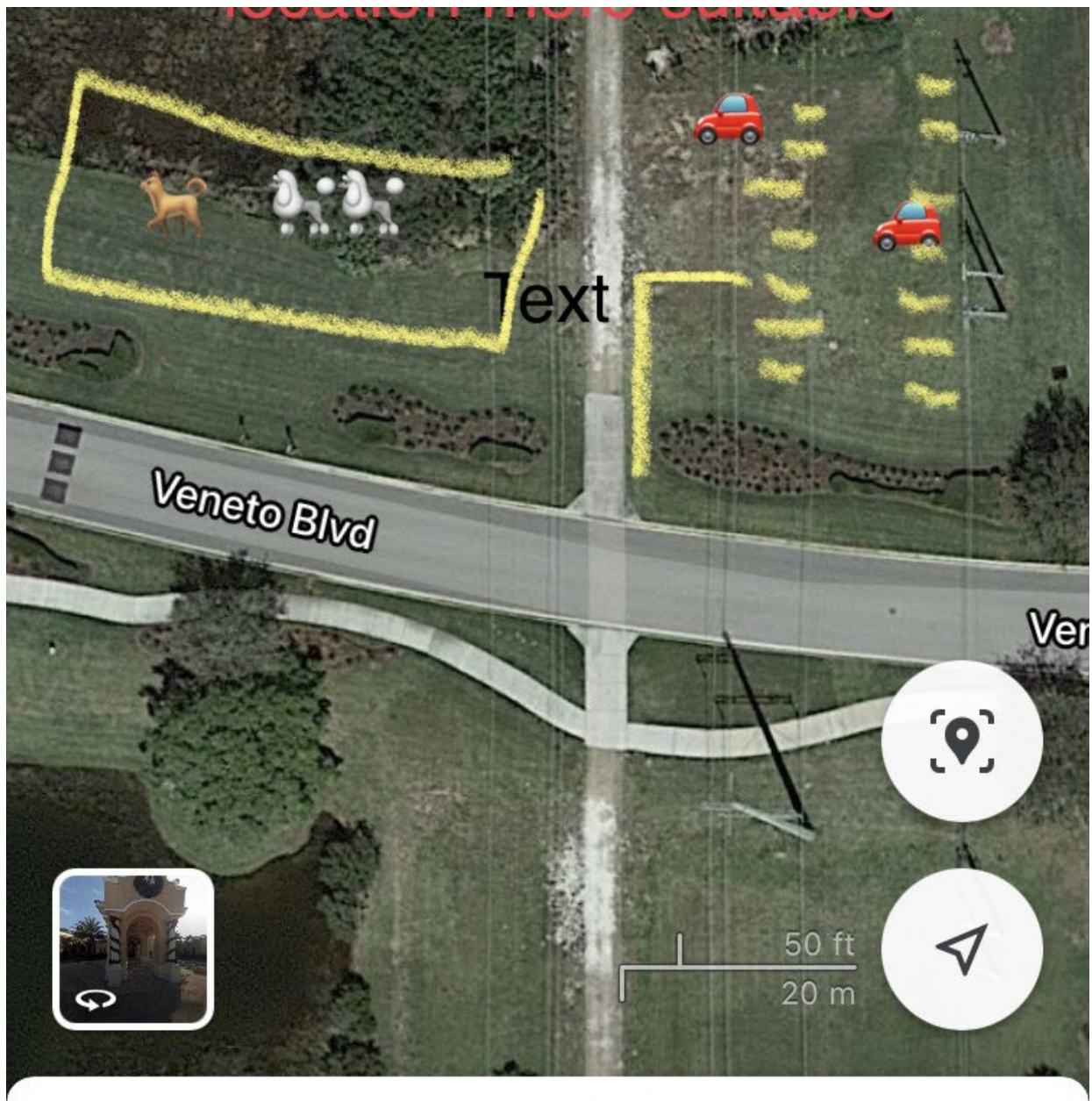
View from our
lanai presently
a tranquil spot











Venetian River Club

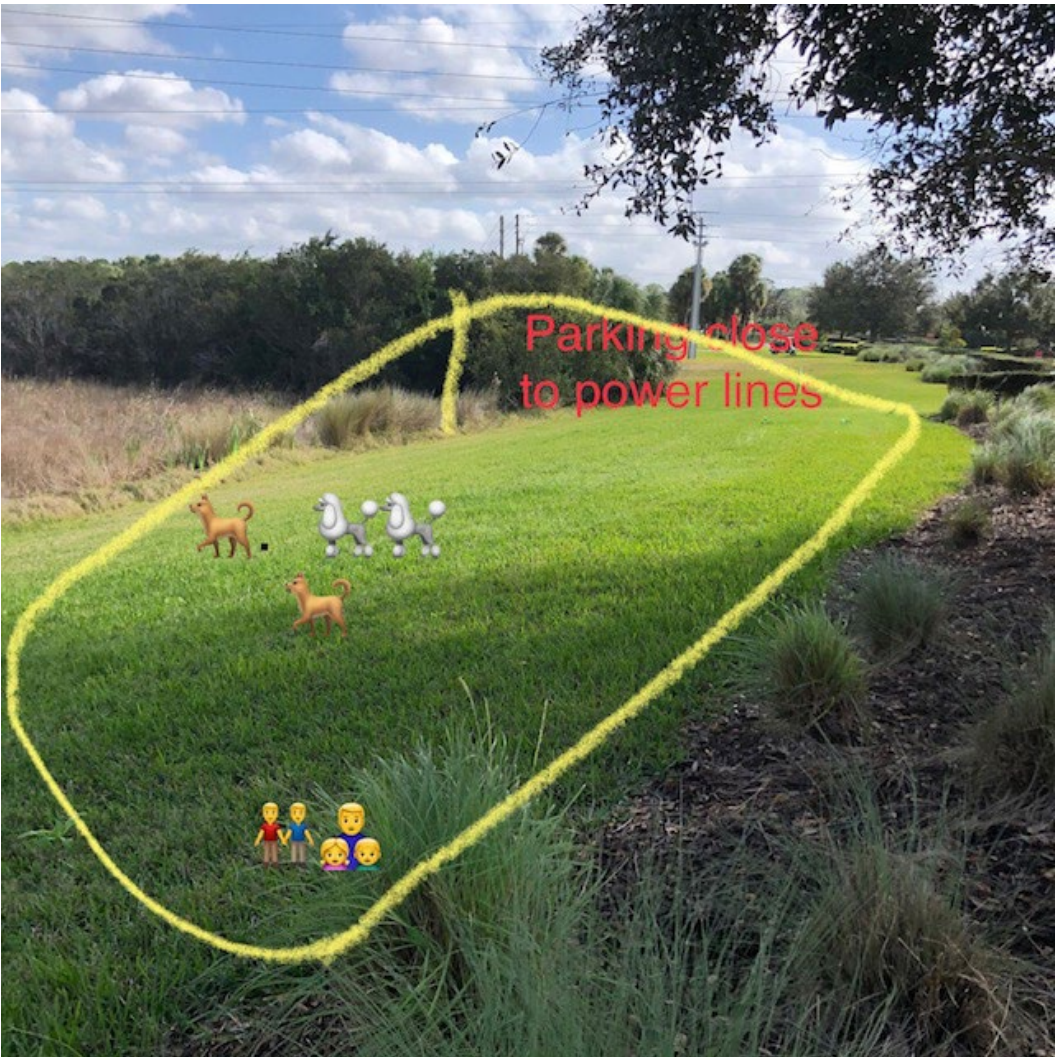
4.8 ★★★★★ (80)

A photograph of a grassy field with trees in the background under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the image in yellow.

Natural Sound Buffers
No nearby residents
Venetian Bld under power lines
away from Golf course areas too
Parking exists easily & long
rectangular area for Dog park



Veneto Blvd Site 
Alternative to
consider



Parking close
to power lines





This area parking no need
to tar it

Dog area runs east to west





Entrance exists
already off
Venetian Blvd









Pickle Ball Courts belong here due to auditory annoyance issues near existing courts and club amenities



Space for Pickle Ball
Courts here at River
Club in this never
utilized parking area
behind courts 5 & 6



- Pickle Ball Courts here not on Persaro Parcel



Not utilized River club parking
area behind Tennis Courts
5 & 6

Height of season only 2-3 cars in
this parking area Pickle Ball Courts
should go here



Pickle Ball
Courts
belong here
at River Club





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Mark A. Jerry
PO Box 914
Morrisonville, NY 12962-0914
or 118 Savona Way
NT. Venice , FL 34275
(518) 569-7200
markajerry1@gmail.com

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: Dig park & pickle ball court
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:12:46 PM

From: Annette Kornik <annettekornik@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:56 PM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com> **Subject:**
Fwd: Dig park & pickle ball court

From: Annette Kornik <annettekornik@yahoo.com>
Date: February 1, 2021 at 1:53:25 PM EST
To: lstelzer@vanicegov.com
Subject: Dig park & pickle ball court

To all Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my opinion on the proposed dog park and pickle ball court at the VGRC. It is my, and my husband Peter's, opinion that we should not move forward with this project.

Part of the appeal of the VGRC is the tranquility found here. Neither of the two proposed projects protect that. Instead of enhancing the community, I am afraid it would lessen the value of living here.

Thank you for allowing us to share our opinion. If you wish to reach us, you may contact myself at (603)913.5863 or Peter at (603)913.9096.

Sincerely,

Annette Kornik
(210 Medici Terrace

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: Public Hearing PUD Amendment Request 20-37RZ
Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:02:16 AM

Lori Stelzer, MMC
 City Clerk
 City of Venice
 401 W. Venice Avenue
 Venice, FL 34285
 941-882-7390
 941-303-3486 (cell)

From: ALAN SCHAEFERKLAUS <alan442@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:38 PM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Public Hearing PUD Amendment Request 20-37RZ

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

To: Planning Commission of the City of Venice

Regarding the pickleball courts and dog park in Venetian Golf and River Club:
 We urge the commission to deny this request for several reasons.

Noise:

Our house is 4 lots away from the proposed courts. Pickleball is very noisy, much more so than tennis.

According to a report on News7 Miami airing March 2019 the noise was described as " Chinese water torture." "You can sit by the pool but you can't relax." It is suggested homes be no closer than 500 feet from the court. There is a house right next to the proposed courts.

Even with noise mitigation including quieter balls and rackets which could be required the distinct noise from pickleball can be intolerable. *Some noise may be tolerable but this day long noise so close to homes is not.*

Not Planned:

The reason for a planned development is so you know what is planned for the future. This area was never meant for this. It is not a park.

Power Lines:

The potential problems due to the location under major FPL power lines could be many. I have not been able to find a comparable court under power lines such as these. A potential health hazard should not be allowed.

Property Values:

The same News7 story refers to decreased property values to homes near the courts. No CDD board members live near the courts. The opinions of the people who live

near the courts were either ignored or not considered.

Others:

Increased congestion around the nearby homes due to traffic and congregation of people.

Future Issues:

The CDD will come back in the future for lighting. Then grandstands for viewing matches and loudspeakers for tournaments and exhibitions will be needed.

This will lead to further deterioration of the affected homes.

These are the primary reasons we urge the Planning Commission to deny this request.

Bruce A and Martha J Schaeperklaus

229 Pesaro Dr

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: PUD Amendment Request 20-37RZ / 20-38SP
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:17:17 PM

Lori Stelzer, MMC
City Clerk
City of Venice
401 W. Venice Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
941-882-7390
941-303-3486 (cell)

From: William Saro <oras18@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:28 PM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: PUD Amendment Request 20-37RZ / 20-38SP

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Good afternoon Lori,

Could you please ensure that my email is delivered to the Planning Commission. Could you please acknowledge the same to me.

Thank you and have a good day

Best Regards

William and Patricia Saro
130 Medici Terrace
No. Venice, FL, 34275
908-763-1777
oras18@aol.com

Planning Commission of the City of Venice;

My name is William Saro and my wife and I reside at 130 Medici Terrace, the VENETIAN GOLF AND RIVER CLUB. We have been residents of Venice since 2006 and love our community. I am here to state

our objection to the proposed site for the construction of the Pickle Ball Courts and Dog Park under the High Tension Wires as outlined in the request by our CDD board.

We feel that there could be a danger to the health and safety of anyone seeking to use the right of way area under the wires for physical activities that requires an extended amount of time there. As children we were always cautioned to stay away from areas under such wires because of the unknown effects of electromagnetic influences on the body and brain. Plus, the possibility of electrocution should a wire fall to the ground. The fact the FP&L and all other power companies add warnings in their literature/websites, about the possibility of electrocution in their Right of Way should tell you that it is not a good idea to build anything in that area. Why would FPL require the CDD to sign an agreement stating that they would not be held liable for any such injuries should they happen while allowing the Venetian CDD board to build in that area. Our board said that they would get insurance to cover injury or death. But at what cost is a life worth?

Even our own Venetian Golf and River Club attorney stated that there are "pitfalls" in such an agreement should the CDD proceed with the proposal as outlined in their request to this commission. There is a saying that states clearly, "If It Is Predictable, It Is Preventable". House fires are predictable, therefore we have fire alarms to save lives. Car accidents are predictable, therefore we have seat belts and air bags to save lives. Since there is a possibility of serious injury or death from these wires, then build somewhere else.

As the proposal stands now, there would be no lighting, no bathroom facilities and no convenient access to the fitness and restaurant facilities located a mile away. Are the people who will be using the pickle ball courts less important than the tennis people who have convenient access to the fitness center along with all of it's amenities. Not to mention the administrative office and personnel who would regulate scheduling for the use of the courts. Would the bathroom issue be resolved by dropping in Port A Johns? How would that look for such an upscale community such as ours. Or would people have to relieve themselves in the bushes or drive home to use their own bathroom.

I am asking this commission to send this application back to the Venetian CDD board with the purpose of finding a better solution through compromise among the residents themselves. There have been other ideas discussed that would place pickle ball courts in the immediate area of the fitness area but some people are unwilling to find a compromise and meet in the middle with everyone getting some of what they wanted but not all.

Finally, I did an unscientific search on Google Maps and traced out the paths of the high tension wires the originate from the transfer station adjacent to the proposed area for the courts and park. I looked as far as Fruitville Road north and Punta Gorda area going south. Other than a portion of the dog park outside the community of Milano on Jacaranda, there are NO structures, parks etc build under the wires in the right of way. There is a reason for that and it is because it's a bad idea and people are not willing to take the risk associated with the thought of life under the wires.

I urge you to deny this application and protect the residents of the Venetian Golf and River Club from an ill advised, poorly planned move to appease a very small segment of the 1370 homes in the community. While I agree that we should have these amenities, I believe that a better solution needs to be worked out through compromise.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively

William and Patricia Saro.
130 Medici Terrace
No. Venice, FL, 34275
908-763-1777
oras18@aol.com

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: PUD Amendment Request 20-37RZ; Site and Development Plan Request 20-38SP
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:13:46 PM

Lori Stelzer, MMC
 City Clerk
 City of Venice
 401 W. Venice Avenue
 Venice, FL 34285
 941-882-7390
 941-303-3486 (cell)

-----Original Message-----

From: Pam Fox <attyfox612@outlook.com>
 Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:53 PM
 To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
 Subject: PUD Amendment Request 20-37RZ; Site and Development Plan Request 20-38SP

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Ms. Stelzer: Please pass along my comments to the above Planning Commission agenda items for the February 2, 2021 meeting. Thank you.

The Venice Planning Commission will consider the applications for a PUD amendment and Site and Development Plan request to install pickleball courts and a dog park within the Venetian Golf and River Club development at the February 2, 2021 meeting.

My husband and I are residents of VGRC and are passionately in favor of the addition of these amenities. We have been following and attending meetings of the Venetian CDD Board of Commissioners and the Pickleball Advisory Committee for the past couple of years and have been encouraged at the progress made to this point.

We began playing pickleball when we moved here in 2017 and play several times a week. The VGRC development is a very active community and our residents enjoy a wide variety of outdoor activities. We appreciate the variety of amenities we have, even though we don't take advantage of all that VGRC has to offer. We're not golfers, we don't play tennis, we have our own pool so we don't often make it to the community pool, and we don't ride bikes. But we support all of these activities that contribute to the quality of our lives and the lives of our neighbors and friends.

We play pickleball at Pinebrook Park and occasionally at Nokomis Middle School when the Park courts are full and school is not in session. It would be such a nice amenity to have courts within our development as most of the other newer developments in our area have. And while there is ongoing discussion about the creation of a new park in northeast Venice, which we're sure will have pickleball courts, it also makes sense to allow the residents of this development to construct courts and relieve the burden of use on the public structure. The VGRC development already provides a wide variety of amenities to its residents. From a zoning standpoint, the addition of pickleball courts and a dog park will only complement the uses that we already have, and will contribute to our quality of life and the value of the properties in the development.

We strongly encourage the Planning Commission to vote in favor of the applications.

Dave and Pam Fox
 157 Montelluna Drive

From: [Lori Stelzer](#)
To: [Lisa Olson](#); [Rebecca Paul](#)
Subject: FW: VGRC Overhead Lines
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:49:29 PM

Lori Stelzer, MMC
City Clerk
City of Venice
401 W. Venice Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
941-882-7390
941-303-3486 (cell)

From: Kerrie Cottrell <kc456@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:44 PM
To: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: VGRC Overhead Lines

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

To whom it may concern:

I bought my home at 102 Medici Terrace in November 2009 with the assurance that the area behind my lanai would NOT be developed due to the high voltage power lines that run across the undeveloped space. I am now facing a significant negative impact to my quality of life as well as the potential value of my home due to the insistence of some (who live far away from the location on Pesaro Drive) to place pickleball courts with stadium lightening in that very same location that was assured to me would never be developed.

The individuals that are so keen to ruin my life bought property in the VGRC that did not have pickleball courts at the time of purchase. There are 7 tennis courts that can be used by every owner that lives in the VGRC. Perhaps 3 of those courts could be reconfigured to accommodate the 4 pickball courts that these people seem to need now that they have bought property here?

It is well known in the community that Lennar desperately wants the VGRC to purchase the Golf Course and the Welcome Center. There is ample space at both of these locations that could accommodate multiple pickball courts should the purchase eventually go through. The CDD board has a majority of Golf Club members, it's just a matter of time before we make that purchase.

Back to the high voltage wires and the right of way for FP&L that is mandated to be left clear to allow access to the area during emergencies for line maintenance. I walk the neighborhood every day when I am here. For the last several weeks, FP&L trucks have been working in the space that is

targeted for the pickleball courts. I assume that this will continue once the courts are in place which will then result in an increase to our HOA fees as we will be required to constantly repair the courts, fencing and whatever other materials are required due to the need for FP&L to access the lines. The hits keep on coming.....

As the CDD board wants to “give” something to the newer residents (pickball courts) to lure them in for the kill of the purchase of the Golf Course and Welcome Center, I am pleading with the city of Venice to STOP this from going through. Not only will this ruin my homestead, it may very well increase our insurance premiums should there be a multi-million dollar settlement as a result of death or injury due to the overhead power lines.

The owners have lived her for 17 years without pickleball, they can wait another couple pending the purchase of the Golf Club and Welcome Center. Please do not approve this contentious request.

Best regards,

Kerrie Cottrell and Michael Newton

