

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: We urge Venice City Council to deny permit for Pickleball Courts/Dog Park at Pesaro Drive  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:52:35 AM

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**From:** Cathy Cardona <cathy.cardona@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:51:15 AM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** We urge Venice City Council to deny permit for Pickleball Courts/Dog Park at Pesaro Drive

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Dear Ms. Stelzer and Venice City Council Members:

There are 7 compelling reasons why pickleball courts and a dog park should not be built on the easement under the FPL high voltage wires on Pesaro Drive.

**#1. The project involves a public safety risk for Venetian residents and guests.** We met with Mr. Pinheiro, FPL Area Manager, who confirmed that should a powerline fall, it would result in death by electrocution. There have been 3 recent documented "events" of electrical malfunction in the area, which are evidence that they can happen. This safety risk is also substantiated by the U.S. National Safety Code which states: "It is of paramount importance not to erect ...structures, such as ... playground equipment ... 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". ***This proposal is located under not one, not two, but between 3 separate power lines! Please do not approve such a public health risk.***

**#2. The safety risk is also legally acknowledged by FPL in the Right of Way Agreement signed by the Venetian 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." *Please consider this legal proof of hazard.*

**#3. The Right of Way Agreement allows FPL to pass an unnecessary financial risk to the CDD and homeowners.** Paragraph #10 of the Agreement 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...*" This means that all Venetian homeowners would take on the financial risk. Although the CDD Board says they have insurance, how can we be sure there would be full coverage? ***Please do not approve this project which passes such a financial risk to your constituents.***

**#4. The Planning Commission thoroughly reviewed this proposal and recommended not to proceed with this project at this location.** We urge you to follow the City Land Development Codes that have been created to help you make sound decisions for our

community.

**#5. The plan has no restrooms and there is insufficient parking.** Not only is this location impractical, it does not make sense. Pickle-ball players need access to basic necessities which this site lacks.

**#6. The project would lower the property values of affected homes.** Please consider the financial impact to those who purchased homes, believing that no noisy activity would be undertaken on the FPL easement. The project would violate Paragraph m (10) of the City Land Development Code Section 86-23 which states: "layout of the proposed development will be compatible and harmonious with properties in the general area and will not be ... at variance with other development in the area as to cause substantial depreciation of property values".

**#7. The project's noise levels would disturb the peace and quiet of those who live in the area.** My husband and I looked for 15 years and bought our house for the peaceful, natural vistas and private ambiance of our lanai. This project was not part of the planned community and we would never have bought it if we had known it would be built nearby. Chapter 86 of the Land Development Code Section 86-23 (m) para 2 states that permits are subject to standards such as: "Intensity of use ... *in relation to adjacent and nearby properties and the effect thereon;*" and Para 9 "Recreation facilities and open spaces, with attention to the size, location and development of the areas as to... *effect on privacy of adjacent and nearby properties.*"

**PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE THE PERMIT for PICKLEBALL COURTS/DOG PARK AT THE PROPOSED LOCATION.**

**Thank you.**

Catherine and Danilo Cardona  
118 Medici Terrace  
North Venice, Fl 34275

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Public Hearing Ord 2021-17 Pickleball Courts VGRC  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:33:32 AM

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**From:** pouromatic@aol.com <pouromatic@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 9:28:16 AM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Hearing Ord 2021-17 Pickleball Courts VGRC

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I received in the mail a Hearing Notice from the City Clerk's Office regarding Ordinance 2021-17 Pickelball and Dog Park at the Venetian Golf and River Club. This Hearing occurs on May 11 at 9:00 am.

I am directly affected by this plan.

The City of Venice Planning Board voted 6 to 1 against the site selection and 5 to 2 to reject the VGRC plan.

I am also opposed to this plan.

Please vote No to this. The Planning Board was correct.

Thank you

Ken Wurster  
138 Medici Terrace

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Proposed pickle ball courts in VGRC  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:32:58 AM

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**From:** Sheila LeFevre <swlefevre76@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 9:50:41 AM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** Proposed pickle ball courts in VGRC

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Dera Ms. Stelzer,

How can this still be a thing? The proposed pickle ball court is smack in the middle of a residential area. I have been told that the noise from a pickle ball court is equivalent to the noise made by an open gun range. There are at least a hundred homes within range of that noise at the proposed location. A young family with small children just moved into the house right next to the proposed location and I'm sure that they were unaware of the danger of the proposed project when they bought the house. None of us will be able to enjoy being outside in our neighborhood. I am appalled at the selfishness of the group that keeps pushing for the courts to be sited in the middle of a purely residential neighborhood. Somehow I suspect that none of them would want to live next door to outdoor pickle ball courts either. They need to find a site that is well away from people's homes. I thought they were offered the use of a parking lot near the River club?

How will any of us ever be able to sell our homes in the face of such noise pollution? And how much time will it take us to get through the traffic caused by cars backing out and parking at the pickle ball site? There are only two access roads into VGRC from the gate and one of them is Pesaro Rd., which is quite narrow. As it is, if someone is parked on Pesaro, passing cars must go by in single file. There is not enough room for two cars to advance on the road if there is a parked car.

I also object to the location of any structure under all those power and telephone lines at the proposed site. Who would even suggest such a thing? There is a reason that people don't build under power lines. Trucks need to access the poles, even if the pickle ballers don't care about the danger of electrocution for themselves.

When is this going to be settled for once and for all? Please, members of the Venice City Council, think about how you would feel if someone proposed building an outdoor pickle ball court next to your homes.

Also, I would note that I think putting in a fenced in dog park at the proposed site would be a good idea and I would support that.

Thanks you for listening. Sincerely, Sheila LeFevreMD

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do not approve the permit for the Pickleball Courts/Dog Park at the VGRC proposed location  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 5, 2021 9:51:34 AM

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Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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**From:** [Tyler Cassell](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 5, 2021 9:43 AM  
**To:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**Subject:** Please do not approve the permit for the Pickleball Courts/Dog Park at the VGRC proposed location

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Ref: City of Venice Public Hearing Notice May 11, 2021

To: Mayor and Venice City Council:

Subject: Opposition to VGRC Pickleball and Dog Park proposal

The purpose of this email is to advise you of several compelling reasons why I oppose the placement of the pickleball courts and dog park on the easement under the FPL high voltage lines on Pesaro Drive.

- 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. And, in fact, this proposal would place the courts and dog park under 3 separate power lines! Please **DO NOT APPROVE** the proposal given such a public health risk.
- 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".

- 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 and increased traffic 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.
- Most importantly, the Venice City Planning Commission reviewed this proposal and voted 5 to 1 against the plan and 6 to 1 against the site. The major reason for the negative votes being the proposal violates several of the City Land Development Codes. I urge you to acknowledge and follow these codes and vote **NO** on this proposal.
- A new park on Knights Trial has been approved which will provide several amenities including pickleball courts and a dog park. This lessens the need to rush to provide these amenities in our community in an unacceptable and dangerous location.

**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:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: proposed pickleball courts/dog park  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:52:26 AM

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**From:** Tom Kissinger <kissrx1@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:40:19 AM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <lstelzer@venicefl.gov>  
**Subject:** proposed pickleball courts/dog park

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May 5, 2021

Ms Lori Stelzer

City Clerk

Venice City Council

Good Morning Ms Stelzer,

I am writing to you regarding the proposed pickleball courts/dog park in the Venetian. For reasons elucidated by Cathy and Danilo Cardona I do not condone this proposal. Also, as you know, the planning and site commissions voted overwhelmingly to reject this venture.

My main concerns are increased noise levels, increased traffic flow and the safety issues regarding the power lines on the FPL easement.

While I am not against a pickleball/dog park construction, this is the wrong place to do it.

I am urging the Venice City Council to reject this project at its present proposed site.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Tom Kissinger

126 Medici Terrace

703.895.3925