

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Chris Jordan  
**Sent:** Monday, September 7, 2020 12:22 PM  
**To:** Donna Legge  
**Subject:** Fwd: No Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Thushitha R. Deepak" [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 6, 2020 at 7:01:37 PM PDT  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: No Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park

To the City Council of Los Altos:

Respected Council Members,

I am a resident of Los Altos in the Grant Park neighborhood since 2011. I am writing to you to let you know that I am in complete opposition to building a Bocce Ball court in Grant Park. There are several reasons why I am opposed to this move:

- 1) Bocce ball courts would severely and negatively impact the park's little green space
- 2) The courts themselves and, especially, **the overhead structure, will destroy the feeling of openness and room we currently have at the park.**
- 3) **Grant Park is too small for bocce ball courts.**
  - The park is small compared to neighboring parks and it already has a soccer field, basketball court, playground with structures, two large buildings including a senior citizen center with a kitchen and a large city storage shed.
- 4) Grant Park is **not** a community center but a small, quiet neighborhood park meant for open space.
  - Bocce ball courts fit into a larger community center, not in a small neighborhood park like Grant Park.
- 5) **Many residents use the current L-shaped open space for open play that is proposed for bocce ball courts.**
  - Every day kids and adults are playing pickup tag, frisbee, soccer, football, baseball, cricket or just free play. Families use the space for picnics or just sitting and enjoying the grass, trees and open space.

**MOST IMPORTANTLY:** Near the center of the park is a small monument memorializing the day Grant Park was opened. On the monument is a plaque that states **the purpose of the park** that reads:

*“Through the foresight and the efforts of Friends of Grant, city officials and the citizens of our community, these five acres of open space are dedicated to the people of Los Altos FOR ALL GENERATIONS on this day June 8, 1991.”*

Grant Park was created and dedicated to be **open space** for all generations. Please do not remove any open space with your decisions that would be counter to the purpose of Grant Park and in opposition to the desires of a strong majority of our neighborhood’s residents.

I hope you will consider the opinions and wishes of the majority of the residents in the area before you make the final decision to install Bocce ball courts at Grant Park.

Most Respectfully,

Thushitha Deepak  
Newcastle Drive, Los Altos

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Chris Jordan  
**Sent:** Monday, September 7, 2020 12:20 PM  
**To:** Donna Legge  
**Subject:** Fwd: [External Sender]Grant Park Bocce Ball proposal

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Weeks, Mark" [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 7, 2020 at 10:09:31 AM PDT  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [External Sender]Grant Park Bocce Ball proposal

We are long time Los Altos residents and we are opposed to the proposal to build bocce balls courts at Grant Park. There is adequate court space at other locations – that are underutilized. The Grant Park space would remove important green space and would materially increase traffic and local infrastructure issues. No real local resident input has been included and additional Los Altos resources – cash, would be required to complete this project, at a time when the city funds can be used for much more important matters. Some additional/related concerns include:

- There is too little green space in our neighborhood. Grass and trees would have to be removed.
  - o Bocce ball courts would severely and negatively impact the park's little green space
- For Bocce Ball users, there are underutilized bocce ball courts at Cuesta Park (Mountain View) and Los Altos is renovating an existing a set of bocce ball courts at Hillview Community Center.
  - o Cuesta Park is less than three miles from Grant Park and Hillview is less than five miles from Grant Park
  - o No other city in the local area has more than one set of bocce ball courts.
- The courts themselves and, especially, the overhead structure, will destroy the feeling of openness and room we currently have at the park.
  - o This is not what Grant Park was meant to be and not what a strong majority of residents want.
- To approve installing bocce ball courts at Grant Park would ignore strong resident feedback.
  - o 100% of the 8-10 resident comments from each of the last two Parks and Recreation Commission meetings were strongly opposed to bocce ball at Grant Park.
  - o In a recent survey of local residents, >80% of the 300+ respondents oppose installing bocce ball at Grant Park.
- Grant Park is too small for bocce ball courts.
  - o The park is small compared to neighboring parks and it already has a soccer field, basketball court, playground with structures, two large buildings including a senior citizen center with a kitchen and a large city storage shed.
  - o The city will be spending funds on these courts when there is an overall budget concern.
  - o While the city has been offered \$50,000 toward bocce ball specifically at Grant Park, it doesn't cover the cost of construction (~\$60,000), especially if a rumored overhead shade structure is included (up to an additional \$80,000).

- o There is also ongoing maintenance cost the city would have to fund.
- o It would be wiser to spend fewer dollars on maintaining and upgrading Grant Park's senior citizen kitchen, play structures and walking paths.
- Grant Park is not a community center but a small, quiet neighborhood park meant for open space.
  - o Bocce ball courts fit into a larger community center, not in a small neighborhood park like Grant Park.
- Many residents use the current L-shaped open space for open play that is proposed for bocce ball courts.
  - Every day kids and adults are playing pickup tag, frisbee, soccer, football, baseball, cricket or just free play. Families use the space for picnics or just sitting and enjoying the grass, trees and open space.

Mark and Cynthia Weeks  
[REDACTED] Fallen Leaf Lane  
Los Altos

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## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Thushitha R. Deepak [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 7:06 PM  
**To:** Los Altos Parks & Recreation Commission  
**Subject:** No Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park

Respected Commission Members,

I am a resident of Los Altos in the Grant Park neighborhood since 2011. I am writing to you to let you know that I am in complete opposition to building a Bocce Ball court in Grant Park. There are several reasons why I am opposed to this move:

- 1) Bocce ball courts would severely and negatively impact the park's little green space
- 2) The courts themselves and, especially, **the overhead structure, will destroy the feeling of openness and room we currently have at the park.**
- 3) **Grant Park is too small for bocce ball courts.**
  - o The park is small compared to neighboring parks and it already has a soccer field, basketball court, playground with structures, two large buildings including a senior citizen center with a kitchen and a large city storage shed.
- 4) Grant Park is **not** a community center but a small, quiet neighborhood park meant for open space.
  - o Bocce ball courts fit into a larger community center, not in a small neighborhood park like Grant Park.
- 5) **Many residents use the current L-shaped open space for open play that is proposed for bocce ball courts.**
  - o Every day kids and adults are playing pickup tag, frisbee, soccer, football, baseball, cricket or just free play. Families use the space for picnics or just sitting and enjoying the grass, trees and open space.

**MOST IMPORTANTLY:** Near the center of the park is a small monument memorializing the day Grant Park was opened. On the monument is a plaque that states **the purpose of the park** that reads:

*"Through the foresight and the efforts of Friends of Grant, city officials and the citizens of our community, these five acres of open space are dedicated to the people of Los Altos FOR ALL GENERATIONS on this day June 8, 1991."*

Grant Park was created and dedicated to be **open space** for all generations. Please do not remove any open space with your decisions that would be counter to the purpose of Grant Park and in opposition to the desires of a strong majority of our neighborhood's residents.

I hope you will consider the opinions and wishes of the majority of the residents in the area before you make the final decision to install Bocce ball courts at Grant Park.

Most Respectfully,

Thushitha Deepak  
Newcastle Drive, Los Altos

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** C. Baeuerlen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 7, 2020 10:00 AM  
**To:** Donna Legge  
**Subject:** Opposition to bocce ball courts at Grant Park

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I live just down the street from Grant Park. I am voicing my strong opposition to bocce ball courts there.

The space is open and welcoming as it is. Traffic and parking in the neighborhood will be negatively impacted. Bocce ball courts in Los Altos and Mountain View are already underutilized. Don't take beautiful space away for an elitist few.

Any council member who votes for this will not receive my vote for re-election.

Carl Baeuerlen  
[REDACTED] Alford Avenue

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Chris Jordan  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 2:09 PM  
**To:** Donna Legge  
**Subject:** Fwd: Bocce Ball Courts in Grant Park

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Vishal Pandya [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 6, 2020 at 12:41:09 PM PDT  
**To:** "PARcommision@losaltosca.gov" <PARcommision@losaltosca.gov>, City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Cc:** Swati Pandya [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Bocce Ball Courts in Grant Park

Hello -

We live in the Grant Park neighborhood (Elnora/NewCastle) and visit the park multiple times a week with our kids. We **DO NOT WANT** a bocce ball court at Grant Park.

This is a very small neighborhood park and we like the open green spaces. The grass areas around the basketball courts in particular are almost always in use. Moreover, when the soccer fields are being used, the only grass area for others is by the basketball courts. Bocce ball courts will not get used nearly as much plus I believe there is also significant ongoing maintenance involved to sustain the bocce ball courts.

It is rather surprising that this proposal has been pushed through with no involvement of the residents of the area. We need a master plan for Grant Park that is based on the voice of the residents vs. a time bound "donation"

Thanks,

**Vishal & Swati Pandya**

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Vishal Pandya [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 12:47 PM  
**To:** Los Altos Parks & Recreation Commission  
**Cc:** Swati Pandya  
**Subject:** Bocce Ball Courts in Grant Park

Hello -

We live in the Grant Park neighborhood (Elnora/NewCastle) and visit the park multiple times a week with our kids. We **DO NOT WANT** a bocce ball court at Grant Park.

This is a very small neighborhood park and we like the open green spaces. The grass areas around the basketball courts in particular are almost always in use. Moreover, when the soccer fields are being used, the only grass area for others is by the basketball courts. Bocce ball courts will not get used nearly as much plus I believe there is also significant ongoing maintenance involved to sustain the bocce ball courts.

It is rather surprising that this proposal has been pushed through with no involvement of the residents of the area. We need a master plan for Grant Park that is based on the voice of the residents vs. a time bound "donation"

Thanks,

**Vishal & Swati Pandya**

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Chris Jordan  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Donna Legge  
**Subject:** Fwd: Grant park bocce ball courts

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** jim jolly [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 6, 2020 at 11:38:23 AM PDT  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant park bocce ball courts

We will have the 2 original bocce ball courts replaced when the community center is completed in just a few more months. Open space is a very scarce commodity in town and I believe there are better uses for the space, including keeping it as open space. Even though the requesters for the 2 additional courts are offering \$50,000 for construction, it will not cover the entire estimated costs and there could be cost overruns that would require even more public funds. Lastly will be maintenance costs which will have to be paid by the city. I do not feel that this proposal meets a very simple belief I hold about public land use, especially in situations like Los Altos where such land is very scarce and there is very limited opportunity to get more. That belief is that public land should be used for activities that will be used by the largest number of residents. I feel that bocce ball courts beyond the original 2 that are being replaced fails in this regard.

If this measure moves out of Parks and Rec to council, please reject. Thank you. Jim Jolly  
Sent from my iPhone

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Pat Marriott [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 11:47 AM  
**To:** Los Altos Parks & Recreation Commission  
**Cc:** City Council  
**Subject:** [External Sender]just say NO to bocce ball

Commissioners and Council Members:

I'm appalled that so much time is being spent on this bocce ball discussion, but it certainly makes it clear that money talks in this town. Dog parks have been on the table for YEARS and we still don't have a decision. Maybe if someone held out 20 or 30 or 50 thousand dollars, dogs would have become a priority.

Bocce ball discussions belong in the context of a Grant Park Master Plan. Anything else just proves the wealthy folks in this town have the loudest voices and can pay their way to the front of the line.

I've written to you before on this topic. Below are two recent letters to the editor that state my position.

Pat Marriott

### **SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 TOWN CRIER**

Bocce ball offer has egos attached

The Town Crier's article regarding bocce ball courts at Grant Park identified a \$30,000 donation from Los Altos Legacies and \$20,000 from the Los Altos Rotary Endowment Fund ("Parks and Rec deadlocked on accepting bocce ball court donations," Aug. 19).

In a letter to the Parks and Recreation Commission, King Lear wrote, "The board members of these charitable funds have no self-interest in making these offers."

Facts say otherwise. Courts would benefit Lear and roughly 20-50 bocce ball players. Los Altos Legacies will withdraw its offer if the city doesn't acquiesce to its demands by Dec. 30. They expect the city to cover all costs over \$50,000. The ultimate conceit is they want a plaque in their honor!

A city study estimated a \$57,000 cost for two courts equivalent to planned courts at the new community center. Yes, we're already providing bocce ball at Hillview.

Lear claims the Senior Commission supports courts at Grant Park. Not true. That commission wisely recommended studying bocce ball in the context of a Grant Park Master Plan, which would ensure all residents have an opportunity to weigh in on facilities.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Teresa Morris summed it up best: "We're being asked to do something that ... will benefit a small group of people and it has some big strings attached to it." And some big egos.

Pat Marriott Los Altos

### **AUGUST 28, 2020 DAILY POST**

Dear Editor:

Thanks for bringing to light the contentious issue of bocce ball courts at Grant Park in Los Altos.

The key issue in this debate is whether wealthy residents like King Lear and his Legacies group can buy votes in commissions and city council to get what they want, i.e., pay-for-play.

In a letter to the parks commission, Lear wrote, “The board members of these charitable funds have no self-interest in making these offers.”

Facts say otherwise. Courts would benefit Lear and roughly 20 – 50 bocce players, who have been using city courts at Hillview. The Legacies offer will be withdrawn December 31 if the city doesn’t acquiesce to their demands. And they expect the city to cover all costs over \$50,000. The ultimate conceit is they want a plaque in their honor!

Lear claims the senior commission supports Grant Park courts. Not true. That commission wisely recommended studying bocce ball in the context of a Grant Park Master Plan, which would ensure all residents weigh in on facilities. If the Legacies’ only interest is serving seniors, their money should be good after the plan is completed – if bocce ball is deemed a high priority.

Lear complains that “the opposition sends emails, speaks at meetings, posts on social media ...” For those of us who don’t put money on the table, that’s the democratic way of making our voices heard.

If Lear gets his way, “money talks” will become the new motto for the city of Los Altos.

Pat Marriott Los Altos

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** roger heyder [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:58 AM  
**To:** Donna Legge  
**Subject:** [External Sender]Fw: Public comment on Parks and Rec meeting of 9/9/2020, Item 3 - Bocce

Dear Commissioners and Council,

Public comment on Parks and Rec meeting of 9/9/2020, Item 3 - Bocce

The Bocce ball courts in Grant Park, and major changes in general, need to be supported by a large number of residents that use the park. Major changes, like the Bocce courts, also should be considered as part of an overall plan for the park, considering all improvement options.

Apparently neither of these are the case for the Bocce courts. Instead, the Bocce process has had the odour of political cronyism and payoff. City commissioners are appointed to represent the RESIDENTS in their decisions, and to come up with optimum solutions for residents, rather than to grant political favors.

Evidently a large number of residents that actually USE Grant Park are opposed to the courts. Commission should follow process, by developing an overall plan for Grant Park with the residents, that takes into consideration the various improvement options and budget. Space in the park should NOT be allocated based on who bids the most for a piece of the space there - that is effectively SELLING off, or monetizing, the park.

Put the Bocce courts in the list of options for Grant Park, and operate the planning process openly and fairly with plenty of resident input. If these gracious donors want to help fund the Bocce courts, if Bocce courts are included in the final plan, then great. If they don't, then maybe the 'gracious' part is really not so applicable.

regards -- Roger Heyder

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Chris Jordan  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Donna Legge  
**Subject:** Fwd: against putting a Bocce Ball court in the Grant Park and would like to see a planning for the whole Grant Park instead

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Dave Hong [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 6, 2020 at 11:02:06 AM PDT  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** against putting a Bocce Ball court in the Grant Park and would like to see a planning for the whole Grant Park instead  
**Reply-To:** Dave Hong [REDACTED]

Dear City Council,

I am a long time resident on the Holt Ave. in Los Altos. My daughter and I often walk to the Grant Park and use the facility there. We are against putting up Bocce Ball courts in the Grant park. Instead we would like to see a plan for the whole Grant Park which may include Bocce ball courts if they fit in the overall all plan and local residents welcome it. Please do not just put Bocce courts in the Grant Park. We want to see a development plan that incorporates the voice of local residents instead of piecemeal measures.

Thank you.

Dave

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Darmanian Family [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 7:45 AM  
**To:** Los Altos Parks & Recreation Commission  
**Subject:** No Bocce Courts at Grant Park

> As a resident of Los Altos at 1595 Ben Roe Drive, I oppose having a bocce ball court at Grant Park. We do not want to lose our green space that our residents enjoy daily. There are already several bocce courts in Los Altos. That is enough.

>

> Thank you...June & Aram Darmanian

>

> Sent from my iPad

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Dong Zheng [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 2:39 PM  
**To:** Donna Legge  
**Subject:** Objection to Bocce Ball courts in Grant park

Hi,

I would like to express my objection to the proposed Bocce Ball courts at Grant park.

I live at 1306 Morton Ave, 1/2 mile from Grant park. I walk my dog to Grant park almost everyday, and I have two kids in Montclair, we used to go to the Grant park play structure almost everyday during summer time before Covid shut down the structure.

I saw a poster proposing Bocce Ball courts in Grant park, which I am strongly against due to the following reasons

1) I don't know how many people playing Bocce ball. My family don't play it, and I am not aware of any acquaintances playing Bocce Ball either. I have been to the Bocce Ball courts in Los Gatos for team building, but my observation is that it is a niche sports and doesn't appear to benefit significant percentage of the residence. There are two Bocce ball courts in Cuesta park, but it appears to be rarely used.

2) The L-shape piece of grass in Grant park is next to the basket ball courts. In summer time, I saw families with small kids playing in that area, because it is outside the soccer field, so small kids don't collide with bigger kids. It is a nice secluded area for families who don't want to mix with bigger kids. I don't see a reason to convert a nice piece of family grass area to an area benefit to fewer people.

3) Grant park is a community park to the local residents, we don't want to convert it to a place holding Bocce ball tournaments and attract crowds outside Los Altos area, I prefer it as a park for the kids living near by, so that they can walk/bike to the park and play, without worrying about crowds driving to the park.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Best regards

Dong Zheng

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Vani Kane [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 5:42 PM  
**To:** City Council; Los Altos Parks & Recreation Commission  
**Subject:** Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park

Dear City Council Members & Parks and Recreation Commission,

I have lived in Los Altos for 16 years. I am writing to express my strong opposition to installing bocce ball courts in Grant Park. The open green space is very important to my family and others in the community. Here are the reasons the city should NOT move forward with these plans:

- We need open green space. We deeply value the ability to use and see lawn, bushes, and trees in the park.
- Bocce ball courts cannot be used for anything but bocce ball. Open green space can be used for sports, relaxation/picnics, children's activities, open play, etc.
- There are bocce ball courts at Cuesta Park located just a few miles away which are rarely used.
- Building these courts will be an expensive endeavor. Surely there are better uses of our city funds.
- Grant Park is too small for such a specialized activity that few people participate in.
- The residents who know of this plans oppose it and many are unaware. They have not been given the opportunity to weigh in.
- Grant Park is a neighborhood park not a large city park meant for the entire community. We are concerned about traffic and street parking.
- The open space is particularly valuable when soccer or other organized sports are using the larger field. The green space allows others to enjoy the park and engage in other activities.

I urge you not to move forward with these plans.

Sincerely,  
Vani Kane

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Bob Malley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 3, 2020 10:11 PM  
**To:** Los Altos Parks & Recreation Commission; City Council  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [External Sender]Bocce Ball at Grant Park  
**Attachments:** IMG\_5313.jpg

To the Los Altos Parks and Recreation Commission and the Los Altos City Council,

As a Los Altos citizen for over 24 years living near Grant Park, I am writing to you to express my strong opposition to installing bocce ball courts at Grant Park. My family has and still continues to enjoy the beautiful green open space at Grant Park. We strongly oppose the bocce ball proposal being considered for the L-shaped open space near the front of the park or for any other location within Grant Park.

Our opposition is based on several factors:

- There is too little green space (grass, trees, shrubs, plants) in our neighborhood of small lots and fences.
  - **Bocce ball courts would severely and negatively impact the little green space we do have.**
- For Bocce Ball users, **there are underutilized bocce ball courts at Cuesta Park (Mountain View) and Los Altos is renovating an existing a set of bocce ball courts at Hillview Community Center.**
  - Cuesta Park is less than three miles from Grant Park and Hillview is less than five miles from Grant Park
  - No other city in the local area has more than one set of bocce ball courts.
- **The city will be spending funds on these courts when there is an overall budget concern.**
  - While the city has been offered \$50,000 toward bocce ball specifically at Grant Park, it doesn't cover the cost of construction (~\$60,000), especially if a rumored overhead shade structure is included (up to an additional \$80,000).
  - There is also ongoing maintenance cost the city would have to fund.
  - It would be wiser to spend fewer dollars on maintaining and upgrading Grant Park's senior citizen kitchen, play structures and walking paths.
- **Many residents use the current L-shaped open space for open play that is proposed for bocce ball courts.**
  - Every day kids and adults are playing pickup tag, frisbee, soccer, football, baseball, cricket or just free play.
  - Families use the space for picnics or just sitting and enjoying the grass, trees and open space.
  - This green space is used extensively by many groups almost every day as evidenced by the attached photo of the open space from Holt Avenue that I took yesterday showing three separate groups using the open space (two set of kids, one set of adults in lawn chairs on the grass).
- **Grant Park is too small for bocce ball courts.**
  - The park is small compared to neighboring parks and it already has a soccer field, basketball court, playground with structures, two large buildings including a senior citizen center with a kitchen and a large city storage shed.
- **To approve installing bocce ball courts at Grant Park would ignore strong resident feedback.**
  - 100% of the 8-10 resident comments from each of the last two Parks and Recreation Commission meetings were strongly opposed to bocce ball at Grant Park.
  - In a recent survey of local residents, >80% of the 300+ respondents oppose installing bocce ball at Grant Park.
- **Bocce ball courts will likely attract many of all ages from outside our neighborhood, overwhelming the tiny parking lot and our streets with cars and the park with litter and noise.**

- Grant Park is supposed to serve Los Altos residents not non-residents who would come to use the courts.
- Grant Park's location, on the south eastern edge of Los Altos, will attract many from outside of Los Altos.
- There is discussion of bocce ball tournaments at Grant Park involving dozens of people at a time and hundreds over extended time.
- Grant Park is too small and the neighborhood too fragile to handle any more than today's occasional soccer games and summer concerts.
- The courts themselves and, especially, any overhead structure **will destroy the feeling of openness and room we currently have at the park.**
  - If installed, when you view the park from its front (Holt Avenue), you will not see any open space but only structures.
  - **This is not what Grant Park was meant to be and not what a strong majority of residents want.**
- Grant Park is not a community center but a small, quiet neighborhood park meant for open space.
  - Bocce ball courts fit into a larger community center, not in a small neighborhood park like Grant Park.

**MOST IMPORTANTLY:** Near the center of the park is a small monument memorializing the day Grant Park was opened. On the monument is a plaque that states **the purpose of the park** that reads:

#### GRANT PARK

*Through the foresight and the efforts of Friends of Grant, city officials and the citizens of our community, these five acres of open space are dedicated to the people of Los Altos FOR ALL GENERATIONS on this day June 8, 1991.*



Grant Park was created and dedicated to be **open space** for all generations. Please do not remove any open space with your decisions that would be counter to the purpose of Grant Park and in opposition to the desires of a strong majority of our neighborhood's residents.

Respectfully,

Robert Malley



## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Dirk Mendel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 10:58 AM  
**To:** Los Altos Parks & Recreation Commission; City Council  
**Subject:** Fw: Opposition to propoed bocce ball court at Grant Park

Sorry for the confusion on my part. I tried to send this email yesterday but misspelled "parcommission" and so my email bounced back. Hopefully this time my email will be delivered to both intended recipients.

Thank you for your attention.

Cheers,  
Dirk Mendel

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Dirk Mendel [REDACTED]  
**To:** PARcommision@losaltosca.gov <parcommision@losaltosca.gov>; council@losaltosca.gov <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Cc:** Dirk Mendel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 7, 2020, 06:09:21 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Re: Opposition to propoed bocce ball court at Grant Park

My name s Dirk Mendel. My wife, Nancy Mak, and I live near Grant Park and we frequent the park. We strongly oppose the proposed bocce ball courts since their installation will remove green space and trees which are enjoyed by many and they will likely not be sufficiently used to justify such action, especially since there are other courts available which are not currently used to their limit.

We hope that you will consider the wishes of the people such as ourselves who are more likely to use the park, and that you will not approve the proposal to build bocce ball courts at Grant Park.

Thank you for your attention.

Regards,  
Dirk Mendel and Nancy Mak

[REDACTED] Churton Ave.  
Los Altos, CA 94024

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Heather Larkin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 12:10 PM  
**To:** Donna Legge  
**Subject:** No to Special Interest groups! Protect our parks. 9-9-2020 meeting

Dear Park and Recreation Commissioners,

Both the off leash dogs and bocce ball proposals should be defeated. Not only are both proposals detrimental to park usage, PARC should not allow special interest groups (especially those with a bribe) to drive PARC decisions.

I am not an immediate neighbor to either Grant Park or Heritage Oaks, but I am alarmed when a special interest proposal causes numerous negative effects (displaces park users, decreases public safety, destroys green space ... ) and PARC even considers such a proposal.

Do Los Altos residents have to monitor PARC to see if a special interest group threatens a park? Currently, that unsettling premise is the unfortunate norm.

Sincerely,  
Heather Larkin  
Oakhurst Avenue

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Donna Legge  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 6:19 PM  
**To:** Los Altos Parks & Recreation Commission  
**Subject:** BTW - PARC Sept Meeting

Chair Lindermeier and Commissioners,

King Lear has requested that the three (3) emails below regarding Bocce Ball, be forwarded to you.

Sincerely, Donna

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**From:** King Lear [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 3:37 PM  
**To:** Donna Legge <dlegge@losaltosca.gov>  
**Cc:** Casey Richardson <crichardson@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: BTW

To Commissioners:

One more comment. I notice that a poll was generated and pushed by opponents to the proposed outdoor recreation for south Los Altos seniors. At least one version I saw did not mention the \$50K gift opportunity and did not mention the focus on seniors and did not refer to Location D and did not say use would be free with equipment stored in the senior center.

If you ask seniors in south Los Altos if they would be OK with the City accepting a \$50K gift and building bocce courts in a space not in use and then not charging for use of the courts, then the normal response would have to be "What do I have to lose? It might be fun."

If that is not their response, then I would propose they did not get the right question.

King Lear

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**From:** King Lear [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 2:05 PM  
**To:** Casey Richardson <[crichardson@losaltosca.gov](mailto:crichardson@losaltosca.gov)>; Donna Legge <[dlegge@losaltosca.gov](mailto:dlegge@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Subject:** BTW

To Commissioners:

Here is a photo from Los Altos history museum of Los Altos men playing their favorite game. Guess what—

Some people know how to have fun, others don't.

King Lear



**From:** King Lear [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** PARC Sept meeting  
**Date:** September 8, 2020 at 1:51:43 PM PDT  
**To:** Casey Richardson <[crichardson@losaltosca.gov](mailto:crichardson@losaltosca.gov)>

To Commissioners:

Our statement on our offer, dated July 2, is still valid for your consideration.

In case it got lost, I will reissue [I let him know it is an attachment in the staff report].

I see that some of you support a \$500K kitchen paid for by me and other residents without waiting for a contracted Grant Park Master Plan (which has not been approved), but reject accepting a \$50K gift for outdoor recreation for seniors because you await the unfunded plan. Sounds to me like a tax and spend philosophy. I hope I am wrong.

Thank you, King Lear

## Casey Richardson

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**From:** Zahra Ardehali [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 11:47 PM  
**To:** PARcommision@losaltosca.gov; City Council  
**Cc:** Casey Richardson  
**Subject:** PARC meeting on 9/9/20 - topic: Bocce ball courts at Grant Park

Hello,

I am writing in opposition to installing Bocce ball courts at Grant Park. I live on Grant Park Lane and I believe this addition will have a major impact on the lives of people in the area, especially those who live on that street and in the neighborhood of the park.

I am not sure why PARC is making such a recommendation to the council when none of the neighboring residents have been informed of this proposal and change. During the last meetings and the discussions of PARC about the installation of bocce ball courts, 100% of the resident comments strongly opposed to bocce ball at Grant Park. Also, in a recent residents' survey, more than 80% of the 300+ respondents oppose installing bocce ball at Grant Park.

At the last PARC meeting, some of the commissioners appeared concerned with residents' opposition, which was much appreciated, but unfortunately, during the voting, one of the commissioners steered the conversation in a different direction by referencing the city's donation policy, which prevented the vote against the installation of the bocce ball court.

This action raises other concerns about any of PARC commissioners running for City Council and donations that are given to their campaigns by individuals such as King Lear of Legacies Foundation, the Rotary Club, or any other organizations such as builders, real estate agencies, etc. There should be a review by the city attorney and any ethical overviews that we may have in place. I think the city of Los Altos needs an Ethics Commission!

So, my opposition is based on a few additional concerns that I have:

- We should require all candidates running for City Council to declare who is contributing to their campaigns.
- If any PARC commissioner running for City Council has or expecting to receive contributions to their campaign from King Lear of Legacies Foundation should not participate in the discussions or voting on Bocce ball court.
- We have limited green space at Grant Park and I am against taking any of it out for installing Bocce ball.
- We should not give favoritism to any special interest groups and add anything separately from the Master Plan for Grant Park.
- Grant Park is a neighborhood park and not a community center. It is too small for adding another new activity in this park in place of the open space that we have.
- There is not enough parking for new activities and often people park their cars in front of our home on Grant Park Lane, which is a short and quiet cul-de-sac. The residents on Grant Park Lane cannot handle more traffic and parking on our street.
- The donation by King Lear would not cover the total cost of the installation of Bocce ball courts.
- There are many other items and areas in Grant Park that need to be fixed or upgraded, so spending any additional budget for Bocce ball is not a priority.

Thanks,

Zahra Ardehali  
[REDACTED]

