

HTA September 2021 Recreation Survey

Monday, September 27, 2021

158

Total Responses

Survey Initiated: Wednesday, September 08, 2021

Survey Completed: Sunday, September 19, 2021

Background

This survey was sent to the total mailing list of the of the Holgate Taxpayers Association. This equals approximately 643 e-mail addresses for 475 members.

Multiple responses per member household were not explicitly disallowed and did not play a significant role in the results (a total of just 7 households and interestingly, the responses were not fully consistent by household).

With a response rate of 25% and total responses of 158, the data is considered to be very representative of the attitudes within Holgate and is projectable across the community with a high degree of confidence.

Executive Summary

Key Highlights

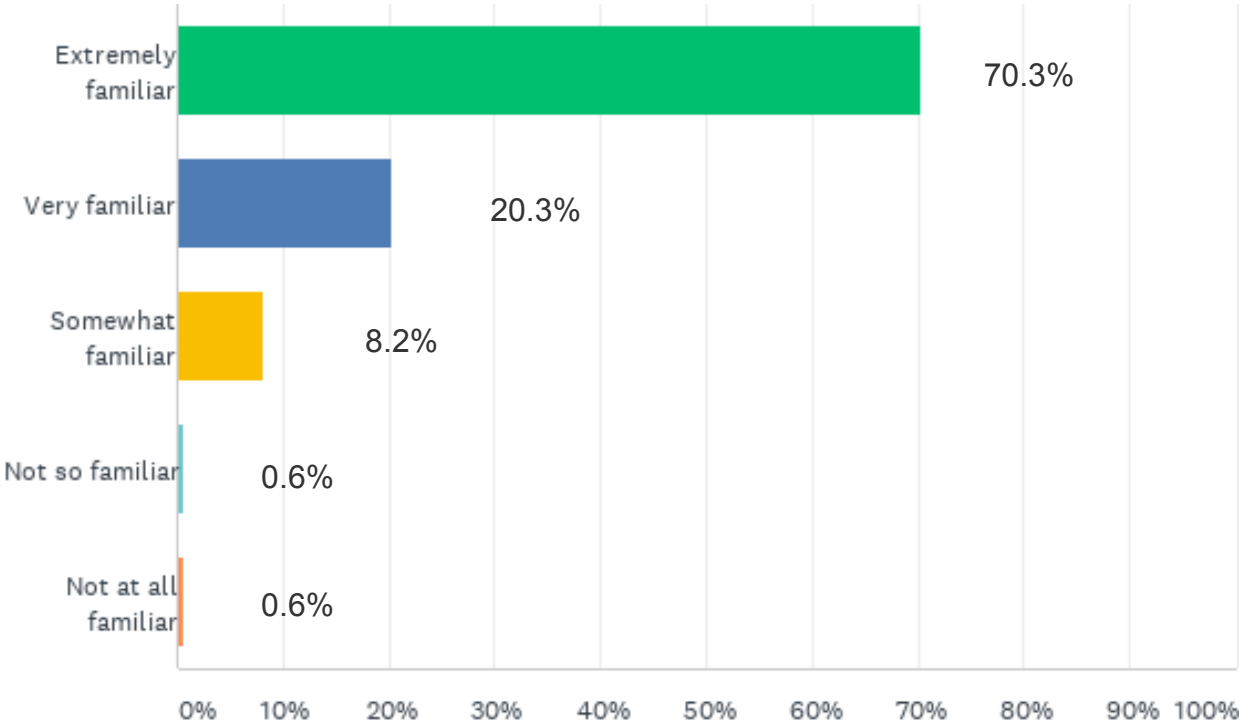
- The clear majority of respondents 62.7% want to have no change in Bond's Park.
 - Among the remainder, 17.1% disagreed and 20.3% were unsure.
- Approximately 1 out of 5 of the total respondents would like to see pickle ball courts at Bond's Park; these respondents were split as to how they would like to see the courts added.
 - Responses include adding lines to the existing tennis court or building 1-2 pickle ball courts.
- Aside from pickle ball courts, these respondents also expressed an interest in:
 - "Create a natural park area in the available open space with additional seating and plantings but no additional parking" (16.5%)
 - "Add more playground equipment next to the current equipment" (15.2%)
- Respondent comments included in this report provide an important dimension to the numerical data and represent how strongly people in Holgate feel about preserving the current environment.
 - Concerns include the potential loss of green space (particularly on Joan Road), the noise created by pickle ball for all neighborhood residents, and increased traffic which could affect safety.

Note: Questions 1-4 of the survey were assigned to capture names and addresses for quality control. All respondents were promised confidentiality for their answers. As a result, SurveyMonkey shows the first question in this report as Question #5.

Q5: How familiar are you with the Bond's Park area in Holgate (the old Coast Guard station that is now a private home; to the west of the home is Township property containing a single tennis court, a small basketball court and playground equipment on the bay side)?

Answered: 158

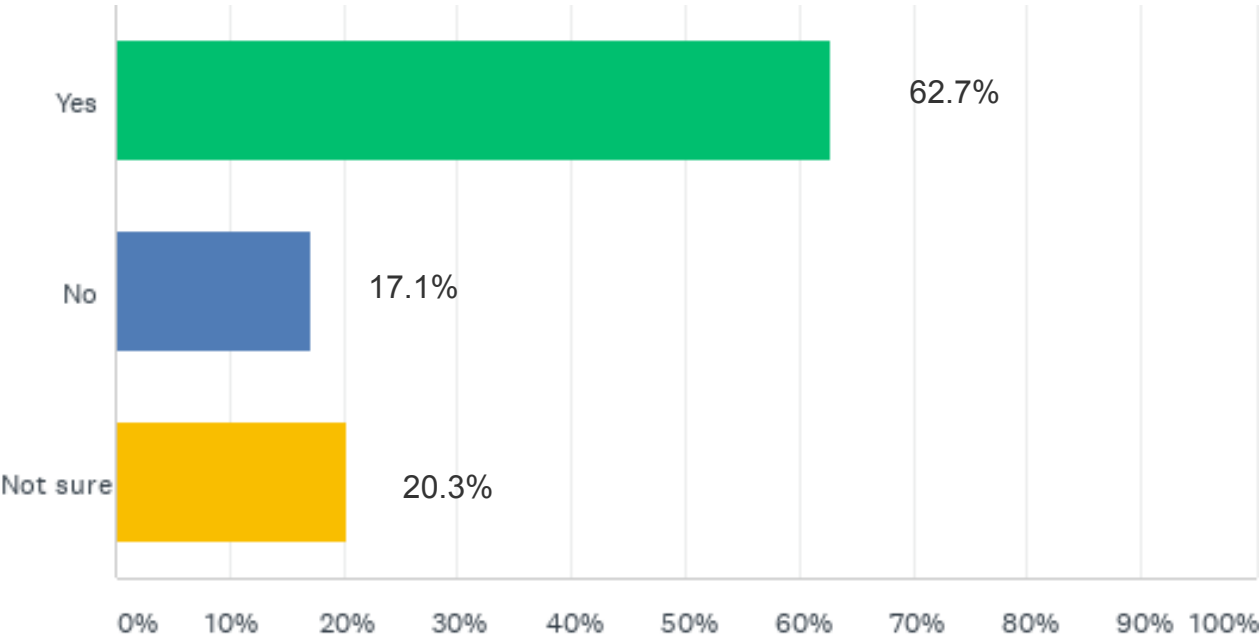
90% of respondents are Extremely Familiar or Very Familiar with the Bond's Park area.



Q6: Would you like to have Bond's Park remain in its current state and only maintain existing facilities?

Answered: 158

More than 3 out of 5 respondents do not want any change in Bond's Park

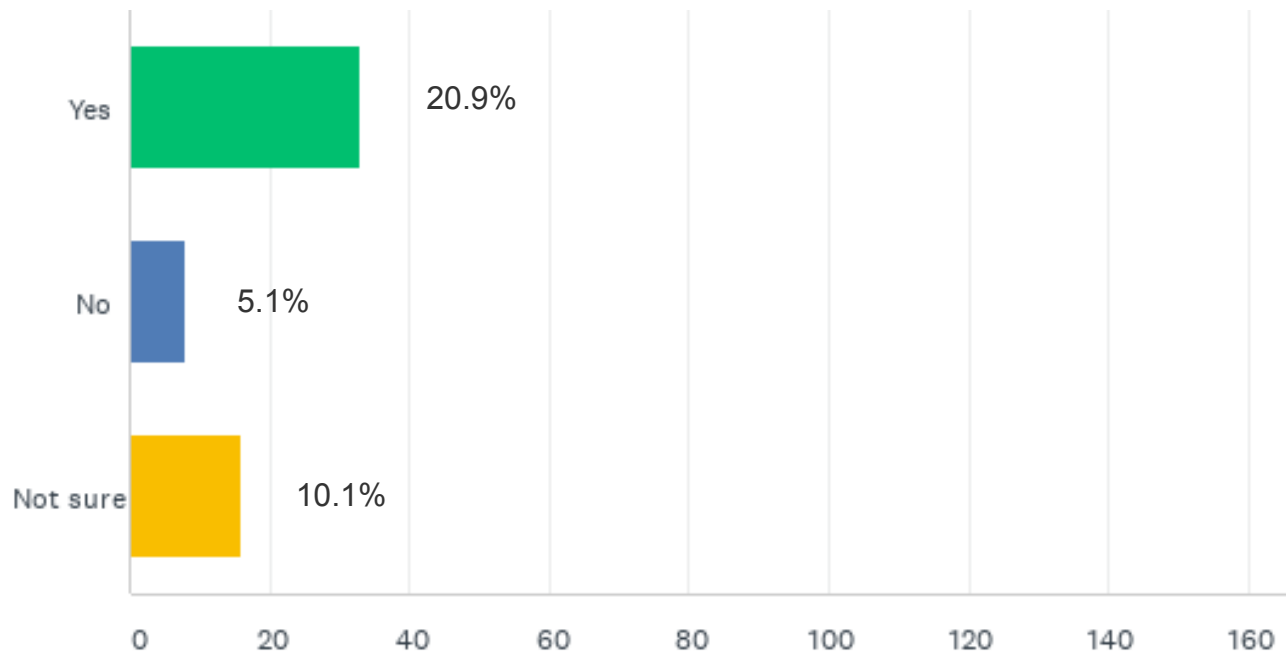


Please note: The next three charts show accurately calculated percentages and the size of the bars are generally comparable to the previous graphs in this report. Due to issues with the SurveyMonkey automatic report which auto-generated the graphs, we could not adjust the Y axis label (which represents total respondents) and you should ignore the numbers at the bottom of the graph.

Q7: Would you like to see pickle ball courts at Bond's Park?

Answered: 57

Just slightly more than 1 out of 5 respondents would like to see pickle ball courts at Bond's Park, with another 10% Unsure



Choices for Question 7

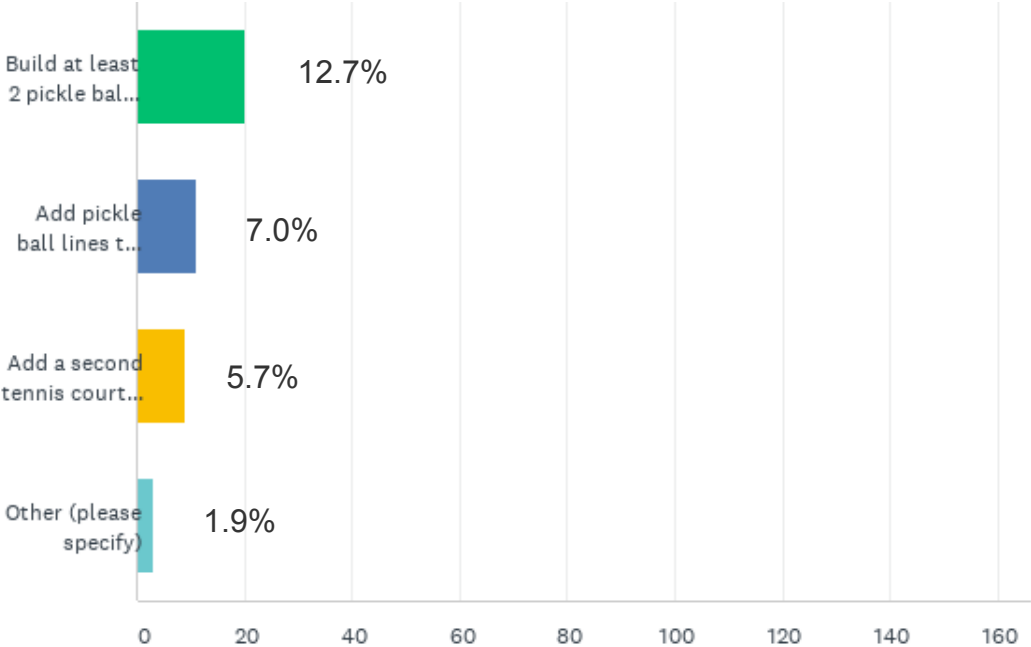
Listed here because Presentation format does not detail the entire option and it is difficult to read in the graph

- Build at least 2 pickle ball courts and add the required parking
- Add pickle ball lines to the existing tennis court
- Add a second tennis court and include pickle ball lines on this court
- Other (please specify)

Q8: If you would like to see pickle ball courts at Bond's Park, how would you like to see them added? (please check all that apply)

Answered: 35

Those who want pickle ball are split as to how to add it, with some preference for building 2 new pickle ball courts



Responses to “Other” in Question 8

I don't see need for additional parking given that the current waking seems to almost never used and this is n walking distance to all HOlgate residents

9/14/2021 4:09 PM

I am uncertain as to the needed square footage of a pickle ball court and how it would fit on the available land. Is the southeast area near the dead end road available? It seems like wasted space. I also feel most people walk to this park and do not typically bring a car.

9/8/2021 9:33 PM

Build 1 pickle ball court

9/8/2021 6:04 PM

Choices for Question 9

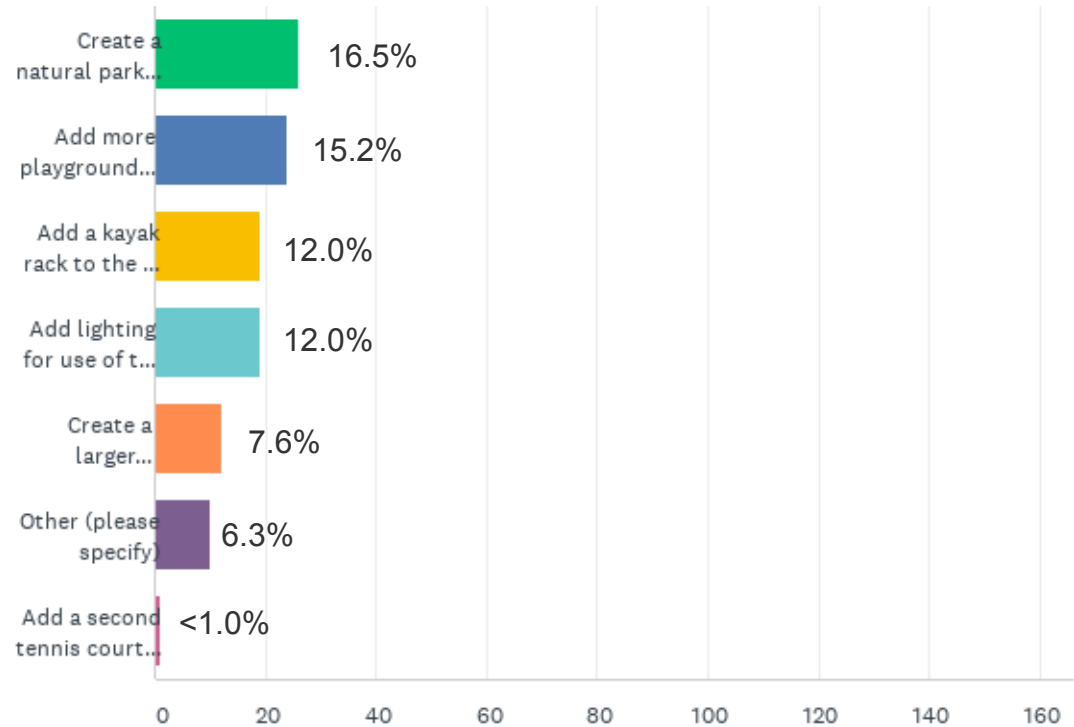
Listed here because Presentation format does not detail the entire option and it is difficult to read in the graph

- Create a natural park area in the available open space with additional seating and plantings but no additional parking
- Add more playground equipment next to the current equipment
- Add a kayak rack to the bay beach area
- Add lighting for use of the recreational facilities at night
- Create a larger basketball court
- Other
- Add a second tennis court

Q9: What other recreational options would you like to see added to Bond's Park? (please check all that apply)

Answered: 52

Top alternatives to pickle ball are “Creating a Natural Park Area with No Parking” and “Adding More Playground Equipment”



Responses to “Other” in Question 9

Also bring back the wooden walkway that connects through the park

9/16/2021 12:17 PM

No lights, No parking

9/15/2021 10:42 AM

maybe a small dog park

9/14/2021 9:32 PM

kayak rack to include paddle boards

9/14/2021 9:01 PM

add lights for tennis, basketball and pickleball courts

9/14/2021 2:54 PM

Bicycle racks, redesign/improve pedestrian path access from Janet Road, improve pathway from north to south

9/10/2021 6:21 PM

Perhaps an easy access to launch light non powered rec vehicles.

9/8/2021 9:24 PM

Pavillion

9/8/2021 6:22 PM

landscape the remaining area after adding 1 pickle ball court. Also place some benches so people can enjoy the bay views

9/8/2021 6:07 PM

A shade sructure to sit under during a sunny day and see the bay

9/8/2021 5:11 PM

COMMENTS

The following respondent comments are provided verbatim and are listed in order of the most recent response first

COMMENTS

Please leave the area as is. The surrounding homes were saved by its current state when the Sandy Hurricane happened. Adding additional recreational activities with hardtop over the sand is going to add to flooding and any issues with storms. Squeezing in additional noisy recreational activity so close to residential homes just isn't right. There is an existing tennis court that is currently being used as a paddle board court with no issue of folks waiting for the court. The area should be turned i to a nature reserve with signs about the current species in the area... and regarding the road to the bonds coast guard station, that is the stupidest thing i have ever heard when that is currently a natural dune guarding the houses from bay flooding. The lack of understanding of joan rd flooding from the bay is by far understated, on 4 occasions this past winter- the street corner by the bay was impassable. Please think before the next step, well thought out ideas that make sense with the neighboring houses input is important and should be done.

9/19/2021 6:53 PM

would be good to have a pickle ball court in Holgate not sure why LBT won't put lines on since this is a non-damaging and no more intrusive solution

9/19/2021 3:52 PM

We would like to see pickleball lines on the tennis courts but not a separate facility.

9/19/2021 10:22 AM

COMMENTS

Enough already!!!! Stop!! Leave the area as it is, please!!!!

9/17/2021 1:50 PM

The additional traffic would certainly disrupt the residential privacy. And safety !!!! There are also sufficient pickle ball courts in town which are NEVER fully in use !!!?

9/17/2021 12:06 PM

My first priority would enhancing the playground. I have 3 younger boys and they love that playground, but when they updated this year they only updated some things and left others untouched that are still falling apart (climbing wall)

9/16/2021 12:17 PM

The existing park has both ecological and recreational significance for local residents. Please do NOT tamper with the glorious vegetation for added recreation (pickleball) and convenience (parking). It is a wonderful park as is. Please leave it alone.

9/16/2021 11:35 AM

COMMENTS

The area is fine just as is.

9/15/2021 10:43 AM

I am concerned about additional congestion (cars, parking, non-Holgate people using the facility). And... I feel badly for the residents in that area as a result.

9/15/2021 5:38 AM

We should consider people having homes near by.

9/14/2021 7:57 PM

In my opinion pickle ball courts in that area will adversely affect quality of life of people living in that house.

9/14/2021 6:02 PM

COMMENTS

Preserve Boyd Park as is

9/14/2021 5:17 PM

We don't need more bulldozing for pickle ball

9/14/2021 4:07 PM

This is an extremely brief survey - did I miss something? I think LBT should consider management of bay flooding, protection of habitat for migrating birds and butterflies, enhancing the historical nature of the area, safety of pedestrians at ALL park access points, and a respect for the tranquility of the area - something residents and renters alike are drawn to. There are very few bay beaches with public access left on LBI - let's protect this one.

9/14/2021 3:25 PM

While I do appreciate the interest in pickleball, I am concerned that the likely increase in noise should courts be constructed would detract from the serenity of the area. It would also be blatantly unfair to the adjacent homeowners. Please see the recent NT Times article regarding how pickleball courts can disrupt a neighborhood.

9/14/2021 3:24 PM

COMMENTS

We NEED the Vegetation!! There are enough pickle ball courts on the island for those who want to play.

9/14/2021 1:40 PM

We will need an online reservation system for tennis and pickleball and dedicated times each for tennis and pickleball courts. Otherwise there will be endless disputes.

9/13/2021 6:20 PM

I think will be encroaching on the private owner's privacy (old coast guard station house) if we add more recreation activities. If we want to play pickleball, we can use nelson ave. as long as beach haven does not object.

9/13/2021 4:35 PM

No pickleball please, no new construction except for a new crossover walkway.

9/13/2021 8:50 AM

These facilities are just fine the way they are!! Nelson courts are not far and always available. Our basketball court works for us where it stands! PLEASE - let's leave the green plantings, trees and grasses alone - let's just keep "things" the way they are !!

9/12/2021 8:31 PM

COMMENTS

If residents want pickle ball then eliminate tennis.

9/12/2021 5:41 PM

No more development or increased use of that space please.

9/11/2021 9:59 PM

No pickleball!

9/11/2021 3:15 PM

Concern about parking and noise for existing residents

9/11/2021 8:42 AM

Redesign driveway access to the private residence from Janet Road. Provide a path from Bay Terrace to West Ave that does not cross existing basketball court and allows pedestrians and bicyclist to traverse safely. Develop natural park features with benches and gazebo.

9/10/2021 6:28 PM

COMMENTS

Access to the private residence should be provided from Janet Road and include redesign of the existing pedestrian path. Vegetation from Joan Road should be left as is. Absolutely NO pickle ball courts!

9/10/2021 6:08 PM

I would favor any improvements or changes that do not require the addition of parking for autos.

9/10/2021 10:27 AM

We should try to maintain the peace and quiet the area presently has. The bay and playground mean many young children are around and more traffic may present a safety issue for the little bike riders. We have been here since 1976 and have seen many changes already. Thank you.

9/10/2021 9:25 AM

I believe that the proposed changes pose several disadvantages including the safety of our children, increased traffic and noise and most importantly the possibility of increased bay flooding with the elimination of vegetation as well as increased paving that will not absorb water. The aesthetics and the benefits of the natural habitation outweigh any benefits to increased recreation

9/10/2021 7:48 AM

COMMENTS

I think preservation of the existing, mature vegetation is far more beneficial to the park and surrounding homes at this time. When the HTA currently spends almost 1/2 their annual budget on plantings, I would hate to see us have to re-plant (at our expense) to offset any redesign. I disagree with the township's assertion that the Janet Rd access path is a "serious safety issue" as-is. If anything, the towns proposed changes introduce much more hazard than the current cul-de-sac layout. I maintain that we require full disclosure from the township on any proposed changes well in advance of any further surveys or designs. Stop telling us there are no plans or funding and then send a surveyor out to plan for the "driveway". This mixed messaging does not bolster confidence within the community. Thanks.

9/9/2021 7:50 PM

Located in heart of a densely populated area on small lots. Without much area to add parking this is going to cause higher traffic on West, Janet and Joan roads. This area has been kept until now primarily in it's natural state. It should remain that way. The vegetation acts as protection for the homes in the area and is home to some forms of wildlife.

9/9/2021 5:16 PM

COMMENTS

Too small a park for the crowds of folks who come. Dangerous for walkers, bikers and parking. Needs to build either another park in Holgate. Don't think you can expand what you have given the homes and tiny space.

9/9/2021 2:10 PM

Do not destroy the natural environment. A driveway next to the park entrance on Joan Road would be serious accident waiting to happen.

9/9/2021 1:43 PM

Pickle ball is very noisy and disruptive to the community. It has caused controversy in towns that have built these courts. It will disrupt the peace of the quiet Holgate neighborhood and lower property values for people like us with houses near the park.

9/9/2021 12:11 PM

Pickle ball courts would really be fantastic for our community to have. Thank you for considering this

9/9/2021 12:11 PM

We need to preserve as much vegetation as possible and avoid more impervious coverage.

9/9/2021 11:13 AM

COMMENTS

there is a sense of peace and calm at this location so protecting that would seem the most respectful use of this area. Pickle ball courts in Ridgewood, NJ have been a source of conflict due to noise issues to neighbors and wouldn't want to add that trouble to our recreational and residential area. thank you

9/9/2021 10:21 AM

I play tennis and pickleball. The latter is very noisy and would drive the residents crazy. In my opinion, it would be inconsiderate to cram a pickleball court or two into that particular space. I support the construction of pickleball courts elsewhere.

9/9/2021 10:17 AM

No reasonable or logical reason given for a change ,not broken don't fix it . Implication that crossover between Janet & Joan a safety problem is "absurd "

9/9/2021 10:10 AM

You can't disrupt those neighbors by Bond Park. It is not fair to them.

9/9/2021 10:00 AM

COMMENTS

NO MORE CONSTRUCTION! KEEP THE NATURAL HABITAT!

9/9/2021 9:58 AM

Enough development already!

9/9/2021 9:43 AM

The area to the south of the pump station on Janet could be improved with landscaping and a pathway through it.

9/9/2021 9:20 AM

There is too much traffic currently in the area and any new facilities would only attract more, and denigrate the residential community

9/9/2021 8:58 AM

Welcome! Thanks for doing such a wonderful job helping our little community - so appreciative.

9/9/2021 8:25 AM

Adding pickle ball courts and removing vegetation would have a negative impact on this quiet beach community

9/9/2021 8:05 AM

COMMENTS

Bonds park is half the reason we bought in Holgate (the other half being Bowkers)! We love the charm the park brings to Holgate and would love to see it left how it is. I don't understand why the township will not paint additional lines on the tennis court as this seems like a reasonable solution that would please all! Thank you for giving us this opportunity.

9/9/2021 7:44 AM

Unrelated to Bond's Park, we would like to ask if there is somewhere else within Holgate to put in a dog park. The nearest dog park for Holgate residents is either the dog beach in Beach Haven or at the Township Borough Hall. Both are very far and require driving.

9/9/2021 7:37 AM

I do not think we need to pave over any more open space on the island especially since the area of the former trailer park is now over developed.

9/9/2021 7:35 AM

I see the current tennis court and basketball courts get used a lot not sure we need another court with the land restrictions.

9/9/2021 6:41 AM

Any additions to the existing facilities will disrupt owners of properties on Janet and Joan Rd

9/9/2021 6:40 AM

COMMENTS

Pickleball courts are very noisy. Drive, bike or walk a mile to beach Haven and play there. If anything, remove the tennis court and just make it an open beach area. Otherwise, please leave it alone.

9/9/2021 5:01 AM

Due to the close confines of this township property intertwined in the existing neighborhood it should not be developed further. Further development would only add to congestion in the area and increase the safety hazard to local residents and the children who use the park. Parking is already a major issue.

9/8/2021 11:13 PM

Additional recreational facilities would be disruptive to the current homeowners, and potentially to the natural area around the park. This area should not be disturbed or changed in any way.

9/8/2021 11:00 PM

This is small, peaceful park. Additional activities, parking, and potentially large groups of people is not a positive for this area. The crowds of people waiting to play pickle ball at the West Ave playground is an example of how Bond's Park may change and become. I am in favor of keeping the equipment for the children maintained and safe, and the beach area maintained as well. Nothing else is needed. Thank you

9/8/2021 10:34 PM

I would recommend to add pickle ball lines to the tennis courts.

9/8/2021 10:27 PM

COMMENTS

I think adding a pickle ball court would be disturbing to the area neighbors not just the old life guard station. It's a very loud game.

9/8/2021 10:23 PM

bonds park is one of the only natural places left in Holgate

9/8/2021 9:37 PM

I have to hand it to you guys. This is a "pickle" no pun intended. I live 2 houses up from the land on Janet Rd. The lot is an odd shape when you take into account Bond's station. Even if you turn the existing empty sand lot into a court(s), I am not sure where people will park unless the current residents move their ingress which I am sure will come at a long battle they won't win. As for adding a court, I am not opposed to it. Another idea...if we could use that area for more formal parking with better access to the bay for non powered water sports (aka launching), I am all for it. Or even a dog park...but again, where would people park who did not walk their dogs directly there. On an aside, more playground equipment would surely be enjoyed by family's with younger kids.. That all said, I don't think the current resident's use of a shared driveway poses a harzard...no more than cars coming into park in the same area.

9/8/2021 9:37 PM

Any change to this property would have a negative impact on the residents of Janet Road. We've already had to endure the horrible new pump station that has without a doubt reduced our property values. Please leave things as they are.

9/8/2021 9:20 PM

COMMENTS

If the issue is only pickle ball courts - I think the option to paint additional lines on the tennis courts should be reconsidered.

9/8/2021 9:16 PM

It would make a mess for the family living in the old coast guard station house. Putting lines on the tennis court is a good, cost effective idea.

9/8/2021 9:15 PM

Please don't ruin the quality of life of those living or renting in the area (and by area, I mean everyone within 400 yards) of Bond Park by adding pickleball courts. People come to Holgate because it's quiet and peaceful. The noise and traffic that pickleball courts would generate would create warring factions in Holgate. Please just say NO!

9/8/2021 9:13 PM

Is there a selection that says "Oh, HELL NO"? If so, put me down for that.

9/8/2021 9:09 PM

Please leave as is. The vegetation and natural dunes have prevented flooding to property numerous times.

9/8/2021 9:07 PM

COMMENTS

I do not believe the walkway from Janet to bonds park which crosses residential driveway posses any risk

9/8/2021 9:04 PM

I would err on not further disturbing the residents that have a home there, facilities seem nice as they are.

9/8/2021 9:02 PM

Prefer to keep to keep the park family friendly and if possible consider a cleanup of the bay area since it is a focus for families on bad beach days.

9/8/2021 9:01 PM

How do we get rid of the greenhead flies???

9/8/2021 8:55 PM

If you can send details on the current facilities that would be great. Are the tennis courts, etc open to the public? If so, do they need to be reserved? Is there a list of community resources/facilities somewhere?

9/8/2021 8:52 PM

COMMENTS

Please keep it the way it is, just restore the walkway and seating area for sunsets that had deteriorated and was removed.

9/8/2021 8:47 PM

I do not want to see any vegetation destroyed, altered or eliminated.

9/8/2021 8:37 PM

We play tennis frequently on the court and it is very frustrating when people use it for pickleball. Pickleball is very loud and it would be very unfair to all of the houses in the surrounding area not just the residence in question. We are strongly opposed to any additional development.

9/8/2021 8:36 PM

My kids love the park. If anything, a little maintenance and updating of the playground equipment and Swingsets would be nice.

9/8/2021 8:35 PM

Thanks for putting this excellent survey together.

9/8/2021 6:23 PM

APPENDIX

Note: Percentages shown in the Appendix are based on the number of respondents to the specific question and are not based on the total number of respondents to the survey. This makes it more difficult to compare results across all questions in the survey and is based on the way SurveyMonkey reports the data. As a result, the percentages were recalculated based on the the total number of respondents to the survey.

Q5: How familiar are you with the Bond's Park area in Holgate (the old Coast Guard station that is now a private home; to the west of the home is Township property containing a single tennis court, a small basketball court and playground equipment on the bay side)?

Answered: 158 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely familiar	70.3%	111
Very familiar	20.3%	32
Somewhat familiar	8.2%	13
Not so familiar	0.6%	1
Not at all familiar	0.6%	1
TOTAL		158

Q6: Would you like to have Bond's Park remain in its current state and only maintain existing facilities?

Answered: 158 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	62.7%	99
No	17.1%	27
Not sure	20.3%	32
TOTAL		158

Q7: Would you like to see pickle ball courts at Bond's Park?

Answered: 57 Skipped: 101

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	57.9%	33
No	14.0%	8
Not sure	28.1%	16
TOTAL		57

Q8: If you would like to see pickle ball courts at Bond's Park, how would you like to see them added? (please check all that apply)

Answered: 35 Skipped: 123

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Build at least 2 pickle ball courts and add the required parking	57.1%	20
Add pickle ball lines to the existing tennis court	31.4%	11
Add a second tennis court and include pickle ball lines on this court	25.7%	9
Other (please specify)	8.6%	3
Total Respondents: 35		

Q9: What other recreational options would you like to see added to Bond's Park? (please check all that apply)

Answered: 52 Skipped: 106

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Create a natural park area in the available open space with additional seating and plantings but no additional parking	50.0%	26
Add more playground equipment next to the current equipment	46.2%	24
Add a kayak rack to the bay beach area	36.5%	19
Add lighting for use of the recreational facilities at night	36.5%	19
Create a larger basketball court	23.1%	12
Other (please specify)	19.2%	10
Add a second tennis court but do not include pickle ball lines	1.9%	1
Total Respondents: 52		