

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Wednesday, August 10, 2022

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Residents invited to public meeting to view concept for new pickleball courts at Painswick Park

(Barrie, ON) – The City of Barrie invites members of the public to attend a meeting next week to view a design concept for the addition of eight pickleball courts at Painswick Park in southeast Barrie. Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping pong. It is an allages, many abilities sport which can be played with low-cost equipment.

As part of this project, the City is undertaking a redevelopment of the Painswick Park. Construction is scheduled to begin later this summer and is expected to be complete by fall 2023.

#### The construction will include:

- eight new pickleball courts with lighting
- relocation of the baseball diamond and removal of the soccer field
- an expansion of a portion of the granular parking lot
- a shade structure
- the extension of lit walkways

The Painswick Park redevelopment will add eight new pickleball courts, creating a new pickleball hub offering a total of 12 courts, which will be suitable for local and regional tournaments. Two of the new courts will be constructed to an elite/accessible standard set by the United States of America's Pickleball Association.

Residents are invited to a public meeting on August 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Painswick Park, located at 231 Ashford Drive, to view the design concept and ask questions. The public meeting will take place south of the current pickleball courts at the park. The meeting is open to everyone; no pre-registration is required, and the meeting will take place rain or shine.

Visit 'Parks Construction' at barrie.ca/parks for project updates as the construction progresses.

On March 28, 2022, City Council approved a <u>motion</u> to investigate construction of professional grade pickleball courts at Painswick Park. Barrie currently has dedicated pickleball courts in the following parks: Redpath, Painswick and Eastview (under construction currently). Two more dedicated pickleball courts are proposed at Strabane Park (2023) and Victoria Woods Park (2024). This work ties into two of Council's strategic priorities: promoting recreation opportunities for all ages and abilities; and creating great public spaces.

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