

DP TENNIS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CAMPAIGN

BACKGROUND

The area surrounding the DP Tennis courts are in a deplorable state, with hard cracked dirt areas, dilapidated bleachers, no sun shelter, and a tiny tennis shed with a deteriorating roof. Besides being an eyesore and embarrassment to DP, the grounds are such that there are continual concerns about safety and possible injury of a tennis player or spectator twisting their ankles. A recent visiting team's coach kept yelling at his team to "Mind the ruts!" as they walked to/from the bleachers, as he was worried about an ankle injury. Despite these conditions, Liz and Allison have nurtured and developed League champion level tennis teams over the years that DP should be proud of and support.



After visiting every Girls Tennis match (away and home) this season, I can also attest that we have THE worst facilities in the area. Many schools provided our team with sun shelter (either permanent or temporary) and ice-cold water jugs, such as Arroyo

Grande (see right). No school required our team to walk on uneven dirt to get to their bleachers or courts.

The DP Boys and Girls Tennis teams are just asking for equity with the rest of the district in improving the conditions and safety for both the players and spectators.



We are thus initiating a Tennis Grounds Improvement Campaign to raise funds to implement the long overdue improvements to the DP Tennis area. After a lot of discussions and getting feedback from parents, administrators, and coaches, we have come up with some basic improvements that are needed, and a few possible additional "stretch" goals.

Several of us have spent the last two months finding out what was feasible, allowable, and doable. (For example, any permanent shade structure would require state approval, which could take a long time. And all permanent structures need to be done via the district and their approved contractors). These plans are certainly up for further discussion and modification if needed, but an initial vision is necessary to determine how much money we may need to fundraise.

IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED

1. Grading/Smoothing the grounds on the west side of the East Courts for aesthetics and to reduce safety issues, plus prepare the grounds for the walkways and benches.
2. Walkways to/from the tennis courts and to the viewing bleacher areas with ADA access, like what was installed in the baseball area recently.
3. 4 Bleachers for teams and spectators with a decomposition granite (DG) base, like what was installed in the baseball area recently. Dan Feldhaus says it can be aluminum.
4. A new 8' x 8' Tuff Shed and underlying concrete pad to replace the existing tiny tennis shed (presently placed on constantly eroding dirt). May also need to have a walkway from the shed to the sidewalk.
5. 3 Easy-Up 10' x 10' canopies with DP Tennis Team logo
6. Equipment: 2 fold up tables, 2 water jugs, metal storage box for food/water, dolly to transport items

Some additional Improvements we may also want to pursue (later or in parallel)

1. Grounds Beautification. After all the sidewalk and bleachers are installed, we would like to add mulch and plants/trees to the other areas to cover up the dirt.
2. Outdoor filtered water fountain between the tennis courts and the baseball field (which can refill water bottles, like what is presently at Laguna School). This improvement was suggested by Bill Woodard and he will investigate on whether this is a possibility.
3. Tennis lights? Santa Ynez High School recently installed outdoor lights with the help of the city. It is coin operated to help recoup the costs.



MAP OF PROPOSED CHANGES (Preliminary, subject to change and approval)



ESTIMATED COST AND FUNDRAISING NEEDED

The next step is to determine what the costs will be and to determine what we would need to fundraise.

A HUGE exciting news is that thanks to Bill Woodard's effort, the school district (SBUSD) via Steve Vizzolini (Maintenance Supervisor) has committed (as of 10/9/17) to grading the west side of the East courts AND constructing the sidewalk walkways (Our improvements #1 and #2). This would have been the biggest cost in our

list of improvements, and they have agreed to take this on and have it completed this school year! This significantly reduces our total fundraising requirements. The assumption with the district though is that in conjunction with their efforts, we would also fundraise to implement the other improvements.

Total tentative total costs would be about \$20K for the improvements (not including the water fountain or lighted tennis courts, but we will need help and volunteers to get more formal bids on those items to get a clearer picture.

PROPOSED PHASES:

Phase 1: Concrete Pad, Shed, canopy tents, tables, dolly, water coolers. (by December?)

Phase 2: Grade west side of East courts, install ADA sidewalks and viewing areas. (by Dec or Jan)

Phase 3: Bleachers and Recognition of Donors. (By April/May?)

Phase 4: Beautification Project of the DP Tennis grounds; Possible water fountain(?) (late 2018),

Phase 5: Lighted courts? (??)

OUR NEXT STEPS

We welcome additional comments for our plans. **Please forward them to me** (rchou@flir.com)

We established a **Fundraising Committee** to initiate fundraising and donor recognition.

Donations are to be made to the SB Athletic Boosters Club; Formally Dos Pueblos Charger Associates Athletic Booster Club; Tax ID: 20-4145680. Make sure to note in the donation that it is for **the Tennis Improvement Project**