

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: September 8, 2020
Reviewed by: NA

SUBJECT: Ocean View Tennis Court Commercial Use Fee Waiver for Albany
Fitness Gyms

REPORT BY: Isabelle Leduc, Assistant City Manager/ Recreation & Community
Services Director

SUMMARY

The item before Council is the consideration of a waiver of the Ocean View Tennis Courts Commercial Use fee for Albany fitness gyms only to conduct outdoor non-contact fitness classes in accordance with the current COVID-19 public health order.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt Resolution No. 2020-89, authorizing a waiver of the Ocean View Tennis Court Commercial Use fee for Albany fitness gyms only to conduct non-contact fitness classes during the Alameda County COVID-19 Public Health Order.

BACKGROUND

The Alameda County Public Health Order released on June 18, 2020, allowed for outdoor non-contact fitness classes beginning on June 19, 2020 with up to 12 people, including the instructor under the following conditions:

- The instructor and all participants must wear face coverings at all times, except when engaged in high-intensity aerobic activity.
- The instructor and all participants must always arrange themselves to provide adequate social distancing of at least 6 feet. Greater distance is recommended for high-intensity aerobic activity.
- No member of the class may share equipment, and equipment should be sanitized between uses.
- The instructor of or organizer for the classes must obtain any required use authorizations from the owner or manager of the outdoor space, including permits for using parks required by any city, county, or district before undertaking the fitness classes.
- It is recommended that the instructor of or organizer for fitness classes consider maintaining contact information of attendees and that this information be kept by the event's organizer for at least 21 days after the event. The purpose of this recommendation is to assist ACPHD with effective contact tracing in case of an outbreak that may have affected people attending the event.

DISCUSSION

Finding appropriate outdoor space that can accommodate outdoor non-contact fitness classes in accordance with the current health order has been a challenge for most Albany fitness gyms. To assist Albany gyms in providing outdoor fitness classes, the Recreation and Community Services Department set up a reservation process for Albany fitness gyms to reserve Ocean View Tennis courts in 2-hour blocks Monday- Friday from 6:00 AM – 1:00 PM starting July 1. The 2-hour blocks fee was set at \$43.00 (\$21.50/hour) and based on the Tennis Court Commercial Use fee included in the City’s Master Fee schedule. Local gyms were informed of the availability of the Ocean View tennis courts through the Albany Chamber of Commerce, but no reservations were made. The feedback received from the Chamber of Commerce and Solano Avenue Association indicates that the fee is deterring gyms from taking advantage of the proposed program.

ANALYSIS

A waiver of the Commercial Tennis Court Use fee included in the City’s Master Fee Schedule would support the use of Ocean View tennis courts by Albany fitness gyms to conduct non-contact fitness classes in accordance with the current health order, and similarly to the July 6, 2020 approval of the encroachment permit fee waiver for restaurants to set up outdoor dining, provides additional support for economic development during this very difficult time.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

N/A

SOCIAL EQUITY AND INCLUSIVITY CONSIDERATIONS

Providing a fee waiver to Albany fitness gyms for the use of tennis courts at Ocean View is an additional program implemented by the City to support a cross section of the business community during this very difficult time.

CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES

N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There is a \$21.50 fee per hour per court. The fee waiver will result in a modest loss of revenue for usage of the Ocean View tennis courts. However, it is understood that the fee waiver is temporary in nature and when restrictions are further lifted to allow indoor fitness classes, the fee will be restored.

Attachments

1. Resolution No. 2020-89

