

**From:** [Brian Scherler](#)  
**To:** [ParksAndRec](#)  
**Subject:** Sunrise park restrooms NOT OPEN!  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:27:15 AM

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I would like to know under whose direction the bathrooms at Sunrise park are locked. I have noted and filmed the fact that these public restrooms have not been unlocked most of the time. These are public restrooms and should by California state law be opened to the public, not just for certain people and events. This bathroom situation in Palm Springs is a disgrace and needs to be exposed especially to visitors who need a palace to relieve themselves. Unlock these bathrooms.

Brian Scherler

**From:** [Tamara Hedges](#)  
**To:** [ParksAndRec](#)  
**Subject:** Pickleball expansion at Demuth Park  
**Date:** Monday, February 26, 2024 10:09:04 AM

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Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners,

I am writing to express my opposition to the planned expansion of the Demuth Park pickleball courts that will remove the trees in the park. There is very little shade in the park, and very little habitat for birds and other wildlife. Although the trees are not native, they provide critical cover and habitat for a variety of species, including native and migratory birds who nest and rest in the cool, shady branches. It will take years for any newly planted trees to replicate the amount of safe habitat they provide. With the rapid increase in global temperatures threatening wildlife at an alarming rate, particularly in desert regions, we don't have years to wait.

Additionally, the removal of the trees will negatively impact the homeless dogs who visit the park daily for much needed exercise outside of their kennels. The park is the only safe, grassy and semi-shaded area near the shelter for volunteers to walk dogs. Easy access to the park was one of the primary reasons the shelter was built where it is. Replacing the adjacent turf with a parking lot, cutting down trees, and removing the safe access to the park from the shelter undermines all of the thoughtful work and planning that was done two decades ago.

Pickleball is a great sport, providing community members a way to exercise, socialize, compete, and connect. Surely we can expand the number of courts and associated amenities without doing harm to voiceless trees and animals.

Thank you for considering the unintended consequences of the proposed expansion as it currently stands. Let's play nice on the courts.

Respectfully,

Tamara Hedges  
Palm Springs resident

**From:** [Bonnie Ruttan](#)  
**To:** [ParksAndRec](#)  
**Cc:** [Christy Holstege](#); [Grace Garner](#); [Lisa Middleton](#)  
**Subject:** Demuth Park  
**Date:** Monday, February 26, 2024 11:49:19 AM

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Dear commissioners

I'm writing to object to removing old growth trees in order to increase pickleball courts. This park is used by ALL citizens . Especially by year round residents during the summer when the courts will likely be empty

The animal shelter depends on the open, grassy area to provide much needed outdoor space for walking dogs and relaxing with them in the shade. Concrete is the antithesis of this

Please reconsider this unacceptable proposal

Thank you for your consideration

Bill and Bonnie Ruttan

Residents since 1995