



**Date:** December 19, 2011

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**Through:** Theodore L. Voorhees, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Rhonda B. Parker, Director, Parks and Recreation  
**Subject:** Acceptance of 2012 North Carolina Tennis Association Raise the Net Grant

### **Executive Summary**

In December 2011, the North Carolina Tennis Association (NCTA) awarded a Raise the Net Grant to the City of Durham Parks and Recreation Department. NCTA has awarded \$5,000.00 and the United States Tennis Association has awarded a matching amount of \$5,000.00. The total grant of \$10,000.00 will purchase additional equipment for the Rock Quarry Tennis Facility currently under renovation. This equipment will provide amenities necessary for hosting tournaments at this facility.

### **Recommendation**

The Administration recommends that the City Council adopt the 2012 NCTA Facility Grant Project Ordinance and authorize the City Manager to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$10,000.00.

### **Background**

During the application process for the United State Tennis Association funding for the renovation of Rock Quarry Tennis Facility, staff became aware of additional funding available through the state tennis association. This additional support from NCTA will provide for the purchase of benches, score reporters and other amenities that will improve the tournament readiness of the facility.

DPR has a growing tennis program and is quickly becoming a popular location for regional tournaments. Registration in both adult and junior tennis has increased for the past several years by more than 10%. DPR began offering QuickStart Tennis for children ages 5-8 in the early spring of 2011. The Quick Start program is very popular and in high demand. In September 2011 DPR hosted the USTA-sanctioned North Carolina Tennis Association's Mixed Doubles Tournament. This four-day event included 1200 athletes and approximately 4,000 spectators visiting Durham. DPR will host this tournament again in September, 2012.

DPR intends to increase the number of tournament opportunities it offers to the region. In order to accomplish this goal, DPR needs not only to renovate its facilities but also make them more aesthetically pleasing. The Rock Quarry Tennis Facility was constructed in 1977 and last resurfaced in 1997. The Rock Quarry facility has been closed to league play for youth and adults for over two years. Several of the courts have deteriorated to the point that water pooled on the courts, and several courts had seriously cracked surfaces, and those

courts were closed to play. The courts at Rock Quarry without safety hazards have remained open for public use. The City of Durham is currently in process of a full renovation of the Rock Quarry Tennis Facility, including a sub-base, new asphalt surface course and color coating, new sleeves and net posts, and new perimeter black vinyl coated chain link fencing. The renovation will include improvements in ADA compliance. Color coating will include Quick Start lines allowing this new program to expand. We are using a “green” surfacing method that entails grinding up the old asphalt surface in place, then compacting it and using it for the new sub-base; thus no material has to be taken off-site to the landfill.

**Issues/Analysis**

This funding will provide for equipment purchases not budgeted for in the re-surfacing project.

**Alternatives**

The City Council could choose not to adopt the proposed grant project ordinance; DPR would not accept the grant from NCTA for the purchase of equipment for the tennis facilities at Rock Quarry Park.

**Financial Impact**

The grant for \$10,000 does not require a match. There is no known negative financial impact to receiving this grant.

**Attachments:**

Grant Project Ordinance for the 2012 North Carolina Tennis Association Raise the Net Grant Project

Award letter from North Carolina Tennis Association.