

Date: September 11, 2024

To: Mayor Kircher and Council Members

From: Robert and Sandra Ludlow, 18 Canyon Road, Ross, CA

Re: Agenda Item 11. **Regulating pickleball courts on private property and in residential zones.**

We would like to express our opposition to allowing pickleball courts in residential zones because of the noise nuisance that they represent.

Pickleball is a use that is not consistent with the Town's ordinances and design guidelines.

*Ordinance 9.20.010* prohibits " ... any unnecessary noises or sounds which are annoying to persons of ordinary sensitiveness " and the Town's adopted design guidelines include the Overarching Design Principle to " Respect Neighboring Properties and Prioritize Privacy ".

Many of our friends play pickleball and it is a fine sport, but it is a known source of offensively loud noise. This noise has been deemed a nuisance by many municipalities, not just for the volume, but also for the pitch and frequency of the noise.

The Town of Ross has existing municipal ordinances that prohibit crowing roosters, loud musical instruments, or loud machinery. It would be entirely consistent with the intent of maintaining a peaceful small town atmosphere to update the Town's ordinances to prohibit pickleball. It is an activity that would undoubtedly be disturbing to neighbors.

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