

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: April 15, 2026

SUBJECT: Grant Award – United States Tennis Association NC Raise the Net

PRESENTER: Nora Sjue, Special Projects
Ronnie Kilby, Capital Projects Project Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

1. Budget Amendment
2. Grant Award Letter

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Henderson County Parks and Recreation has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the United States Tennis Association (USTA) North Carolina “Raise the Net” program. The associated budget amendment recognizes the grant funds and allocates them toward the construction of six new USTA-certified tennis courts at the Henderson County Sports Complex at Berkeley Park. The grant will cover a portion of the total project cost, with completion anticipated by the end of calendar year 2026.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to approve acceptance of the United States Tennis Association North Carolina “Raise the Net” Grant to support the construction of six new tennis courts at the Henderson County Sports Complex at Berkeley Park and the associated budget amendment.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move the Board approve acceptance of the USTA North Carolina “Raise the Net” Grant along with the associated budget amendment.



USTA North Carolina
2079 Henry St.
Greensboro, NC 27405
336.852.8577
nctennis.com

March 13, 2026

Bruce Gilliam
Jason Kilgore
708 South Grove Street
Hendersonville, NC 28792

re: USTA Tennis Venue Services Grant, NC32293 : Berkeley Park Sports Complex (Hendersonville, NC)

Dear Bruce,

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that the County of Henderson has been selected to receive **\$5,000.00** from USTA North Carolina's "Raise the Net" grant program.

The grant funds will be distributed as the project construction progresses, and accountability information is received by the USTA National office. We will be notified by USTA as to when we can distribute Raise the Net funds, depending upon the accountability information they receive.

The goal of the grant is to provide communities with access to safe, appealing and functional tennis only environments and we are happy to partner with Henderson County to help achieve this goal in Hendersonville, NC. The essence of this initiative is to assist communities leverage their tennis facilities to promote lifelong healthy activity and improve their programming by advancing the latest tennis innovations for all program types.

Please be advised that, by accepting these funds upon project completion, Henderson County agrees not to add lines to the courts for any sport other than tennis for at least 5 years from the date the funds are received. Adding lines on these courts for any other sport will violate this grant and give USTA North Carolina the right to seek repayment of a pro-rata portion of the grant based upon the amount of time remaining in that 5-year period when the lines for another sport are added.

"Tennis courts eligible for USTA Southern sanctioned competition, including junior and adult tournaments and league, must contain only lines prescribed by the ITF Rules of Tennis, as set out in the USTA Handbook of Tennis Rules and Regulations." Courts that include both tennis AND pickleball lines are not eligible to host sanctioned events/play in the Southern Section.

Thank you for efforts to promote the game of tennis in your community and the commitment to keep the facility open to the public and provide programs for the next 5+ years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly Gaines".

Kelly Gaines, Executive Director
USTA North Carolina

CC: Debbie Southern, President, USTA North Carolina
Matt Olson, Executive Director, USTA Southern
Karen Zuidema, USTA Facility Assistance
Lynn Gilpin, President, CTA of Henderson County