



August 2021

City Manager of Merced

Ms. Dietz,

On behalf of the leadership team of El Capitan (a jdv by Hyatt hotel) and Mainzer, we would like to request a new public-private partnership endeavor that we believe would be a long-term asset to the community of Merced, particularly, the youth of Merced.

We hope to partner with the City of Merced and the San Jose Sharks Foundation to build a SJ Sharks branded “tealtop” outdoor skate rink in Applegate Park. We have been in talks with the SJ Sharks Foundation since May of 2021 to see bring this to life. The city has been an instrumental partner of ours to date and we would like to continue to work together to bring a new partnership and activity to our growing city.

If we move forward with this, we will be the first community outside of the South Bay to have a tealtop and it would be the first public park to have a tealtop (all have been at schools to-date).

Example of a tealtop: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpyA5eSWpdo>

WHAT IS A TEAL TOP?

Since 1999, the Sharks Foundation has been transforming outdoor blacktops at local schools, after school sites and non-profits into custom Tealtop street hockey courts, giving youth the opportunity to learn the game of hockey in a safe environment while being physically active.

In addition to the court, the organization receives street hockey equipment to ensure that the children have everything they need to play hockey all year round!

BENEFIT

- A tealtop provides a new activity for the youth in our community.
- This new outdoor rink brings a new sport to Merced – street hockey!
- It provides another activity at Applegate Park for our community to enjoy.
- Builds a new partnership with a proven sports team, the San Jose Sharks.
- Positive and ongoing marketing: for the groundbreaking and ribbon-cutting ceremonies, VIP’s from the SJ Sharks organization would come to Merced to support the events. They will also send VIP members sporadically once the tealtop is built to do small events and check-in.

ASK & TIMELINE

- We would like to have a 55% (El Capitan, Mainzer) / 45% partnership (City of Merced) with the city for the funding of this project.
- **We are asking if the city can fund \$83,250 to build the tealtop on the existing basketball courts. El Capitan & Mainzer will be funding \$101,750 for the project.**
 - Additional funding might be requested should we not be able to utilize the existing blacktop space at Applegate Park.



- If we are able to use the existing blacktop courts, Teichert will donate the labor and materials to improve the blacktop for tealtop preparation.
- We need approval from the council by early September so that we can meet the deadlines provided by the SJ Sharks Foundation.
- We hope to break ground on the outdoor rink by October 2021 and have the project completed by Spring 2022.
- Spring 2022 – it's time to play! Launch the outdoor rink and open to the community.

SHARKS TO PROVIDE

- Revitalized street hockey court or creation of a street hockey court
- Full sets of equipment for court use including sticks, balls, border pads, nets, goalie equipment
- Location must have a spot to safely lock and store all equipment

A FEW NOTES

- A KEY component of success here is finding a local (Merced) contractor who specializes in blacktop refurbishment who would be willing to take on the project at a reasonable rate (or do the work for free.)
 - El Cap Note: We discussed this with the Sharks rep and they said we can use any contractor. We have identified a few that we will work with on this project.
- Space must be large enough to accommodate a minimum 60' x 100' size court
- Surface must be in good to excellent condition on level ground (i.e.: no large cracks greater than 1/4", bumps, gradients; no major construction should be required)
- Cannot be a surface that vehicles drive/park on OR site is willing AND able to prevent vehicles from driving/parking on surface
- Cannot contain existing equipment (i.e.: basketball hoops, tetherball pole, volleyball net, etc.) OR site is willing AND able to remove existing equipment, at their cost, to accommodate space for a court
- Painted elements such as hopscotch OK, but please note that elements will be taken out; can be repainted elsewhere if requested
- Schools must serve at least 51% free/reduced lunch; centers or parks must service in-need youth and be able to provide statistics
- Cannot be located in a district with any gang affiliation to sharks or the color teal
- Site must be able to be accessed for 2-3 weeks for construction of court
- Site must be able to accept the gift in place

As an added bonus for our community, we will have a dedicated “Merced Night” at the San Jose Sharks game during the 2021-2022 season. The marketing that evening will be dedicated to all-things Merced, specifically, El Capitan hotel, Mainzer, The Tioga, and other focal points of our community. We will also have the opportunity to choose a few local vendors to invite to the game where they can provide samples to share with guests of the game. Merced Night at the SJ Sharks will be a positive and fun event for our community as we share with almost 18K fans at the game and the SJ Sharks database of 10M folks that Merced is a place worth visiting. It will be an amazing opportunity to shine a positive light on Merced!





APPENDIX

The Foundation has built courts at:

- 1999-00 - Clyde Arbuckle School in partnership with Good Tidings
- 2000-01 - Fair Oaks School in partnership with Good Tidings
- 2003-04 - Cureton School in partnership with Good Tidings
- 2004-05 - San Jose Children's Center in partnership with Good Tidings
- 2005-06 - San Jose Boys and Girls Club in partnership with Good Tidings
- 2008-09 - Marleau Court at Washington Elementary in partnership with Good Tidings
- 2009-10 - Pavelski Court at Franklin Elementary in partnership with Good Tidings
- 2011-12 - Thornton Court at Goss Elementary in partnership with Good Tidings
- 2015-16 - KIPP Heartwood Elementary in partnership with Good Tidings and Kaiser Permanente
- 2017-18 - Sakamoto Elementary in partnership with Good Tidings and Kaiser Permanente
- 2018-19 - Selma Olinder Elementary in partnership with Good Tidings and Kaiser Permanente
- 2019-20 - Edenvale Elementary in partnership with Kaiser Permanente

