

July 27, 2010

City Resurfaces Tennis Courts in Community Park

No more excuses for not having a great game of tennis. The City of Parksville gave the two tennis courts in the Community Park some love with a recent repair and resurfacing.

The badly cracked surface on the courts presented serious hazards. Cracking is the most common problem with asphalt tennis courts; caused in part, by asphalt's natural tendency to shrink as it weathers and ages. In addition, asphalt loses its flexibility and becomes more brittle over time. Cracking is inevitable since outdoor tennis courts are also exposed to temperature extremes that cause expansion and contraction.

The repair system uses a knitted fabric that expands as the cracks widen and essentially spreads the stress of the crack over a wide area of expandable fabric which is then covered over completely with colour-coating materials. Although these repairs will not prevent cracks from developing elsewhere on the court, or prevent cracks from growing in length out beyond the repair, this system successfully keeps repaired structural cracks from reappearing on the surface.

Completed ahead of schedule, the cost of the repairs and resurfacing was \$30,000. The courts were last repainted about six years ago and it is estimated that the cost to replace the courts would have been about \$100,000.

The resurfaced courts also received new nets and are now open for play, another wonderful summer activity in the City's Community Park.

[In photo: Warren Payne and Chrystal Sawry, Parks Department]

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