



LOWER WOODLAND PLAYFIELD #2 & #7 IMPROVEMENTS

Meeting Notes

March 12, 2009

Attendees:

Project Team:

Ted Holden, Senior Landscape Architect/Project Manger
Randy Robinson, Senior Landscape Architect
Shwu-jen Hwang, Senior Landscape Architect
Don McLean, Electric Consultant from DMD & Associates
Karen O'Connor, Public Relations

Other Park Staff:

Becky Ruffin, Park Engineer
Raft Hollingsworth, Athletic Field Coordinator
Linda Hubbert, Northwest District Manager
Don Allen, Northwest District Crew Chief
Rodney Nealer, Northwest District Senior Lead

11 Community Members

Introduction (Scope, Schedule & Budget):

Ted Holden introduced Parks employees. He explained project and process for input. This will be the only public meeting. Parks would like to get input on design and thanks people for attending.

- This project will replace the existing all-weather sand/silt playfield surfaces at both Playfields #2 & #7 with a new, synthetic turf and to replace the field lighting at Playfield #7. Planning, design, and construction are funded in 2009. This project was requested by the community through the Community Capital Suggestion Process and was approved by the voters when the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy passed.
- The size and layout of both fields will remain unchanged. Field #2 is 360' x 285' or 102,600 S.F. Field #7 is 360' x 210' or 75,600 S.F. Retaining the current dimensions and field layouts allows for re-use of the existing field infrastructure including lighting at field #2, curbs, and basic drainage infrastructure. The fields currently support soccer. This project proposes including inlaid lines for both women's and men's lacrosse. Field #2 is large enough to support 2 side-by-side ultimate Frisbee fields. This renovation will meet Park recreational needs, City Codes, and Department standards. The playfield renovation will also be constructed within the authorized budget, and not later than December 2009.
- Ted addresses the public's concerns about the lead content in synthetic turf. He pointed out that Center of Disease Control (CDC) determined that the new synthetic turf does not present a concern with having lead content. He shared a letter from the Field Turf company and also their material supplier Tencate both of which stated that their products do not contain lead.
- Subsurface drainage replacement shall be included in the surface renovation. ADA access from both the fields to the ADA accessible restrooms and parking shall be maintained. Other improvements may be made as funding allows.

Budget:Source:

- 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy.

Amount:

- \$5,200,000 Total Project Budget both Field #2 & #7 for Planning, Public Involvement Process, Design, Bidding and Construction.

Timeline:Upcoming Steps In the Process:

- **Design:** Spring 2009
- **July 1, City Council will review and hopefully approve synthetic turf use.**
- **Construction:** Summer - 2009
- **Completion:** Fall 2009
- **Close-out:** Winter 2010

Points at which SPR will Invite Public Comment:

- This community meeting is the one formal opportunity for public comment. Further comment is always welcome via email and phone calls.

Site Analysis & Detailed Scope Presentation:

Field #2: Ted Holden explained the detailed scope for field #2 as shown on Field #2 Concept Plan. The existing curb was replaced in 1999. This project will replace the existing all-weather sand/silt surface with synthetic turf. It will offer adult soccer field and woman's lacrosse and provide reference dots for ultimate Frisbee. Fence at east side will be replaced with higher fence at the middle (up to 15' high) to prevent balls from flying into or rolling to the parking lot. Asphalt will be paved between field #2 and existing skateboard park. This project will replace the existing old subsurface drainage system and remove the dust control system.

Field #7: Randy explained the detailed scope for field #7 as shown on Field #7 Concept Plan.

This project will replace the existing all-weather sand/silt surface with synthetic turf. It will offer adult soccer field and men's lacrosse and provide reference dots for Ultimate Frisbee play. The existing track is mainly used for high school practice and recreational joggers. This project considers providing a fence along northern edge for safety reason. The two areas for the bleachers currently have cinder surfacing. This will be converted to concrete paving. The track will be restored with 'as good or better' cinder track surface. This project will install a new subsurface drainage system under the field and other site drainage as required.

Field Lighting Presentation:

Don McLean from DMD & Associates described the lighting improvement for Field #7. The eight existing lighting poles will be replaced with four lighting poles with more energy efficient lights and less spill light or glare due to new technology.

Meeting Questions and Input:

Comment - Fencing for playfield #7 at north side is definitely needed

R. This is a safety issue that will be addressed

Q. Will the cinder track be replaced with a rubberized surface?

R. Our maintenance people use the track to drive on and replacing the surface is not part of the Levy package

- Q. With additional options for the field use such as Lacrosse and Ultimate Frisbee – what will the scheduling impact be?
- R. Scheduling is the responsibility of the scheduling office – the fields will provide for more sports to be played at the facility, but the use should not increase. Only one group can use the field at any particular time.
- Q. Fence should be pleasant looking – will you use landscaping?
- R. Yes, landscaping – berms or trees at east oval area of field #7. Will not use gray chain link – but possible black fencing staggered with gaps for entrance
- Q. Is it possible put a rain garden at the south edge of playfield #2
- R. This is not part of the project scope. Where damaged by the construction, we shall be restoring the adjacent site
- Q. Will the nets on the soccer goals be removable? Are the goals movable? How often are the nets replaced?
- R. The nets are usually zip tied to the goal, it is not permanently attachment. The soccer goals shall be able to be moved off the field for other uses. The nets will meet Park standards and be replaced as required, usually every year.
- Q. Are you going to do any improvement to the track surface?
- R. It is not in the levy language to replace or improve the existing track surface. However, due to potential construction damages, we will restore the track with new cinder track material.
- Q. Does the finished product something like Bobby Morris Playfield?
- R. Yes. Similar to Bobby Morris, Loyal Height or Georgetown Playfields.
- Q. Please explain the synthetic turf product ?
- R. It is a monofilament 2 ½” high. We are looking at Field Turf or Astro Turf . From the manufactures letter you can see it is lead free and safe. We’ll select a durable and safe product.

Field Lighting Presentation:

Don McLean, President / Senior Electrical Designer DMD & Associates
 Ted introduces Don McLean

Don explains the existing system is 30 years old and at the end of the life cycle. The current lights are difficult to control. The existing lighting poles will be replaced with four new lighting poles with more energy efficient lights and less spill light or glare due to new technology. The new system will reduce operating costs and visual clutter. The system is a better lighting system that allows more light on the field and less spill to outside the field. The lights will be set at 30 Foot Candle for synthetic turf surface.

The technology allows the lights to be set with precise aim. The external shield helps with unwanted reflection. Don worked with the neighbors at Loyal Height to fine tune or adjust the lights to reduce source glare. The pole heights will be 80’ which is the same as they are now.

- Q. There are still complaints about the new lights installed at Lower Woodland Park from people that live more up the hill, what can you do about this?
- R. The new lights will have less spill light and be more directly focused on the field
- Q. Since we will have the service out there to adjust the lighting when it is put in can you have them work on the lighting for playfield #2?

R. We'll explore that and see if the budget allows.

Comment: - Let playfields people know because they will work on a grant to help fund this.

Q. Are you going to give us updates?

R. All updates will be on the website

Q. Will it be like Cal Anderson?

R. Yes, but no baseball stripes.

Q. What are the plans for additional restrooms?

R. At this time there are existing restrooms in two locations near the fields. This project will not include new restroom facilities.

Comment: The community is very please with synthetic turf going in. Right now most injuries are caused by sand/silt. Fencing is needed at #7 - lower fencing will work because higher balls will be caught by trees. A higher fence at #2 is needed.

Comment: These fields are being used by many sports. Please be aware that too many lines is confusing. Please try and limit lines

Q. How are you going to deal with liquefaction?

R. This whole area is lake bottom. The synthetic turf of the field is put on many layers of sub support such as geotextile and geogrid which help to enhance its tensile strength.

Q. Notice the field still floods

R. Yes, we are working to minimize the drainage problem. The field currently is flat and has no where to drain. We will be installing a slight crown in the middle so the water is able to drain better.