



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Date: July 16, 2008

Agenda Item F2

REGULAR BUSINESS: Consideration of Conceptual Plan Alternatives for Improvements to Burgess Park, Recommendation to the City Council that a Preferred Conceptual Plan Alternative be Approved as a Future Capital Improvement Project, and Recommendation to the City Council that the Scope of the Citywide Sports Field Study be Limited to Study Only Flood County Park Until Such Time that Proposed Improvements to Burgess and Kelly Parks are Available for Use and Sports Field Users Identify Any Additional Needs.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission:

- 1) consider conceptual plan alternatives for improvements to Burgess Park,
- 2) recommend to the City Council that a preferred conceptual plan alternative be approved as a future capital improvement project, and
- 3) recommend to the City Council that the scope of Citywide Sports Field Study be limited to study only Flood County Park until such time that proposed improvements to Burgess and Kelly Parks are available for use and sports field users identify any additional needs.

BACKGROUND

In January 2007, the City Council established a goal of increasing the availability of City sports fields. In-line with this goal, Council approved the "Playing Fields Study" as part of the FY 2007-08 project priority process. The study's objective is to determine opportunities for increasing the availability of playing fields at Burgess Park and Kelly Park, particularly through possible field reconfiguration, the use of artificial turf, and/or new field lights.

Staff worked with the Commission's Fields Subcommittee and Callander Associates to determine improvement needs and to develop a conceptual plan with options for improvements to Burgess Park. Staff met with a representative of the Alpine/West Menlo Little League to ensure the acceptability of proposed field changes.

ANALYSIS

The conceptual plan alternatives are shown on Attachment A. All of the alternatives replace most of the baseball field's dirt infield with turf. Only the area along and outside of the first and third base running lines will remain dirt. This substantially increases the existing turf area. The expanded turf area will permit the layout of a full-sized adult soccer field, a football field, and a lacrosse field in addition to the existing baseball field. It will also allow for the side-by-side placement of two U-12 (80yds x 50yds) soccer fields. Creating these new field possibilities is in-line with Council and Commission goals.

Alternative 1 proposes that the existing baseball infield mix be replaced by natural turf to match the existing natural turf used on the rest of the multi-use field. This alternative is estimated to cost \$211,000. A significant portion of the cost is associated with modifying the infield's underlying base to match the sophisticated drainage base of the rest of the multi-use field.

Alternative 2 also proposes that the existing baseball infield mix be replaced by natural turf to match the existing natural turf used on the rest of the multi-use field. It also includes the addition of field lights around the multi-use field as well as the little league field. This alternative is estimated to cost \$671,000, 3-times more than Alternative 1.

Alternative 3 proposes that the existing natural turf of the multi-use field and the existing infield mix of the baseball field be replaced with artificial turf and that field lights be added around the multi-use field and the little league field. This alternative is estimated to cost \$2,675,000, 4 times more than Alternative 2 and almost 13-times more than Alternative 1.

Public Outreach

An invitation to attend the Commission meeting or to comment directly to City staff regarding the conceptual plan alternatives was mailed to all properties between Middlefield Road, Alma Street, Ravenswood Avenue and San Francisquito Creek. The conceptual plan and cost estimates are posted on the City's website and can be viewed at:

www.menlopark.org/PlayingFields.

Consideration of improvements to Kelly Park has proceeded separately. At its regular meeting last month the Commission approved a conceptual plan for recommendation to the City Council as a preferred alternative for future improvements at Kelly Park.

Should the Commission now act to recommend a conceptual plan for Burgess Park to the Council, the Playing Fields Study will essentially be complete. In this event staff recommends that the scope of the separate project Citywide Playing Fields Study be limited to study only Flood County Park until such time that proposed improvements to Burgess and Kelly Parks are available for use and sports field users identify any

additional needs. The approved scope of the Citywide Playing Fields Study includes the study of five sites throughout the city for possible playing field improvements.



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PUBLIC NOTICE: Public Notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with this agenda item being listed, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

ATTACHMENTS: A. Conceptual Plan



Renovation Alternatives

- ① **Natural Turf Option**
 - Replace infield mix with natural turf
- ② **Natural Turf with Lights Option**
 - Replace infield mix with natural turf
 - Add lights at multi-use field and Little League Field
- ③ **Synthetic Turf with Lights Option**
 - Replace natural turf at multi-use field with synthetic turf
 - Add lights at multi-use field and Little League Field

Concept Plan

