



**Genesee Public Meeting
Public Meeting
October 22, 2009
Rainier Community Center**

Present: **Ted Holden** – Seattle Parks Project Manager
Randy Robinson– Landscape Architect
Jacqueline D. Tabor – Parks Staff
Raft Hollingsworth- Parks Ballfield Coordinator

Purpose: Public Meeting

Handout: 1 handout was passed out showing a brief project history, an explanation of how decisions are made, and factors that may have an impact on the outcome of the project.

Introduction by Ted Holden:

Meeting Goals:

The meeting was conducted to share information about the project and to gather opinions and comments. Information regarding the site and the design considerations were presented.

Scope & Budget:

- This project will replace the existing all-weather sand/silt playfield surface at Genesee Playfield #1 with a new, synthetic turf. Planning and design are funded in 2009, and construction is funded in 2010. 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. Parks is also seriously considering replacing the existing synthetic surface on field #2 with new synthetic turf within the same construction contract. Grants have and will be submitted for the work on field #2.
- The layout and size of both fields will not be changed with this project, although additional inlaid lines for other sports are being considered. The current existing size field #1 is 56,000 SF, and supports soccer. This project proposes including inlaid lines football. The size of field #2 is also 56,000 SF and is lined for soccer. This project proposes including inlaid lines for both men's and women's lacrosse. 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 2010.
- Subsurface drainage replacement shall be included in the surface renovation of field #1.
- ADA access from the field to the parking lot, restrooms, and play area shall be maintained. A paved walk will partially encircle the field.
- The field lighting was replaced in 2002, and shall be maintained as is.
- The project budget is \$2,100,000 made available through the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy. This budget covers the total project costs from planning through close-out.

Schedule:

The design phase will continue through this fall and into early winter 2010. The project will be put out to public bid early spring 2010. Construction will occur during the summer months ending in early fall 2010.

Design.....July 2009 - January 2010

Bid, Award and order materials.....February - March 2010

Construction.....May – September 2010

Questions and Comments

Question: Who did the mailers go out to?

Answers: Mailers were sent to 4000 residents around the radius of this particular community and also 300 emails to community members that are currently on our database.

Design Presentation by Randy Robinson:

The primary focus is on field #1. There are surfacing and drainage issues because this was a landfill from the 1940’s. There has been substantial settlement over the years but this appears to have stabilized. It currently has a concrete swail around the field which will be removed. We will be installing a new sub-surface drainage system. The field level will for the most part remain the same, but there will be a 1% slope from the southeast corner to the northwest corner. The field width will remain the same, but the field may be lengthened to accommodate football. The new field lights prevent expansion to the field width. Parks is exploring both football and soccer striping on Field#1. The field will be adequate for football practice, but not for league level games. Parks is also considering accommodating a spectator area for the coaches and for the teams. Parking will be in the same area and there might be minor pathway changes. There will not be substantial electrical changes or irrigation changes.

The field will have a concrete containment curb around the synthetic surfaced area. Parks is considering installing a rubber cap over the curb at each end, similar to what was installed at Georgetown Playfield. The field will be graded to the proper sub-grade, removing most of the existing sand/silt surface. Subsurface drainage will be installed. Over the drainage trenches and sub-grade, both a geogrid and geotextile fabric will be installed to mitigate further localized settlement. Over the geotextiles will be 6” of base aggregate and a 2” leveling course of a finer aggregate. The carpet is then installed and in-filled with crumb rubber and sand. Parks will purchase new soccer goals and possibly football goals. On Field #2 Parks would like to line the field for soccer and both men’s and women’s lacrosse.

Comment: Youth football teams in a 5 mile radius want to be included on recommending having a football field at Genesee. There are more than 8 teams that currently practice at the field.

Question: Will the Field #1 be properly executed to not make the same mistakes we made 10 years ago on Field #2, specifically the drainage problem from up slope to the south?

Answer: Since Field #2 was completed in 2001, Seattle Parks and Recreation has installed several synthetic surfaced fields at Bobby Morris Playfield, Loyal Heights Playfield, Georgetown Playfield, Magnuson Park, and most recently at Miller Playfield and Lower Woodland Playfield. None of the these facilities have drainage problems.

Question: How many synthetic surface fields lined for football does Seattle Parks have?

Answer: There are two great examples football fields striped on synthetic surfaces, Loyal Heights and Hiawatha Playfield, Genesee will be third.

Question: What is the schedule for Field #2 if we get the funding?

Answer: Until we have approved funding we have to concentrate on #1 for the time being. If we are successful with funding for Field #2 resurfacing, it will occur under the same contract as Field #1, but after Field #1 is complete so both fields are not out of commission simultaneously.

Question: Does this work involve Lead Abatement that was mentioned by the Parks Superintendent Tim Gallagher?

Answer: We have fairly safe lead levels currently on Field #2; however with the resurfacing it will have the new 'lead free' material. The old carpet once removed will be taken to a landfill.

Question: Does what you take to the Landfill have any other use, can it be recycled?

Answer: No.

Question: Will parking area around the Fields to be addressed? We have homeless vehicles using the parking lot and the Danskin Marathon on August 4th plus Seafair from August 5,6,7, and 8th fill the parking lot and grass areas both to the east and west of the fields.

Answer: This project only focuses on the fields, it will not include new parking. As for the events that fill the Park, we will put those dates and any others that could cause problems in the Specifications and keep the construction fencing to a minimum footprint.

Question: Are there any contractor candidates for this project?

Answer: This is a public bid but there are several good contractors that specialize in these particular projects.

Question: How were the bids for Lower Woodland and Hiawatha Playfields?

Answer: About 30 % Lower than the Engineers Estimate.

Question: What is the actual construction estimate?

Answer: A little over 1 million dollars you have to include taxes, public process, 1% Art and administrative costs.

Comment: Lacrosse at Garfield they have to travel so far from the South End
The number of users served on this field would be very useful.

Question: Where will the signs be?

Answer: The signs will be at the entrances to the field areas. There will be the **940-9110** number for the lights to make sure that everyone can see it. Also when there are high temperatures we reserve the right to close the field for safety purposes. Synthetic surfaces can be 10 to 15 degrees hotter than the air temperature. On hot days, like we experienced a few of this summer, there is a concern for heat exhaustion.

Question: What is involved with upper field renovation and is there funding?

Answer: The synthetic surface will be replaced and probably lined with men's and women's lacrosse as well as soccer. We are currently applying for grants and we have had some savings from other projects that possibly could be tapped.

Question: The new field – what is the warranty?

Answer: The surface is warranted for 8 years.

Question: What about the field lights?

Answer: We will be keeping the existing lighting that were installed in 2001/2002. These are turned off after the games. We will post a number to have available so that citizens can call and have the lights turned off remotely is the lights are on and no one is using the fields.

Question: Does the posted phone number for the lights work?

Answer: Yes.

Question: There are access issues to the fields from the west which need to be addressed. There are paths that are not paved. Will the project address this?

Answer: The project focuses on the field surfaces. There is good ADA access to the field from the existing parking lot, restrooms, and play area. Addressing access issues in other parts of the Park is beyond the scope of this project. There is an Opportunity Fund which currently has 7 Million dollars of funding that can be applied to for other improvement projects.

Question: Will this project have SEPA?

Answer: We will prepare an Environmental Checklist.

Question: What is the potential for crosswalk improvements on Genesee Street? Could you work with SDOT to increase safety and make light improvements?

Answer: This project will not include crosswalk or lighting improvements in the street. If there is a need, then that should be taken to SDOT.

Question: Can you work with SDOT to see what we can do? You should ask them to coordinate crosswalk improvements with your projects. We need a connection plan and how things move around Genesee Park we have a lot of safety issues!

Answer: What you are requesting concerning crosswalk improvements are not in our budget scope. The community can organize to work for these improvements. You may want to contact The Department of Neighborhoods for more information.

Question: Is there specialized equipment to maintain the fields?

Answer: We have specialized equipment to brush and maintain the fields, this includes a rotary brush and 15 foot broom.

Question: How was Genesee Playfield improvements listed in priorities of Levy projects? Are we first or last?

Answer: Parks is installing several new field projects this year. Hiawatha and Miller are funded by Major Maintenance. Lower Woodland Playfields #2 & #7 were the first Levy field projects. This project and Delridge Playfield are 3rd and 4th of the Levy field improvement projects.

Question: There are grade issues, settling has happened already and could continue. How are you going to fix this issue?

Answer: We will grade the field at a 1% slope, no bumps. We shall install geotextiles to help mitigate future settling. We used them successfully at Field #2 in 2001.

Comment: There will be a circulation pinch point by the Comfort Station.

Reply: This project focuses on the field surfacing only.

Question: We support the multi-use of the fields. What is the problem with adding inlaid football and lacrosse lines, is it cost?

Answer: It is not a cost issue but an aesthetic issue that the fields may look like a gymnasium floor with too many lines.

Question: Will you be bringing potable water to the fields?

Answer: There is potable water existing at the restroom and the concession area, and there is also power (for events).

Conclusion:

Parks shall continue with the design of this project as discussed this evening. We shall add football lines to Field #1 and lacrosse lines to Field #2 in addition to soccer lines at both if we get the approval from Parks Management.