

### DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

**Description:** **Soundview Playfield Renovation** – Seattle Parks and Recreation is proposing to convert approximately 114,206 sq.ft. of existing grass playfield to synthetic turf at Soundview Playfield and install a new state-of-the-art LED field lighting system. The field and lighting improvements include upgrades to the electrical system, stormwater utilities, and water service. The renovated field will continue to accommodate baseball, T-ball, softball, soccer, ultimate frisbee, lacrosse, and football at a variety of levels. Conversion to synthetic turf will eliminate frequent closures due to wet weather and muddy conditions. Appropriate ball control and safety fencing will be provided adjacent to the field perimeter. The entire pedestrian and emergency/service vehicle circulation system will be improved for convenience, durability, safety, accessibility, and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. While the playability will be increased with the all-weather surface, the size of the field will limit the number of games that can be played at the same time; the number of games that can be scheduled for the same time slot will be the same as it is today with the natural grass playfield. No changes to the existing parking facilities are proposed.

**Proponent:** **Seattle Parks and Recreation**

**Location:** **1590 NW 90<sup>th</sup> Street, Seattle WA, 98117**

**Lead agency:** **Seattle Parks and Recreation**

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this DNS.

☒ This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date of publication (August 13, 2018). Comments must be submitted by ~~September 4~~, 2018  
August 27.

**Responsible official:** Christopher Williams

**Position/title:** Interim Superintendent, Seattle Parks and Recreation

**Phone:** 206-684-8022

**Address:** 100 Dexter Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109

**Date:** 8/7/18

**Signature:** 

**Please contact:** David Graves, Strategic Advisor, Seattle Parks and Recreation if you have questions or comments about this determination. **Phone:** (206) 684-7048; **Fax:** (206) 233-3949; or, **e-mail:** [david.graves@seattle.gov](mailto:david.graves@seattle.gov). You may appeal this determination to **Office of the Hearing Examiner** at **PO Box 94729, Seattle, WA 98124-4729** or 700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4000, Seattle, WA 98104 no later than **5:00 pm** on ~~September 4~~, 2018 by **Appeal Letter** and **\$85.00 fee**. You should be prepared to make specific factual objection. Contact the Seattle Examiner to read or ask about the procedures for SEPA appeals.



City of Seattle

ANALYSIS AND DECISION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION

Proposal Name: **Soundview Playfield Renovation**

Address of Proposal: **1590 NW 90<sup>th</sup> Street, Seattle WA, 98117**

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTION**

Seattle Parks and Recreation is proposing to convert approximately 114,206 sq.ft. of existing grass playfield to synthetic turf at Soundview Playfield and install a new state-of-the-art LED field lighting system. The field and lighting improvements include upgrades to the electrical system, stormwater utilities, and water service. The renovated field will continue to accommodate baseball, softball, soccer, football, and ultimate frisbee at a variety of levels. Conversion to synthetic turf will eliminate frequent closures due to wet weather and muddy conditions. Appropriate ball control and safety fencing will be provided adjacent to the field perimeter. The entire pedestrian and emergency/service vehicle circulation system will be improved for convenience, durability, safety, accessibility, and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**SEPA DETERMINATION: Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)**

**BACKGROUND DATA**

Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) is proposing to renovate the existing playfield at the Soundview site and convert the surface from natural grass to artificial turf. There are currently no lights at the playfield. Soundview Playfield is located in Northwest Seattle, in the Crown Hill neighborhood. Soundview Playfield is a 10.5-acre SPR facility, which includes a variety of public recreational amenities such two large natural grass areas / grass playfields with baseball/softball backstops, existing shade trees, a large play area, spray park, tennis courts, picnic area, walking trails and on-site parking.

The site is surrounded by single and multi-family residences to the south, east and west of the site, across Northwest 90th Street and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northwest. To the north is Whitman Middle School. Students from the middle school utilize the playfield and the other amenities at Soundview Playfield. SPR also schedules youth and adult sports on the playfield. However, the natural grass playfield can be unplayable during the fall, winter and spring seasons due to precipitation and field saturation. There is several small identified Environmentally Critical Areas (ECAs) – Steep Slopes, located on the site and identified on the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections GIS database.

**PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

As noted above, the proposal is to install a state-of-the-art LED field lighting system, convert approximately 114,206 sq.ft. of existing grass playfield to synthetic turf with upgrades to the electrical system, stormwater utilities, and water service. The field will continue to accommodate

baseball, softball, soccer, football, and ultimate frisbee at a variety of levels. Conversion to synthetic turf will eliminate frequent closures due to wet weather and muddy conditions.

Adjacent to the field perimeter, the proposal will provide appropriate ball control and safety fencing, including taller backstops associated with baseball and softball, and lower pedestrian fencing to both guide foot traffic around the field and contain balls within the field. The entire pedestrian and emergency/service vehicle circulation system will be improved for convenience, durability, safety, accessibility, and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Generally, the hierarchy of circulation, from steep footpaths through treed slopes to meandering loop paths and emergency and service access roads will be redeveloped.

The proposed upgrades to the facility include a new all-season lit multiple sport synthetic turf playfield, monument seating for game viewing, bleacher seating, a batting cage, and a look out at the Northeast portion of the site. While the playability will be increased with the all-weather surface, the size of the field will limit the number of games that can be played at the same time; the number of games that can be scheduled for the same time slot will be the same as it is today with the natural grass playfield. There are two existing parking lots that serve the playfield, one at the northeast corner and one at the southwest corner. No changes to the existing parking facilities are proposed.

The proposal includes excavation and offsite disposal of existing organic and unsuitable soils, onsite cut and fill of existing suitable soils, import of structural soil fills, and import of engineered aggregates. The following estimated quantities of earth moving in cubic yards are approximate at the time of the checklist: Cut - 6,000 cu.yds.; Fill - 2,000 cu.yds. Disposal of unsuitable materials will be on a permitted fill site. Imported structural subgrade fills will be sourced at the time of need.

The proposal will utilize high wattage LED floodlight that incorporate the most advanced internal/external shielding available on the market. The lighting will be supported on seven (7) 70-80-foot-tall steel poles. The new floodlights are "full cutoff" style lights that significantly reduce the amount of direct light that is emitted into the air or directed off site. The lighting system will operate from just prior to dusk until 11pm.

## **ANALYSIS – SEPA**

Initial disclosure of potential impacts from this project was made in the applicant's environmental checklist, signed June 18, 2018. The basis for this analysis and decision is formed from information in the checklist, graphics and exhibits attached to it and the lead agency's experience with review of similar projects.

The SEPA Overview Policy (SMC 23.05.665) discusses the relationship between the City's code/policies and environmental review. The Overview Policy states, in part, "[w]here City regulations have been adopted to address an environmental impact; it shall be presumed that such regulations are adequate to achieve sufficient mitigation". The Policies also discuss in SMC 23.05.665 D1-7, that in certain circumstances it may be appropriate to deny or mitigate a project based on adverse environmental impacts. This may be specified otherwise in the policies for specific elements of the environment found in SMC 25.05.675. In consideration of these policies, a more detailed discussion of some of the potential impacts is appropriate.

## **Short Term Impacts**

The following temporary or construction-related impacts are expected: hydrocarbon emissions from construction vehicles and equipment; increased dust caused by construction activities; potential soil erosion and potential disturbance to subsurface soils during site work; increased traffic from construction equipment and personnel; increased noise and displaced recreational users.

Several adopted codes and/or ordinances provide mitigation for some of the identified impacts. The Stormwater, Grading and Drainage Control Code requires that soil erosion control techniques be initiated for the duration of construction. Erosion will be prevented by implementation of a required Temporary Erosion Control and Sedimentation Plan. Best Management Practices, such as mulching and seeding will be implemented at the site to minimize erosion during construction. Puget Sound Clean Air Agency regulations require control of fugitive dust to protect air quality. The Building Code provides for construction measures and life safety issues. The Noise Ordinance regulates the time and amount of construction noise that is permitted in the city. Compliance with these codes and/or ordinances will lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project. While there will be a short-term increase in greenhouse gas emissions during construction, overall usage of the field will not change. Over the long term, greenhouse gas emissions associated with the operation of the field will likely decrease slightly since a synthetic turf field requires less maintenance than a natural grass field.

The impacts associated with the construction are expected to be minor and of relatively short duration. Compliance with the above applicable codes and ordinances will reduce or eliminate most adverse short-term impacts to the environment. However, impacts to existing recreational uses, construction traffic and materials hauling, and construction noise warrant further discussion.

### ***Recreation***

While the field is being resurfaced, playfield users will be directed to other nearby fields such as the field at Whitman Middle School and/or Loyal Heights Playfield. The construction will be of relatively short duration; other areas of the playfield not under construction will not be impacted and be open to use. No significant adverse recreation impacts are anticipated and no mitigation is warranted or necessary.

### ***Construction Traffic***

There are adequate areas on-site and on street parking for the construction crews and equipment. The site is adjacent to an arterial which provides convenient truck access consistent with the requirements of the Street Use Ordinance. Construction traffic and haul route(s) will be designated, and notices and signage will alert pedestrians and drivers to times of day and peak activities. Thus, no further conditioning is necessary or warranted.

### ***Noise***

Construction activities will be predominantly confined to weekdays. Hours of construction are limited by the Seattle Noise Ordinance, SMC ch. 25.08, to 7:00 a.m. and ten 10:00 p.m. on weekdays (SMC 25.08.425). The reality of the local construction industry is that contractors typically work from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; the likelihood that any construction activities will occur up to 10 p.m. is slight. The Noise Ordinance also regulates the loudness (dB) of construction activities, measured fifty (50) feet from the subject activity or device. The City has dedicated noise inspectors to monitor construction activities and respond to construction complaints. Compliance with the City's Noise Ordinance will prevent any significant adverse short term noise impacts and thus no further conditioning is necessary or warranted.

Compliance with applicable codes, ordinances and regulations will be adequate to achieve sufficient mitigation.

## **Long Term Impacts**

### ***Traffic & Parking***

No change in the field operation and/or configuration is proposed. The field is not currently lighted for night time use but is fully scheduled throughout the year. Lighting will expand the hours of play until 11pm, if booked, but will not change the number of games that can be played at one time on the field. The replacement of the natural grass surface with synthetic material will result in a more even surface for enhanced playability. Parking is available around the site. SPR is not aware of any parking issues associated with field users and few or no complaints have been received. No significant adverse parking impacts are anticipated and thus no mitigation is warranted or necessary.

### ***Light & Glare***

As noted previously, lighting is a new component to the field. The goal of the lights is to light the playing surfaces and to eliminate spillover light and/or glare which could negatively affect surrounding residents. The configuration of the lights allows the lighting designer to direct the fixtures to safely cover the playfields while reducing the potential for adverse spillover impacts on surrounding residences.

### ***Environmental Health***

There have been concerns raised regarding synthetic field surfaces and particularly the Styrene butadiene rubber (SBR) crumb rubber that is used as an infill material. SPR is proposing to utilize a natural granular cork infill material as an alternative means of maintaining safe resiliency and proper athletic performance. The proposal, as currently presented, does not include granular SBR infill.

Upon completion of the project, no long term adverse environmental impacts are anticipated and thus no conditioning is necessary or warranted.

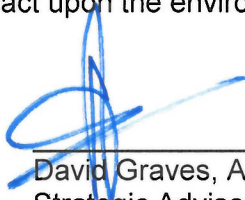
## **DECISION**

This decision was made after the responsible official, on behalf of the lead agency, reviewed a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the responsible department. This constitutes the Threshold Determination and final decision on application of SEPA's substantive authority and mitigation provisions. The intent of this declaration is to satisfy the requirement of the State Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21.C), including the requirement to inform the public of agency decisions pursuant to SEPA.

- (X) Determination of Non-Significance. This proposal has been determined to not have a significant adverse impact upon the environment. An EIS is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(C).

( ) Determination of Significance. This proposal has or may have a significant adverse impact upon the environment. AN EIS is required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(C).

Signature:



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David Graves, AICP  
Strategic Advisor, Planning and Development Division  
Seattle Parks and Recreation

Date: July 30, 2018





## SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

### A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:  
**Soundview Playfield Renovation**
2. Name of applicant:  
**City of Seattle, Dept of Parks and Recreation**
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:  
**Jay Rood, Capitol Projects Coordinator  
c/o Seattle Parks and Recreation  
Planning & Development Division  
800 Maynard Avenue, South Suite 300  
Seattle, Washington 98134  
(206) 733-9194**
4. Date checklist prepared:  
**06/18/2018**
5. Agency requesting checklist:  
**City of Seattle, Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR)**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):  
**Construction is proposed to start in the spring of 2019 with completion in the Fall of 2019**
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.  
**No, although the current proposal may include work that must be deferred to future phases due to available funding.**
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.  
**Storm Water Drainage Report and SWPPP (Exhibit E)  
Geotechnical Report (Exhibit F)  
Light and Glare Report (Exhibit G)  
Arborist Report (Exhibit I)  
Transportation Report (Exhibit \_\_ )**
9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.  
**None known**

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

**City of Seattle, Master Use Permit  
City of Seattle, Drainage Review  
City of Seattle, Building Permit  
City of Seattle, Construction Permit  
City of Seattle, ECA Exemption (Prepared by SPR)**

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

**A comprehensive Project Design Narrative is included as Exhibit B.**

**To further summarize:**

**Soundview Playfield is a 457,756 SF (10.51 acres) existing Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) facility, which includes a variety of public recreational amenities including 2 large natural grass areas / grass playfields with baseball/softball backstops, existing shade trees, a large play area, spray park, tennis courts, picnicking and on-site parking. The proposed upgrades to the facility include a new all-season multiple sport synthetic turf (lighted) playfield ("lower Playfield"), monument seating for game viewing, bleacher seating, a batting cage, and a look out at the Northeast portion of the site. The proposal will provide a state-of-the-art LED lighting system, convert approximately 114,206 SF of existing natural grass playfield to synthetic turf, including infrastructure improvements to support that change, upgrades to the electrical system, storm water facilities, and high efficiency irrigation. The field will accommodate multiple sports, including: baseball, T-ball, softball, soccer, ultimate frisbee, lacrosse, and football at a variety of levels. Conversion to a synthetic turf will eliminate frequent closures due to wet weather, muddy conditions and the need to hydroseed throughout the seasons. While the playability will be increased with the all-weather surface, the size of the field will limit the number of games that can be played at the same time; the number of games that can be scheduled for the same time slot will be the same as it is today with the natural grass playfield.**

**Adjacent to the field perimeter, the proposal will provide measures to provide appropriate ball control and safety fencing, with taller backstops associated with baseball and softball and lower pedestrian fencing at specific locations of the field to contain balls within the field. The entire pedestrian and emergency circulation system will be improved for convenience, durability, safety, accessibility and compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. In addition, vehicle access improvements, including emergency and service/maintenance access are located at the perimeter pedestrian pathways. There are two existing parking lots that serve the playfield, one at the northeast corner and one at the southwest corner. No changes to the existing parking facilities are proposed as part of this project.**

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by

the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

**The proposal site is known as SoundviewPlayfield, located at 9201 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, NW, Seattle, Washington 98117, King County.**

**Legal: E 1/2 OF SW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 OF SE 1/4 T6W SE 1/4 OF NE 1/4 OF SE 1/4 LESS S 160 FT THOF LESS STS**

**Parcel: 352603-9128**

## **B. Environmental Elements**

### **1. Earth**

a. General description of the site:

**Soundview Playfield is a public park, consisting of varied topography and a diverse landscape. The original site was probably characterized as having a more consistent rolling landform, with a bowl formed by western and eastern forested slopes. The existing park has been shaped into three level terraced areas with sloping areas in-between: on the west is the play area/tennis court terrace, in the middle is the Lower Playfield and on the east is the Upper Playfield. Thus the Park was graded flat for the sports playfields with more significant slopes around all these Park/Playfield terraces. elements. The sites highest elevations are along the eastern edge where the site was graded for the ballfield, and to the west of the wading pool.**

(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other: **varies, flat to hilly**

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

**Engineered cut-slopes established during the original construction of the playfield in are as steep as 2:1 or 50%. There are three small pockets that are identified on the City of Seattle's Environmental Critical Areas maps as a "Steep Slope".**

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

**The Project Geotechnical Exploration Report is attached as Exhibit F, and includes several borings for the proposed improvements.**

**Soils within the depths expected to be encountered with this redevelopment include: fill with silty sand with organic matter; weathered glacial till with silty fine to medium sand and gravel; and, outwash with fine to coarse sand with gravel with variable silt content.**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

**None known.**

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

**The following estimated quantities of earth moving in cubic yards (cy) are approximate at the time of writing:**

**Finished field grades for the field will be graded to be generally consistent with the existing with the majority of the earthwork on the perimeter of the project area. Approximate earthwork numbers are as follows:**

**Cut: 6,000 CY**

**Fill: 2,000 CY**

**Max Cut: 11 FT**

**Max Fill: 7 FT**

Disposal of unsuitable materials will be on a permitted fill site.

Engineered aggregates will be sourced from licensed, permitted commercial sand & gravel pits or quarries.

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.  
**Surface erosion is always a possibility as a result of clearing and grading operations. Minor localized erosion may occur as a result of construction activities, however these impacts will be prevented from extending beyond the project limits, groundwater, or local utilities by Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) best management practices. Use of on-site erosion control measures such as silt fence, a construction exit, catch basin inlet protection, interceptor swales, mulching, dust control, and other standard construction erosion control practices, as well as seasonal limitations of construction will control potential on-site erosion.**
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?  
**Approximately 55% of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after the project is completed. This percentage includes all new walks, paved viewing areas, stairs, seating, the underdrained synthetic turf field as well as the existing onsite walks, parking, building, tennis courts, spray park, playground areas with wood chips and baseball dugouts and seating to remain.**
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:  
**To the extent possible the disturbed area of the Proposal site will be limited to minimize erosion potential. Structural practices to control erosion include a stabilized construction exit, filter fabric fence for perimeter siltation control, temporary interceptor trenches, check dams and a sediment settling tank. All catch basins in the vicinity of the work will have erosion protection throughout the construction period. All work will be performed in compliance with local and state code and permitting requirements.**

## **2. Air**

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.  
**During construction, emissions to the air in the form of dust and exhaust from transportation and construction equipment can be expected to occur. Earth moving activities and resulting airborne dust are restricted by State and Local Code, however there will be an increase in passenger vehicle trips to and from the site during the construction work week. No additional emissions than currently exist on the site would result following completion of construction.**
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.  
**None known.**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:  
**All work will be performed in compliance with State and Local Code, and permitting requirements.**

### 3. Water

#### a. Surface Water:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.  
**There are no known surface water bodies located within the project area or immediate vicinity. The nearest wetlands are to the north and to the west, both about 1/3 mile away.**
- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.  
**No.**
- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.  
**Not Applicable.**
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.  
**No. The project will not require surface water withdrawals or diversions.**
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.  
**The project site is not within a floodplain.**
- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.  
**The project does not propose discharges of waste materials to surface waters.**

#### b. Ground Water:

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.  
**No. There are no onsite wells and water service is through City of Seattle utilities.**
- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.  
**No waste materials will be discharged into the ground water due this project.**

#### c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

The source of runoff will be storm water runoff from building rooftops, walkways/gathering areas, seating areas, landscaped areas and the synthetic turf field underdrain system. The synthetic turf field and some of the new walkways will be treated and managed with an onsite bioretention cell. The stormwater overflow from the bioretention cell and the other new improvements will be collected and conveyed to the municipal storm system in NW 90<sup>th</sup> Street, which discharges directly to the Puget Sound via pipe.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

**No waste material will be discharged to groundwater as a result of the proposed project.**

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

**The proposal will not alter drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site.**

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

**During the construction phase, appropriate temporary erosion control best management practices will be implemented and maintained to control runoff. Permanent measures to reduce and control runoff from the completed project will include catch basins, underground conveyance pipe, swales, and an infiltrating bioretention cell.**

#### **4. Plants**

- a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

☒ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other  
☒ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other  
☒ shrubs  
☒ grass  
☐ pasture  
☐ crop or grain  
☐ Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.  
☐ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other  
☐ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other  
☐ other types of vegetation

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

**Removal is largely limited to the existing maintained grass surface, totaling 115,000 SF. Some of the grading associated with providing uniform accessibility in the site pathways system may require removal of select trees. A certified Arborist with the City of Seattle has inspected and inventoried all existing trees on site and has made recommendations for the removal of certain diseased or overly stressed trees, as well as tree protection at the driplines.**

- c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

**None known or observed.**

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:  
**All disturbed areas on the site not receiving surfaces as described previously will be restored with erosion control and hydroseeding or new landscaping consistent with continued public use. The Heritage trees on site are being preserved and protected per the Arborist recommendations.**
- e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.  
**None observed, nor have a significant presence on the site or in the surrounding area.**

## **5. Animals**

- a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: **birds typical of suburban environments such as jays, crows, sparrows, etc are likely to be on or near the site. Other coastal fowl such as seagulls will also be in the area due to the proximity of Puget Sound.**

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: **Small mammals typical of suburban environments such as rodents/squirrels, raccoons, are likely to be seen or on near the site.**

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: **None.**

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.  
**None known**
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.  
**The Pacific Flyway, one of two major migratory bird routes in North America, covers much of the West coast including the proposal site. Key rest stops are not known to be located within this site.**
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:  
**None proposed.**
- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.  
**None known**

## **6. Energy and Natural Resources**

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.  
**The local utility Seattle City Light provides electricity to the site for lighting and general convenience power. The proposed field lighting system shall incorporate high efficiency LED fixtures. Power will be supplied for mobile electronic scoreboards. Electrical outlets will supply for vending carts, and for park users to charge phones**



**and operate portable electronics. Power to the automatic irrigation system shall also be provided. No other energy sources are used on this site.**

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?

If so, generally describe.

**No. There are no tall structures on this site or proposed additional trees in this proposal that would obscure adjacent property building roofs from obtaining solar power.**

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal?

List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

**Replacing the grass athletic surfaces with synthetic turf are understood to produce measurable reduction in the use gasoline or diesel powered maintenance equipment, water, and chemical additives in the form of pesticides and herbicides.**

## **7. Environmental Health**

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal?  
If so, describe.

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

**None known**

- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

**None known.**

- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

**None known.**

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

**Although no attempt has been made to quantify the number of actual emergency service calls made to the site annually, it is assumed to be nominal and any increase or decrease is expected to be accordingly small.**

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

**None.**

### **b. Noise**

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

**Existing ambient and peak noise levels produced off site are generally limited to traffic and school uses, none of which will affect the Proposal.**

- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

**Short-term noise impacts from the Proposal are all construction related and may be distracting to students at the adjacent middle school.**

**Long term operation of the facility will not result in significant changes to current noise levels, although with increased reliability of field playability, the frequency of these effects may increase due to fewer weather-related field closures and event cancellations. As a public park and school facility, Soundview Playfield generates noise typically associated with recreational sporting activities such as yelling and shouting, cheering, and occasional crowd noise.**

**Public Park operations have certain exemptions from the general noise ordinance. Park operations and park users are subject to Seattle Municipal Code Section 25.08.520.**

- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

**Short term noise impacts will be mitigated to some degree by local noise ordinances regulating hours of operation and maximum noise levels.**

**Long term, noise effects are mitigated largely by limiting the hours of operation of the field lighting system. Parks Department policies require that field lighting systems be turned off by 11pm daily.**

## **8. Land and Shoreline Use**

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

**The site is operated as a Public Park and will continue to be so, and the proposal will not affect current land uses. Immediately adjacent Land Uses are generally single family residential to the north, west and south, with multi-family to the south and east. There are a few institutional (religious and non-profit charitable) uses, and a middle school use immediately adjacent to the north, as well as commercial uses to the south and east and along Holman Road NW.**

**Per municipal code 23.44.006 Principal Uses Permitted Outright the proposal will continue to operate as a public park.**

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

**There is no documented farm or forest land use on this site.**

- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

**There are no nearby working farms or forest lands.**

- c. Describe any structures on the site.  
**Soundview Playfield has masonry public restrooms of 396 SF constructed in 1988 and miscellaneous play structures, including roofed 'dugout' structures at the ball fields.**
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?  
**No structures will be demolished.**
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?  
**SF 7200**
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?  
**Open Space**
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?  
**Not applicable.**
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.  
**There are three small pockets that are identified on the City of Seattle's Environmental Critical Areas maps as a "Steep Slope".**
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?  
**No one will reside or work in the completed project.**
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?  
**None.**
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:  
**None proposed.**
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:  
**The land use will remain unchanged. The site is currently used as a public park, with various community recreational uses, school physical educational curriculum, interscholastic athletic activities, and occasional community festivals. The Proposal consists of the renovation of an existing recreational facility.**
- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:  
**None proposed. There are no agricultural or forest lands of significance that will be impacted by this proposal.**

## **9. Housing**

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.  
**None.**

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

**None.**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

**None proposed.**

## **10. Aesthetics**

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

**Light poles are being added with a height varying between 70-90 feet; backstops are being increased in height to 30 feet; and additional fencing with heights of 6' and 4'.**

**No buildings are being added.**

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

**There will be minimal blockage of views due to additional backstop heights or light poles.**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

**None proposed.**

## **11. Light and Glare**

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

**The proposal will utilize high wattage LED floodlight that incorporate the most advanced internal/external shielding available on the market. The new floodlights are "full cutoff" style lights that significantly reduce the amount of direct light that is emitted into the air or directed off site. The proposal will significantly reduce the amount of glare and spill light produced. The lighting system will operate from just prior to dusk until 11pm.**

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

**For adjacent residential properties, no safety issues are anticipated. Views are impacted, although more by the presence of the poles than by actual glare. The exterior lighting shall be shielded and directed away from the residentially zoned lots. The Engineer's Light and Glare Report, Exhibit G, provides more detail on these effects. The height of the light poles varies between 70' and 90' and per municipal code 23.44.012 we will be requesting an exemption**

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

**None**

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

**City of Seattle has light and glare standards (SMC23.47A.022 - Light and Glare standards) that the City of Seattle Parks & Recreation will adhere to. The proposal utilizes high efficiency LED floodlights with extensive shielding specifically designed to reduce light and glare impacts.**

## 12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?  
**The Proposal site is a neighborhood/community Park that provides a variety of recreational opportunities. There are several nearby parks including Crown Hill Glen and North Beach Park as well as additional playfields at Whitman Middle School, Crown Hill School, and North Beach Elementary School.**
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.  
**The proposal will not displace existing recreational uses but will temporarily limit the use during the renovation. The Park will be closed to use during the anticipated construction period. The closure may be partial at times, allowing access to certain areas of the park. During construction, the Parks Department will make every reasonable attempt at re-locating uses that are seasonally recurring.**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:  
**Once the construction is complete the proposal will improve access to recreational opportunities generally by eliminating weather-related event cancellations and field closures. During construction, park users will be notified of other recreational opportunities in the vicinity through a variety of media to limit the disruption of recreational opportunities and use.**

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.  
**Whitman Middle School was built in 1959 and many of the residences in the area were also built in the 1950's although none have been listed that we are aware of. Crown Hill School has been reviewed in more detail and determined eligible but has not been registered.**
- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.  
**None known.**
- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.  
**Research tools used include...**
- **Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation WISAARD (Washington Information System for Architectural and Archeological Records Data)**
  - **City of Seattle Department of Parks & Recreation Archives – Don Sherwood Files**
  - **City of Seattle – Seattle Municipal Archive**
  - **City of Seattle Cultural & Historical Database ([data.seattle.gov](http://data.seattle.gov))**
- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.  
**None proposed.**

#### 14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.  
**There currently exists one access point to a parking lot on the northeast corner from 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NW. Two access points along NW 90<sup>th</sup> St serve one parking lot, with a 3<sup>rd</sup> pedestrian access along the west property line to the wading pool and play structures in the west and tennis courts in the northwest corner.**
- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?  
**King County Metro Bus Route 15 serves the site on 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NW. Also, multiple lines run along Holman Road NW.**
- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?  
**The site currently has 86 parking stalls (Upper Lot 54 Spaces & 32 Lower Lot \_\_\_ spaces). Both Seattle Parks and Recreation and Whitman Middle School have traditionally shared use of the upper lot. Additionally, Whitman Middle School's own lot adjacent to 15th Avenue NW has 52 spaces. Those spaces are typically available to park users after school hours, on weekends, over the summer and on holidays. The combined total of park and school parking, 138 stalls, supports well over 200 people being present at one time. No stalls will be eliminated.**
- e. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).  
**No street or frontage improvements are planned with this proposal.**
- f. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.  
**This project does not occur near water, rail, or air transportation.**
- g. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and no passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?  
**Per the Transportation Report, the added field lighting will extend the evening hours and expand the schedule, increasing parking demands during those extra evening hours. New traffic would occur after 6:00 p.m. during most months of the year (December and January have few sports organizations seeking evening use). Added traffic volumes will range from approximately 80 new vehicle trips per day in the spring, to as many as 550 vehicle trips per day in the fall. Those new trips would be spread over 4 to 5 hours from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 or 11:00 p.m.**
- h. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.  
**No - There is no nearby movement of agricultural and forest products.**

- i. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:  
**No proposed measures. The effect of that added traffic on peak period street and intersection operating quality is expected to be minimal since most new trips would occur after the peak period.**

### 15. Public Services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.  
**All these services are currently provided. Minimal additional services are expected due to extending the field use hours.**
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.  
**None proposed.**

### 16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other \_\_\_\_\_  
**Electrical, domestic water, storm drainage, sanitary sewer.**
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.  
**The proposed electrical service to the site will be provided by Seattle City Light. The proposal intends to connect to the existing electrical infrastructure located at the existing comfort station.**

### C. Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: 

Name of signer CHRIS MUELLER

Position and Agency/Organization PARKS CONSTRUCTION MGR., SEATTLE PARKS

Date Submitted: 7/31/18

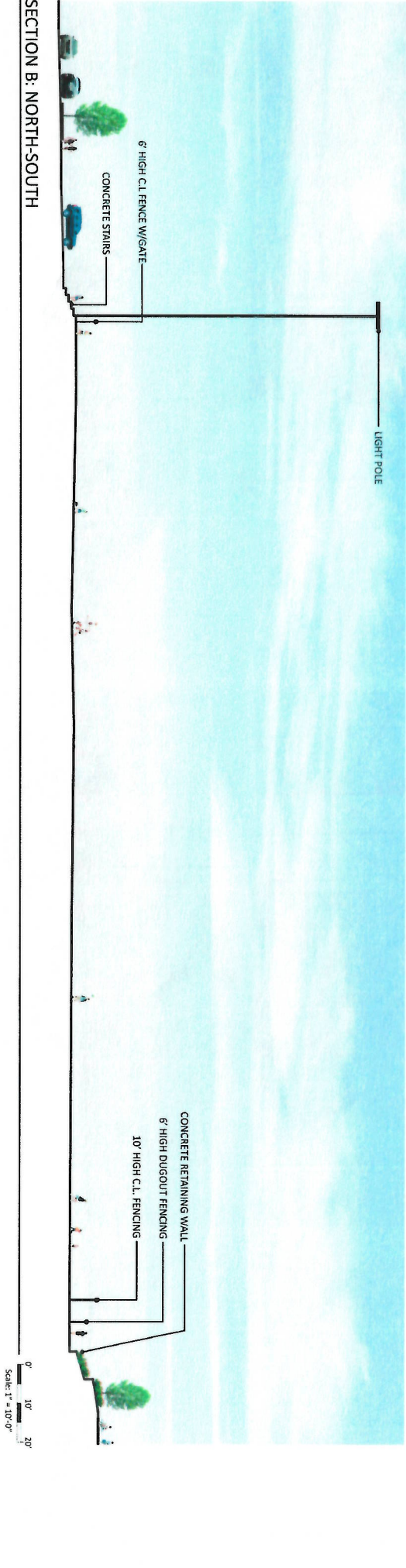
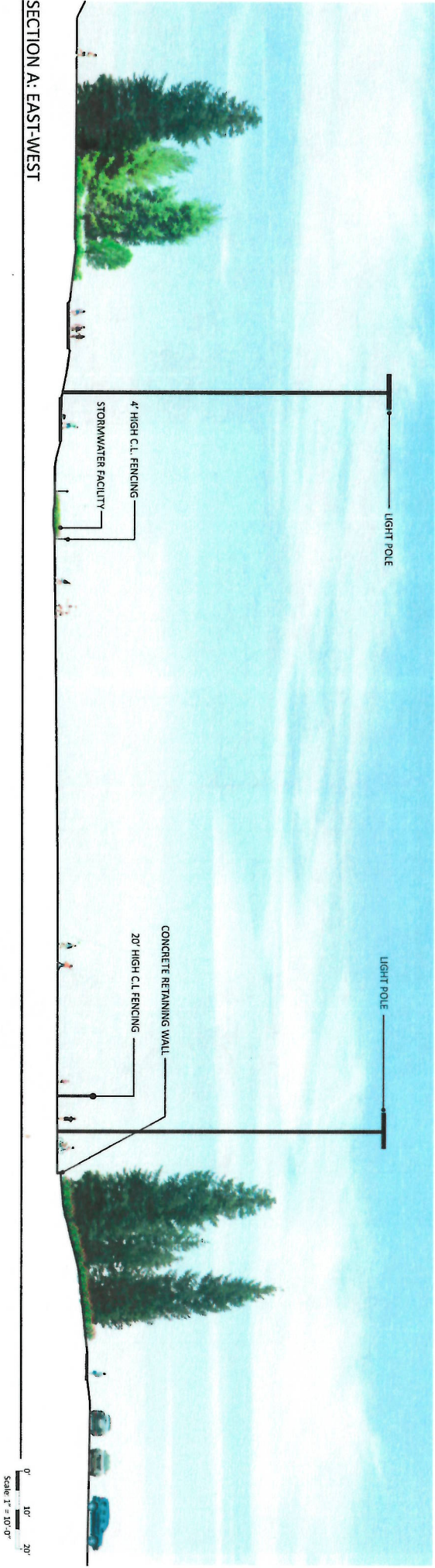








Site Sections



## **Exhibit B – Project Narrative**

The proposal site is known as Soundview Athletic Playfield, located at 9201 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, NW, Seattle, Washington 98117, King County.

**Legal: E 1/2 OF SW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 OF SE 1/4 T&G SE 1/4 OF NE 1/4 OF SE 1/4 LESS S 160 FT THOF LESS STS**

**Parcel: 352603-9128**

Soundview Playfield is a 457,756 SF existing Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) facility, which includes a variety of public recreational amenities including lawn areas / grass play fields with backstops, existing shade trees, and picnicking. The proposed upgrades to the facility include lighted playfields, monument seating for game viewing, bleacher seating, a batting cage, seat walls, concrete retaining planters, and a look out at the Northeast portion of the site. In addition, enhanced landscaping will soften pedestrian edges, while adding to the naturalistic feel of the existing heritage grove. The proposal will provide a state-of-the-art LED lighting system, convert approximately 114,206 SF of existing grass playfield to synthetic turf, including infrastructure improvements to support that change, upgrades to the electrical system, storm water facilities, and high efficiency irrigation. The field will accommodate baseball, T-ball, softball, soccer and football at a variety of levels. Conversion to a synthetic turf will eliminate frequent closures due to wet weather, muddy conditions and the need to hydroseed throughout the seasons.

Adjacent to the field perimeter, the proposal will provide measures to provide appropriate ball control and safety fencing, with taller backstops associated with baseball and softball and lower pedestrian fencing at specific locations of the field to contain balls within the field. The entire pedestrian and emergency circulation system will be improved for convenience, durability, safety, accessibility and compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. In addition, vehicle access improvements, including emergency and service/maintenance access are located at the perimeter pedestrian pathways.