



**CITY OF WAUKESHA**

**Administration**

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<b>Common Council Item Number:</b> 19-0887	<b>Date:</b> 7-16-19
<b>Submitted By:</b> Ron Grall, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry	<b>City Administrator Approval:</b> Kevin Lahner, City Administrator
<b>Finance Department Review:</b> Rich Abbott, Finance Director RA	<b>City Attorney's Office Review:</b> Brian Running, City Attorney
<b>Subject:</b> Review and Act on a request to proceed with the \$1.1m portion of the Mindiola Sports Park project for developing a full-size synthetic turf soccer field with fencing and potentially field lighting.	

**Details:**

As discussed at the 6/17/19 PRF Board meeting, we are asking the Finance Committee and subsequently the Common Council to proceed with the borrow of the \$1.1 M 10-Year General Obligation Bond (GO) portion of the approved Mindiola Sports Park project (\$13.5 M overall with TIF & other funding sources). As you know, the overall project did not materialize primarily due to TIF funding not being realized. By authorizing the indicated GO Bond borrow, this would enable us to "salvage" at least part of the approved project and proceed with development of a full-size soccer turf field (that can accommodate multiple field uses beyond soccer) with fencing and possibly some preliminary electrical work for a future LED field lighting.

In addition to greatly benefitting the WPRF Youth Soccer Program (with combined Fall & Spring enrollments of over 1,100 participants), our ability to better accommodate the field needs of our 4 local soccer organizations and growing neighborhood drop-in play would significantly improve as well. Beyond aiding local soccer needs, we fully anticipate the opportunity to incorporate other field sports programs such as lacrosse, rugby, cricket clinics, etc.

Maintenance/Replacement: Estimated cost of annual grooming (\$5,000-8,000). Would entertain "piggy-backing" with School District contracted service (3 High School fields). Field surface life expectancy 10-15 years. Recommend creating in some fashion a replacement fund derived from related generated revenues and contributions.

Tentative Time-line: (based on 7/16/19 CC approval)

- Late Summer/Fall 2019 – RFP's developed and design/engineering firm selected, plans/specs/permits completed, & project bid out.
- Spring/Summer – Ground-breaking and construction begins & is completed.
- Fall (Early September) – Grand Opening



**Options & Alternatives:**

Continue to play soccer leagues and various rentals on sub-par existing natural grass fields that require considerable maintenance and care including irrigation. Current field conditions do not accommodate continuous play (“back to back scheduling”) and poor weather very well. In short, a synthetic turf field option would significantly improve our ability to meet current and growing anticipated demands for such field use.

**Financial Remarks:**

Request to proceed with the borrow of the \$1.1 M 10 Year GO Bond portion of the approved Mindiola Sports Park project as indicated in the 2019 CIP budget (p. 66). The funds were not borrowed in 2019, so an intent to reimburse would be done by the Finance Director for whatever is spent in 2019 and funds borrowed in 2020.

**Executive Action:**

Recommend approval of the subject item to Common Council.

**Committee Recommendation:**

Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board unanimously recommended for approved at their 6-17-19 regular meeting.