

Track Reconstruction and Synthetic Turf Field Project

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Image MassGIS, Commonwealth of Massachusetts EOE

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Pointer 42°27'04.15" N 71°37'59.29" W elev 374 ft Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye all 2145 ft

The Problem

- Track age is two times beyond useful life expectancy
- Inadequate total field capacity for growing athletic program
- Deteriorating field inside stadium complex
 - Excess use
 - Inadequate sub-surface and infrastructure
 - Zone 1 wellhead restrictions

The Solution

- Reconstruct Track
 - New sub-surface and orange rubberized running surface
- Rebuild field infrastructure including sub-surface area, new drainage and conduit installation
- Install synthetic turf surface
 - 15-20 year useful life
 - Use equivalency equal to three natural turf fields
 - Available in all weather conditions

Road to the Solution

- Synthetic turf first discussed by former Athletic Director during stadium seating reconstruction in 2005
- Track reconstruction discussed extensively in Spring 2006 as a FY 2007 budget item, removed during final reductions
- Decision was made to study the entire project and consider potential fundraising opportunities

Turf vs. Grass

	<i>Grass</i>	<i>Turf</i>
Cost	\$822,000*	\$1.28M*
Useful life	4 years max	15-20 years
Annual maintenance cost	\$20,000	\$3,000
No. of teams	7	17
No. of games	27	100+
Practices	No	Yes
PE	Limited	700 hours/yr
Snow plowing	No	Yes
Community use	Limited	Extensive

* Both include \$422,000 for replacing track

Road to the Solution

- FY 2008 Budget included design money for proposal so project could be planned and conditionally bid to obtain accurate cost estimates
- Gale and Associates prepared design and bid documents from Summer of 2007 through January of 2008
- Bid packages made available in February with March deadline for response
- 12 bidders responded
- School Committee reviewed the bids at March 20th meeting and voted to approve the project and authorize debt at April 3rd meeting to allow member community consideration if desired during Annual Town Meeting timeframe

The Cost



\$1,280,000

Includes construction, engineering supervision and 10% contingency

The Finance Plan

- Issuance of a ten year debt by District utilizing either tax exempt bonds or financing through the turf company
- School Committee authorized this debt under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 71, Section 16, clause (d)
- Law allows any member community to “disapprove” this debt at Town Meeting within a 60 day window beginning April 3rd, the date of the vote
- Annual cost of debt estimate to be \$159,000. District committed to managing debt service cost within annual budget, and is not requesting a capital exclusion
- The District is committed to offset a significant amount of the debt service cost through budget savings, fundraising, potential fee increases and revenue generated from third party rental of the new complex