

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2005 MAR 31 PM 1:24

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Public Works Agency
DATE: April 12, 2005

RE: **A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR A GIFT-IN-PLACE DONATED BY THE NORTH OAKLAND LITTLE LEAGUE OF A TURF BASEBALL INFIELD AT NORTH OAKLAND SPORTS COMPLEX (CALDECOTT FIELD)**

SUMMARY

This item is a request for Council approval of a resolution accepting the gift-in-place donation made by the North Oakland Little League, a California 501(C)(3) Corporation. This donation is a grass infield on the full-size baseball diamond at the North Oakland Sports Complex (known as Caldecott Field) located at 6900 Broadway. It is used by Little League teams from throughout Oakland. The Council is also requested to acknowledge appreciation for the work and materials, having an estimated value of \$30,000, required to produce this gift-in-place.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City of Oakland bears no cost for the project work. All work was done by volunteers and all materials were donated. The donated grass infield will require regular mowing and irrigation that can be added to the existing maintenance schedule. However, the grass infield edge will often be subjected to drying and wear and tear due to the proximity to the base path. Periodic hand watering may be necessary during the summer months. The additional cost to maintain the grass infield is \$1,000 - \$2,000 per year. There is no funding source identified at this time for the increased cost for maintenance and water usage.

BACKGROUND

The original infield on the full-size baseball diamond in the North Oakland Sports Complex was a mixture of compacted cinder and clay. Oakland's Little League baseball teams are at a competitive disadvantage when playing teams who regularly play on grass infields. Lacking experience on a grass infield, they may play less well on that type of surface than their competitors who play every day on grass. To provide Little League players with the opportunity to play on a grass infield, the North Oakland Little League offered to donate material, volunteer their labor and provide Oakland with a completed baseball diamond grass infield.

Item: _____
Life Enrichment Committee
April 12, 2005

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

The City executed a permit license agreement with the North Oakland Little League under which the league voluntarily performed all work in accordance with Public Works standards, obtained and paid for all permits, donated all materials, executed the work with unpaid volunteers, and obtained approval of the turf infield design, provided they agree to carry insurance and indemnify and hold the City harmless from any and all claims. Since the gift-in-place did not involve any expenditure of funds for services or expenditure of public funds for materials, the City's competitive procurement processes were not applicable. The only costs to the City were for the staff time required to prepare the license agreement, oversee the project and document the volunteer hours. The new sod for the baseball infield was in-place in early March. The grass is establishing itself and will be ready for play at the beginning of the 2005 little league season. The grass infield will be available for play by Oakland's little league teams which include: Babe Ruth (1,000 participants); North Oakland (1,200 participants); and OPR Oakland (1,000 participants).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project created a grass infield on the full-size baseball diamond used by the Little League at the North Oakland Sports Complex (Caldecott Field). Volunteers removed the existing dirt infield, installed an irrigation system, provided topsoil, sod, improved field drainage and created a "grass infield."

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: The improvements made to the ballfield will provide additional sports opportunity for young athletes City-wide.

Environmental: A grass infield will utilize irrigation water in the summer; however, grass will radiate less heat than a dirt surface, thereby reducing ambient air temperature and heat pollution prevalent in urban areas. Further, during the rainy season, the grass will reduce rainwater runoff and problems associated with that runoff.

Social Equity: Better parks provide better recreational opportunities for Oakland's children, which improve the livability of the community and make the City a more desirable place to live.

RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE

Providing Oakland’s Little League players with a grass infield will allow them the opportunity to learn to play baseball on two kinds of infields (dirt and grass). It will offer the children of Oakland a choice of playing surfaces and will help them develop baseball skills on both surface types. Further, grass infields have been found to be safer than dirt infields.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution accepting and expressing appreciation of the gift-in-place donated by the North Oakland Little League of a turf infield at the North Oakland Sports Complex (Caldecott Field).

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

City Council is requested to approve the resolution accepting the gift-in-place of the grass infield at the North Oakland Sports Complex (Caldecott Field) and to express appreciation to the North Oakland Little League for that gift.

Respectfully submitted,



Raul Godinez II, P.E.

Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:

Mike Neary, P.E.

Assistant Director, Public Works Agency

Prepared by:

E. Landrith-Robertson, CIP Coordinator
Project Delivery Division

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE:



OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Item: _____
Life Enrichment Committee
April 12, 2005

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C. M. S.

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER _____

2005 MAR 31 PM 1:24

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR A GIFT-IN-PLACE DONATED BY THE NORTH OAKLAND LITTLE LEAGUE OF A TURF BASEBALL INFIELD AT NORTH OAKLAND SPORTS COMPLEX (CALDECOTT FIELD)

WHEREAS, Oakland Little League teams have baseball diamonds with dirt infields; and

WHEREAS, Oakland's Little League teams need a baseball diamond with a grass infield on which to play and practice - so they might play competitively; and

WHEREAS, turf infields are safer for play; and

WHEREAS, the City entered into a license agreement, titled *Right of Entry Permit to Construct a Gift-in-Place*, with the Little League to construct the gift of a turf infield on City property; and

WHEREAS, the North Oakland Little League, a California 501(C)(3) Corporation, has, with donations and entirely with volunteer workers, removed the original infield dirt, re-graded the field for better drainage, and provided and installed topsoil and sod with an irrigation system on the full-size baseball diamond at the North Oakland Sports Complex (Caldecott Field); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Administrator, or her designee, is hereby authorized to accept the gift-in-place provided by the North Oakland Little League of a grass baseball infield at the North Oakland Sports Complex; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council and City Administrator express appreciation to the North Oakland Little League for the gift-in-place irrigated grass infield at the North Oakland Sports Complex (Caldecott Field).

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND CALIFORNIA, _____, 2005

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID AND
PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST:

LaTonda Simmons
Interim City Clerk and Interim Clerk of the
Council of the City of Oakland, California