



CITY OF OAKLAND

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COUNCILMEMBER LOREN TAYLOR  
DISTRICT 6

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**AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Date: October 1, 2020  
To: Members of the Education Partnership Committee and Members of the Public  
From: Councilmember Loren Taylor  
Subject: Informational Report On City’s Lease Agreement with OUSD Regarding Greenman Field

Colleagues on the Committee and Members of the Public:

Our parks and sports fields in the City of Oakland are some of our most precious City resources touching all segments of our community. It is important that we maximize their use and ensure that all residents have access to well-maintained sports fields and safe and attractive places to play and engage in healthy activity. This committee has previously stated our desire to increase access in several ways, including the establishment of a Facilities Joint Use Agreement between the City of Oakland and Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), which is under development for draft release by the end of the year. One additional way of increasing access to fields is by converting grass fields to turf fields and expanding the number of months each year that a given field can be used. Such a proposal has been developed to expand access to and use of The Carter Gilmore Sports Complex (Greenman Field) in District 6.

**Carter Gilmore Sports Complex (Greenman Field)**

The Carter Gilmore Complex (Complex), located in District 6 East Oakland, is a significant resource for the community and the Complex is owned by OUSD and is leased to the City under a 25-year lease that lasts through 2030. The City has entered agreements with community partners for the use of different fields and The Oakland Metropolitan Babe Ruth Baseball League which serves 400-800 mostly low-income Oakland youth has regularly used Greenman Field for more than 15 years during afternoon/evening and weekend hours. The OUSD schools adjacent to Greenman Field (CCPA and Lockwood Elementary) have had access to the field during the school day, but have had inconsistent access to the field in evenings and on weekends due to scheduling conflicts with other programs, and due to field closure when the field is wet and sports use is not permitted. This has resulted in CCPA’s soccer team using another field that is further from their campus as its home and practice field, which presents challenges to students who play on the soccer team and their families.



## **Proposal from CCPA/OUSD and The City of Oakland's Response**

The leadership team at CCPA and Director Shanthi Gonzales have presented a proposal for OUSD to use Measure Y Funds (Assuming passage on November 3<sup>rd</sup>) to reclaim oversight, management, and maintenance of Greenman Field along with OUSD converting the field to a turf field that can accommodate both baseball and soccer, allowing for less travel for CCPA's field-based sports teams.

Based on my conversation with OUSD School Board Director Shanthi Gonzales and CCPA Principal, Amy Boyle, I scheduled this informational report so that the Education Partnership Committee could understand and discuss proposed changes to the Greenman Field lease agreement and the actions/commitments that would be required should OUSD and the City choose to proceed with terminating the lease and OUSD assumption of operations, management, and maintenance responsibilities.

Enclosed with this memorandum is a red-lined version of the original proposal forwarded by Director Gonzales. The proposed resolution reflects changes incorporated based on the City's concerns. While the original proposal was that we separate the practice fields from the main sports field, City staff do not believe that it is in the best interest of the community, OUSD, or the City of Oakland for there to be divided maintenance responsibilities given the high likelihood of creating confusion in responsibility and inequity in the care and maintenance of the Complex as a whole. The attached red-lined version represents the City's proposal for OUSD to take full control of the Complex allowing for the proposed improvements and increased access for both baseball and soccer. The resolution therefore authorizes the City's lease to be terminated and all maintenance responsibilities be transferred back to OUSD. Also incorporated into the resolution is the specification that the City will enter into a new agreement regarding the City's priority use of the Complex along the lines of the forthcoming Facilities Joint Use agreement and also the clarification that groups who have historically used the field, like Babe Ruth, will continue to have access.

### **Action Requested**

I am requesting that the Education Partnership Committee receive a report on the proposed changes to the Greenman Field lease between City of Oakland and OUSD that is proposed to return to Education Partnership as an action item should Ballot Measure Y be approved by voters on November 3, 2020. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Loren Taylor  
Councilmember District 6

Education Partnership  
October 5, 2020

