

Town of Scituate

Town of Scituate

Bradford V. Washburn
Planning & Development Director



600 Chief Justice Cushing Hwy
Scituate, MA 02066
781-545-8730
www.scituatema.gov

February 1, 2019

Gary Meyerson, Chair
Community Preservation Committee
600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway
Scituate, MA 02066

Re: Track and Athletic Fields Restoration Project

Dear Mr. Meyerson and Members of the CPC:

On behalf of the Planning and Development Department ("Department"), I am writing to support the FY20 application from Scituate Recreation and Scituate Public Schools to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). The proposed Track and Athletic Fields Restoration project includes a complete restoration of the existing track and field as well as the existing baseball fields. The completed project will include several multi-purpose fields, encourage active and passive recreation, and will address some of the athletic field needs as defined by Scituate Recreation and Scituate Public Schools Field Use Sub-Committee.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at 781-545-8868.

Sincerely,


Brad Washburn

cc: Board of Selectmen
Recreation
School Public Schools

SCITUATE YOUTH CENTER

SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS

February 10th, 2019

Scituate Track and Athletic Fields Restoration

Dear Town of Scituate,

The Scituate Youth Center fully supports the Scituate Track and Athletic Fields Restoration project. We as a Board have elected to donate \$10,000 toward this project.

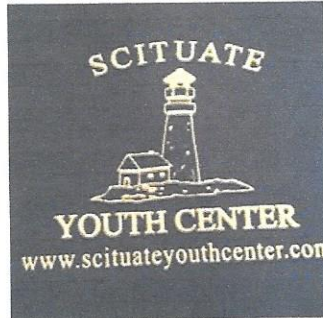
As one of the biggest users of fields and facilities in town, we have seen first-hand how overuse of our fields can cause rapid deterioration and dangerous playing conditions. Hopefully once this project is passed and complete we can let the other fields in town rest and become optimal playing fields, and our children can compete on similar surfaces we see in all other towns around us.

Scituate High School is the hub of educational and athletic activity here in town and we should be proud to invite other towns and compete on safe and legal playing surfaces.

Regards
Missy Veiga
VP Board of Directors
Scituate Youth Center

Letter of Support

Scituate Youth Center



Re: Scituate Track and Athletic Fields Restoration Restoration

Dear Town of Scituate,

The Scituate Youth Center fully supports the Scituate Track and Athletic Fields Restoration project.

As one of the biggest users of fields and facilities in town, we have seen first-hand how overuse of our fields can cause rapid deterioration and dangerous playing conditions. Hopefully once this project is passed and complete we can let the other fields in town rest and become optimal playing fields, and our children can compete on similar surfaces we see in all of the towns around us.

Scituate High School is the hub of educational and athletic activity here in town and we should be proud to invite other towns and compete on safe and legal playing surfaces.

Sincerely,

Brian Gallerani
Board of Directors – Scituate Youth Center
President – Scituate Youth Softball



December 6, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

Scituate Soccer Club strongly endorses the proposal to restore the Scituate town fields located at Scituate High School.

We have reviewed the plan developed by Mark Novak's team at Activitas and are in agreement that this plan is in alignment with what is needed to restore these fields. Completion of this restoration effort will provide all Scituate residents (children, adults, seniors) with equal opportunity to play/exercise in a safe, community-based environment.

Scituate Soccer currently utilizes multiple town fields (Flannery, Central, SHS turf, SHS back, Gates) in the spring and fall with approx. 800 players participating. As a result of multiple programs using all town fields and due to the relatively few fields available, all of Scituate's fields (grass and turf) are overused. By creating a multi-use turf facility, Scituate will be able to rotate use of grass fields thus providing much needed 'rest' for certain fields and creating a safer athletic environment.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important project.

Jennifer Sjostedt
President
Scituate Soccer Club

Chris Nylén
Vice President
Scituate Soccer Club



To Whom It May Concern,

Scituate HS Boys and Girls Soccer Boosters strongly endorses the proposal to restore and improve the Scituate town fields located at Scituate High School.

Together, Scituate HS boys and girls soccer have fielded six teams (Freshman, JV, and Varsity) for the past several years. This project is needed for many, many reasons. Here are a few:

- Due to the lack of available space for all of these teams, they are often required to travel (ie, walk or carpool) to other locations to practice and/or play games.

- The SHS turf itself is well beyond it's life expectancy and is increasingly dangerous for our student-athletes. There are sections where the turf has become separated or large patches that have been replaced inadequately and are raised by 1/2 to 1". This is unsafe and unacceptable.

- Several of the field options for Freshman and JV are in very poor shape and the threat of injury is ever present (Central, Gates, SHS back field). The Field Restoration project will provide additional fields that will allow the Town to rest these fields and improve them dramatically.

Completion of this restoration effort will provide all Scituate residents (student-athletes, children, adults, seniors) with equal opportunity to play/exercise in a safe, community-based environment.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important project.

Scituate HS Boys Boosters

- Sean O'Connor
- Esther Blacker
- Karen Mullen
- Audrey Melanson
- Sharon Yukselen

Scituate HS Girls Boosters

- Maura Dawley
- Kathryn Callanan

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Sean O'Brien, I am the President of Scituate Youth Lacrosse (SYL), and I am writing this letter on behalf of the SYL Board of Directors in order to ask for your support of the Scituate High School Field Restoration Project.

SYL serves approximately 450 Scituate children (girls & boys) each year, ranging from Kindergarten through 8th Grade. Our mission is to use the sport of lacrosse to develop a sense of community, build personal integrity, and inspire physical fitness with our players. In an era where club/pay-to-play sports can cost families multiple thousands of dollars per year, access to top quality athletic instruction is often limited to those with financial means. SYL aims to provide an affordable, town based, high quality sports experience, which is accessible to every Scituate child. We are an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) organization, offering an 8 week spring season, summer "small ball" , winter skills training, and frequent specialty skills clinics, consuming over 220 hours of outdoor field time per year.


While some may argue that Scituate simply needs to take better care of the fields we have, those of us who are closely involved in town field sports realize that this is easier said than done. The current limited supply of town field space is creating a severe overuse situation, leading to poor and often unplayable field conditions. This not only makes sports like lacrosse more difficult and frustrating to learn, but also exposes players to an increased risk of injury. In the view of the SYL Board of Directors, the SHS Field Restoration Project would be a tremendous step toward solving this and many other field related issues, and would provide assistance to programs like ours in attracting, serving, and retaining young athletes.

Additionally, SYL views this project as an opportunity to draw additional money to Scituate through field fees and tourist dollars. With three lighted fields, the SHS field complex would fill a niche in the local multiuse field market. Currently, town programs such as ours are severely limited in our ability to host single site tournament events due to prohibitively high field rental fees (a 3 field, all day tournament at a local for-profit field complex could cost up to \$10,000 for field rental alone). Hosting tournament events in Scituate, could draw players/parents from surrounding towns to Scituate over a full day/weekend of play. These families would add additional revenue through purchases at local shops, restaurants, gas stations, and hotel stays

In closing, we feel that although there are currently many competing priorities for resources within the town of Scituate, the SHS Field Restoration Project stands alone in its ability to support the development of strong character, inner strength, and community spirit within our youngest community members. We ask that you support this project as it moves forward through the approval and funding process.

"Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language that they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair." – Nelson Mandela

Sincerely,



Sean J. O'Brien
President – Scituate Youth Lacrosse

To Whom It May Concern,

Scituate HS Field Hockey program strongly endorses the proposal to restore and improve the Scituate town fields located at Scituate High School.

This project is needed for several reasons, including:

- 1 Due to the lack of available space for all of these teams, the team cannot host home games as frequently as required because SHS Field hockey's designated field was deemed unsafe by league referees that to practice on and/or play games.
- 2 The SHS turf itself is well beyond it's useful life and is increasingly dangerous for our student-athletes. There are sections where the turf has become separated or large patches that have been replaced inadequately and are raised by 1/2 to 1". This is unsafe and and presents a risk of injury to the athletes and liability to the town / SHS.
- 3 Several of the other field options for SHS field hockey are in very poor shape and the threat of injury is ever present.

The Field Restoration project will provide additional fields that will allow the Town to rest these fields and improve them dramatically. Completion of this restoration effort will provide all Scituate residents (student athletes, children, adults, seniors) with equal opportunity to play/exercise in a safe, community-based environment.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important project.

SHS Field Hockey Boosters

Kari O'Connor and Kate Logan

To Whom It May Concern:

Scituate Hockey Boosters (Boys) fully supports the Scituate Track and Fields Restoration Proposal.

A vote to support the project as proposed was conducted on December 6, 2018 during an official Scituate Hockey Boosters meeting. The outcome was unanimous amongst approximately 30 members in attendance. Our members agreed that this project is desperately needed to offer a more suitable recreational space providing greater safety, equity and access to all members of our community.

Thank you in advance for your support as well.

Regards,

Scituate Hockey Boosters, Inc.

Peter Thompson – President
Jim McCarthy – Treasurer
Krissy Donahue – Secretary
Bob Song - Director

Peter Thompson > C: 339-236-1536

Town
of
Scituate

RECREATION COMMISSION
FRIENDS OF SCITUATE RECREATION, INC.

600 Chief Justice Cushing Hwy.
Scituate, Massachusetts 02066
TEL: (781) 545-8738
FAX: (781) 545-6990



Gary Myerson, Chairperson
C/o: Community Preservation Committee
600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway
Scituate, MA 02066

Catch the Scituate Spirit

RE: SHS Field Restoration Project CPC Request

December 10, 2018

Dear Gary,

On behalf of the Recreation Commission, I am writing this letter to support the proposed SHS Field Restoration project located on the Scituate High School and Middle School Campus.

The Recreation Commission unanimously to support this project.

Our Commission supports projects that promote both passive and active recreation as well as, help fulfill the Open Space & Recreation goals of the Town's Master Plan and this initiative does this and more.

Sincerely,

Jennifer McMellen,
Chairman

cc: Recreation Commission