

TO: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: SUPERINTENDENT

BOARD REPORT NO. 5150

Prepared by the **Facilities Department**
for Presentation to the Board of Trustees on
May 1, 2018

SUBJECT: NEW SOCCER FIELD CONCEPT/DESIGN

I. AGENDA STATEMENT

The Board of Trustees will consider approval of the construction concept/design to establish the College's first dedicated soccer field.

II. BACKGROUND

In 2016 men's and women's soccer was brought to College of the Siskiyous. The teams have been using the baseball outfield for practice and contests. The field was not designed for soccer and was only intended as a short term solution. The long term solution was to create a soccer field with proper league dimensions, spectator seating and a regulation scoreboard. Initially the plan was to construct a \$1.5M all-weather, artificial turf, combination football/soccer field. Funding was designated from the \$4M loan.

As the design process began in December, 2017, on a combined football/soccer field, a potential California Community College Soccer Association (CCCSA) regulatory change to increase field size was proposed. The expanded field dimensions exceeded the existing football field footprint. The proposed CCCSA changes (and consideration also of NCAA play field standards that could be adopted by CCCSA as early as Spring, 2018) required us to abandon the combined football/soccer field concept and develop a new plan for a separate soccer field. At this time, a group of primary stakeholders was convened, including Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker, Darlene Melby, Dr. Todd Scott, Dennis Roberts, Charlie Roche, Edward Kephart, Board Member Greg Hanna and Eric Rulofson.

In February, 2018, the primary stakeholders began working with Lloyd Engineering to design a new natural turf soccer field where the current football practice field is located. On April 25, 2018, Lloyd Engineering presented their "College of the Siskiyous Soccer Field Renovation and Modernization" engineering report. The attached report, along with a presentation from Lloyd Engineering at the Board of Trustees' May 1, 2018, meeting is the concept/design that was developed.

III. ANALYSIS

An overview of the scope of work for this project includes:

1. Significantly expand the available footprint of the existing practice football field to accommodate the space needed for a regulation size soccer playing field, including off field space for the competing teams, spectator seating, and scoreboard.
2. Regrade the entire area and install a new state of the art underground irrigation system.
3. Procure and install the new necessary features and equipment (scoreboard, goals, team benches, spectator seating, etc.)

4. Install new natural grass playing surface.

The design details cover:

1. Demolition of a portion of the existing track extension
2. Filling drainage basin
3. Impact on the Facilities Yard
4. Tree removal
5. New walkway
6. Competition configuration

During the presentation a construction schedule was shared. Using a May 1, 2018, approval date from the Board of Trustees, construction would be anticipated to begin around the first part of July. This start date allows the necessary time to create construction documents, advertise and bid the project, review bids, award the project, and create the construction contracts and allow for mobilization to start construction. The construction phase is estimated at two months with a required sod growth and establishment time period of another 6 weeks. This tentatively places completion of the project with close-out (and the field ready to be used for practice and competition) at October 15, 2018. With this time frame, soccer would have roughly two weeks remaining in their season.

Initial reaction to the presentation had primary stakeholders pleased with the design elements of the project, and a high level of confidence that the design would result in a successful field adding significant value to the College and our soccer program. Concerns were raised, however, about both the cost of the project (estimated at \$595,000 for just the soccer field) and the timeframe required to complete the project this summer and fall. Most disappointing was the construction timeline resulting in soccer missing most if not all of another season not played on a field designed for their use and instead using again the outfield of our baseball field. Additional concerns were raised that with this construction schedule – especially the required sod growth and establishment timeframe – there would be negative impacts on football’s practice schedules (though games themselves would not be impacted).

On April 26, 2018, an idea was suggested to combine the installation of an artificial turf field and restoration of a natural grass athletic field as one project beginning late Spring, 2019. We believe construction costs could be saved through the economy of scale by implementing these projects simultaneously. We also think that by making the artificial turf field the soccer field (and doubling as football’s practice field) and retaining the natural grass football field (with renovations to shore up the quality of the turf bed, drainage, topsoil and sod) the total cost would be less than the current plan of creating a natural grass soccer field and artificial turf football field. We believe this new option will be much closer to the original combined artificial turf football/soccer field cost estimate. Current resources will not cover both projects as presently designed and cost estimated.

Lloyd Engineering is now considering the cost estimates for installing artificial turf rather than sod on their designs for a new soccer field. If feasible, there is interest in delaying construction of a new artificial turf soccer field, and renovation of the natural grass football field to late Spring, 2019.

Community forums to detail these projects, and discuss the different options in artificial turf for athletic fields will begin in August, 2018. Multiple stakeholder and open meetings will be scheduled to solicit input from all interested persons. We estimate complete plans for both the soccer field and football field will return for Board consideration in late 2018.

IV. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The natural grass soccer field renovation and modernization project is estimated at \$595,000. We do not yet know the costs of installing an artificial playing surface on the soccer field design; however, even if it doubled the current estimate, this would fit under the original costs estimated for the joint football/soccer field turf project. Originally, other funding sources were considered to offset the costs of a natural grass soccer field, specifically repurposing the loan funds designated for air conditioning the Life Science building. However, continuing with a two-pronged construction project on both fields – with soccer being natural grass, and football being artificial turf – these funds combined with the loan funds set aside for the combined football/soccer field are insufficient to cover both projects.

V. RECOMMENDATION

The soccer program requires a safe, regulation size field to practice and have soccer contests. The present soccer area works well as a baseball outfield, but not for soccer. In consideration of costs and timelines for two separate athletic field projects, we believe delaying construction until 2019 is the wisest step to take.

In the interest of player safety, league compliance, and student athlete recruitment the primary stakeholders group recommends the Board approve the Lloyd Engineering soccer field concept/design and direct the Superintendent/President to continue working with the primary stakeholders group and Lloyd Engineering to move forward on the design, costs, and construction schedule to install an artificial turf soccer field, and renovate the natural grass football field.

Therefore, it is recommended by the primary stakeholder group that the Board of Trustees approve the new soccer field concept/design as the College's starting point for construction of a new soccer field and renovations to the existing natural grass football field.

Prepared by,

Reviewed by,

Respectfully submitted,

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