



The City of Kenmore

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City of Kenmore Awarded Grant to Improve and Build Community Athletic Fields

Kenmore, Wash. – The City of Kenmore was awarded grants worth a total of \$225,000 from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board in Olympia to improve and build community athletic fields at Saint Edward State Park.

The athletic field project will renovate an existing field and add two new baseball fields. In addition, two soccer fields will overlay the outfield area of the baseball fields. Furthermore, pathways and additional parking will be added. The fields will be available for public use for youth and adult recreation activities.

“The Council and I are pleased with the award and thank the City’s staff for their efforts in obtaining this grant,” said Mayor David Baker. “I believe this enhancement to the existing fields is something that children and their families will enjoy for many years to come. When making the decision to pursue this project we kept in mind the beauty of the park and all that it has to offer the people of Kenmore and the surrounding region.”

The City has been working with youth organizations and Washington State Parks since 2005 to develop the athletic field project. This project responds to the need for athletic fields as a result of the potential loss of fields at Bastyr University. The university has provided fields for community use for several years, but Bastyr’s future facility needs could potentially eliminate the athletic fields. The City’s project will help offset the loss of these fields. The City received letters of support for the athletic field project from Bastyr University, Kenmore Little League, Northshore Youth Soccer Association and Washington State Parks. The City currently owns one field at Moorlands Park and is considering other field development in other parts of the city.

Construction plans are currently being prepared and construction is projected to begin in 2009, following environmental and permitting review. The fields will be developed on the existing open field area just south of the Saint Edward State Park property entry and will occupy approximately 4-acres of the 316-acre park. The development complies with the recent Classification and Management Plan for Saint Edward State Park adopted by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission in 2007.

The City is working with Washington State Parks to develop a 25-year lease agreement, as required by the project, regarding operation and maintenance of the fields. The lease

agreement will be presented to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for approval in June. Washington State Parks will continue to schedule the use of fields and the City will maintain the field area.

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board awarded 33 grants for improving or building new community athletic fields totaling more than \$3 million. Funding from these projects come from the Youth Athletic Facilities grant program, which was created through a referendum that provided public financing for the Seahawks' stadium.

The City was also awarded \$50,000 from King County Council Youth Sports Facility Grant Program for the athletic field project.

Questions on the project can be directed to Bill Evans, Parks Program Manager, at 425.398.8900 or bevans@ci.kenmore.wa.us.

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Editor's Note: Attached is a pdf version of the City of Kenmore Master Plan for Athletic Fields at Saint Edward State Park.