THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE
STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: March 22, 2022

Subject: Next Phase of Construction for Memorial Stadium

Staff Resource(s): D. Tyrell McGirt, Director Parks and Recreation

Action Requested: Following further discussion with community and other user groups, staff recommends the adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to move to Phase 2 of development of Memorial Stadium and that Phase 2 include a 6 lane competitive track as described in the attached exhibit, expansion of walking trail, as well as other improvements recommended by staff as described in the March 22, 2022 presentation.

Background:

- Phase 1 of a multi-phase project has been completed to make improvements to Memorial Stadium.
- Work completed to date include: new turf, replacement and relocation of stormwater, new field drainage, cleaned concrete bleachers, construction of accessible ramps to concrete bleachers, constructed sidewalks at ends of field connecting pedestrian access to bleachers.
- As staff progressed into implementation of Phase 2 of the project, interest was raised by the community and other user groups to look into expanding the proposed walking trail and consider the feasibility of adding a 400 meter 6-lane track into the design of Phase 2.
- Staff met with community members on March 10, 2022 to present possible options for the walking trail and track as additions to Memorial Stadium and Mountainside Park.
- Staff presented pros and cons of the options.
- After further discussion with the community and other user groups and an internal assessment of the feasibility of adding the track, staff concluded the track could be added and recommends that Council consider adding it into the Phase 2 improvements for Memorial Stadium along with further enhancements that were originally planned including those to Mountainside Park.

Council Goal(s):

- An Equitable and Diverse Community
- A Well Planned and Livable Community

Committee(s):

- N/A

Pro(s):

- A 6 lane competitive track will provide a dedicated area for fitness walking and running.
- Provides opportunities for community running programs
- Allows hosting of track events
- Aligns seating with available parking capacity
- Responds to community expressed interests and needs

Con(s):

- Reduces current seating capacity
- Reduces flag football field capacity
- Reduces soccer field size
- Requires new restroom building
- Impacts neighborhood with increased programming.

Fiscal Impact:

- Costs to cover entire recommended improvements is $4.4 million
- Current available funding for this project is $1.0 million dollars which leaves a funding gap of $3.4 million dollars.
- Staff will provide the Council with possible sources of funding at a future Council meeting.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to identify funding for phase 2 of the Memorial Stadium improvements as recommended by staff, to enter into the design phase to include a 6 lane competitive track with dimensions as described in the attached exhibit, and begin implementation of other staff recommendations as described in the staff presentation on March 22, 2022

Attachments

- Resolution
- Field dimensions

RESOLUTION NO. 22-_____

RESOLUTION REGARDING ALTERATIONS TO MEMORIAL STADIUM AND MOUNTAINSIDE PARK

WHEREAS, Memorial Stadium and Mountainside Park were completed in 1925 to serve as a regional athletic and special events facility as well as providing additional recreational park space for the community, and are operated by the City of Asheville Parks Department; and

WHEREAS, Since its original construction, Memorial Stadium has provided multiple recreational and special event opportunities within the City of Asheville, and is currently utilized for both adult and youth athletics including, but not limited to, football, soccer, ultimate frisbee, and others; and

WHEREAS, City Council and staff have received valuable information from the communities surrounding Memorial Stadium and Mountainside Park about the needs and desires of those residents for this facility; and

WHEREAS, In response to these community requests, and with special recognition for the leadership of Council Member S. Antanette Mosley on this initiative, City staff have developed a proposed design for the redevelopment of the facility; and

WHEREAS, City Council now wishes to provide for the proposed alterations to Memorial Stadium and Mountainside Park which will benefit the health and wellbeing of the residents of the neighboring communities; and

WHEREAS, City Council specifically supports the addition of a 400 meter six lane track as well as those other elements contained in the proposed design for the redevelopment of Memorial Stadium and Mountainside Park, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires that City staff identify sufficient funding sources to complete all facets of this redevelopment, and expresses its willingness to withhold portions of the funding received from the American Rescue Plan Act if deemed necessary and advisable by City staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The Asheville City Council hereby directs the City Manager to proceed with a process to undertake the proposed alterations to Memorial Stadium and Mountainside Park as provided herein, and as further determined by City Staff to be reasonable; and to determine an available and prudent funding source for this project.

Read, approved and adopted this 22nd day of March, 2022.

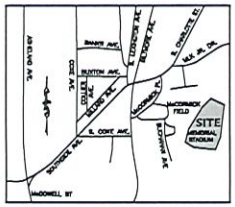
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CITY CLERK MAYOR

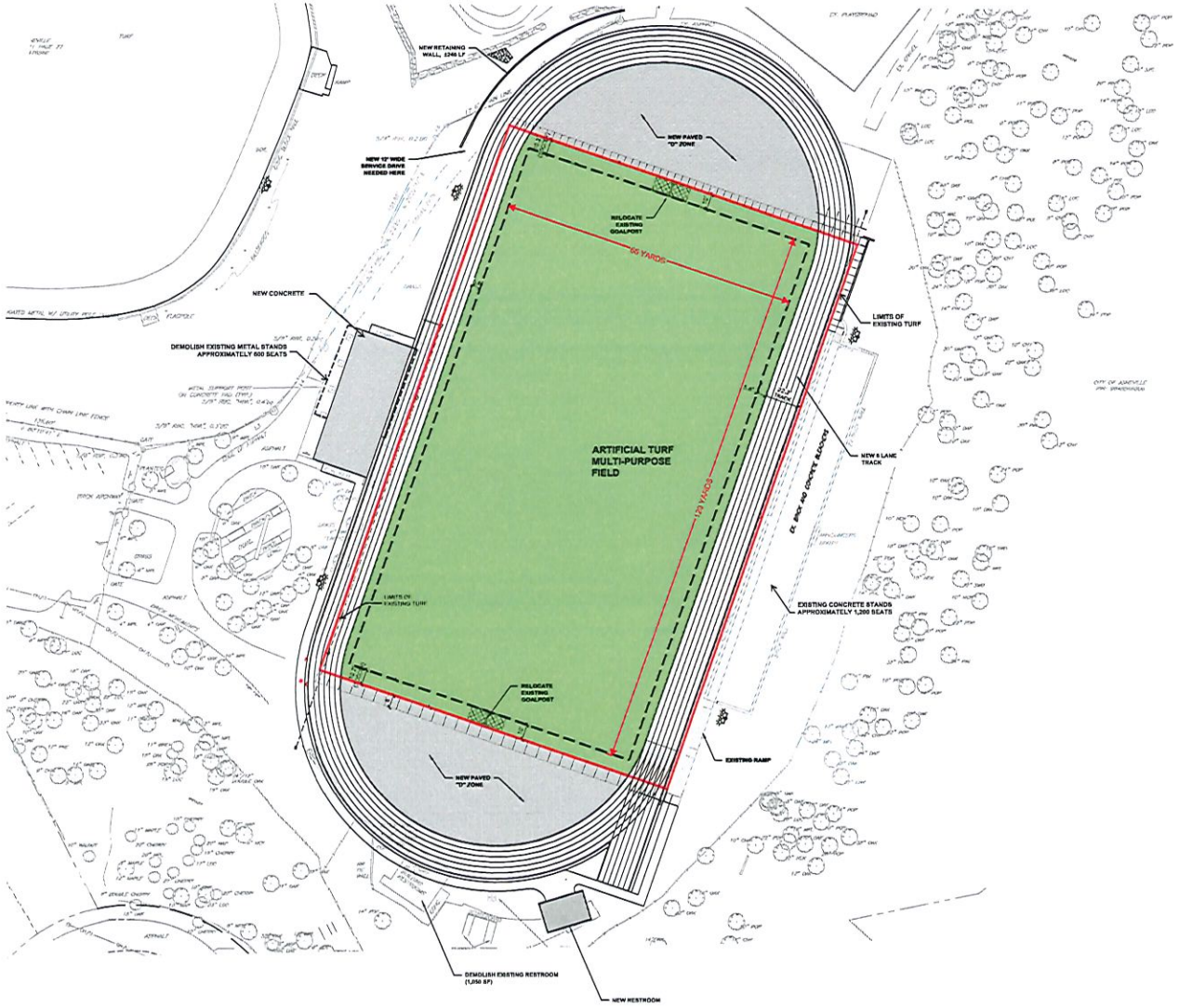
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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CITY ATTORNEY



VICINITY MAP
NTS



NORTH

SCALE: 1"=30'

benesch
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Seals:

PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Corp. NC License: F-1320

Mountainside Memorial Stadium
Track Study

Asheville, North Carolina

Project No: 17.000753.01
Date: 03.11.22
Revisions:

Sheet Title:
Site Plan Enlargement

Sheet No:
C201