

New Athletic Playing Fields

The Need: Today, over 2,500 children and young adults and nearly 100 adults play in organized outdoor recreation and sports programs in the Concord-Carlisle community. These programs include: youth soccer, travel soccer, softball, Little League baseball, summer baseball, youth lacrosse, youth flag football, Pop Warner football, men's and women's adult soccer.

Demand for use of our playing fields has now substantially outstripped supply which has led to overuse and deterioration of our limited number of fields.

A Well-Documented Need

**Despite dramatic growth....
no new fields
in over
40 years!**

1987 Concord Long Range Plan
2003 Playing Field Study
2004 Open Space and Recreation Plan
2005 Concord Long Range Plan
2006 Recreation Field Needs Analysis

Since then, participation in sports programs has increased dramatically -- helped by passage of Title IX which provided for equal treatment of girls and women in school programs. Youth soccer has seen dramatic increases in registered participants and many new programs have been introduced in the past few years including youth lacrosse, flag and Pop Warner football.

It is now the season to solve this problem!

The Plan: The Concord Town Manager, backed by youth and adults sports program leaders and supported by the Recreation Commission, has created *a plan to develop and maintain 6 new playing fields* in Concord.

--- A Three Year Plan ---

-- 2007 --	-- 2008 --	-- 2009 --
2 – All Purpose Turf Fields * (CCHS)	1 – 90' Baseball Diamond (Amendolia Land)	1 – 60' Baseball and Softball Diamond (Site TBD)
1 – 60' Baseball Diamond * (Alcott or other site TBD)	1 – All Purpose Grass Field (CCHS or Burke Land)	

* Lighting

All-Purpose Playing Fields

For Soccer, Lacrosse and Football

In the first phase of the project, two all-purpose fields will be built on the Concord-Carlisle High School campus. **These fields will be used by both high school students and by the community sports programs in the evenings and weekends.**

"I'm pleased to see more opportunities for the entire community to make good use of the CCHS campus. I'm excited about this project."
- Art Dulong, CCHS Principal

These new fields, located behind CCHS (and outside of the footprint of any potential new HS building) will be accessible via a new access road that will be built near the school bus depot. Parking for 100 vehicles will be provided adjacent to the new fields. In the future, a third all-purpose grass field may also be constructed on the site of an undersized practice field.

2 All-Purpose Turf Fields at CCHS Campus



Lighting:

Advanced "state-of-the-art" lighting fixtures allow for field use during the evening – providing much greater flexibility for both CCHS and town programs.

Light "spill" is minimal – just a few feet from the edge of the field.

The design **preserves most of the woodlands** around the fields, **retains the cross county trail** and provides a **100' wide "wildlife corridor"** between the fields and the property line. Small earthen berms, along with landscaping, will help mitigate the visual and sound impact from vehicular traffic.

"These fields will help the CCHS athletic and intramural programs in many important ways and I'm fully supportive of this project"
- Barry Haley, CCHS Athletic Director

60' and 90' Baseball Diamonds

For Baseball and Softball

Baseball diamonds will be constructed with the priority being a "premiere" 60' baseball diamond equipped with lights, a scoreboard and dugouts. This diamond will be the featured site for limited night games that will provide most all Little Leaguers the chance to "play under the lights" during each season. While the Alcott School land and adjacent CPW site is an ideal location for this diamond, a variety of alternatives are being explored to determine what is most suitable.

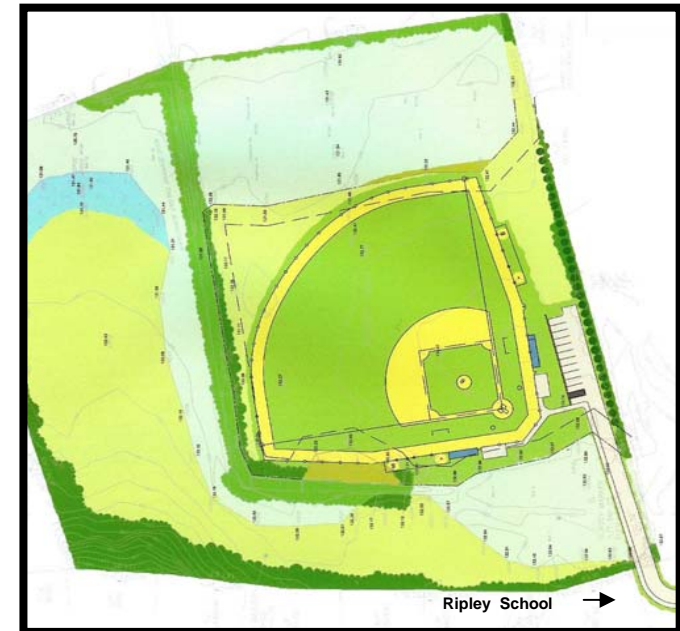
"Concord is one of the few towns in the area that lacks a premiere 60' baseball diamond; Acton, Sudbury, Bedford, Waltham all have a flagship diamond for their children. Building this 'field of dreams' will be a valuable, much needed and appreciated addition to our community program."

- Peter Castrichini (Concord native and former Little Leaguer),
- President of Concord-Carlisle Youth Softball and Baseball (2004 - 06)

90' Baseball Diamond

Preliminary Design

A 90' baseball diamond is likely on the Amendolia Land, purchased by the town for recreational use. This full-sized diamond would be accessible via the Ripley School and be dedicated for use by baseball.



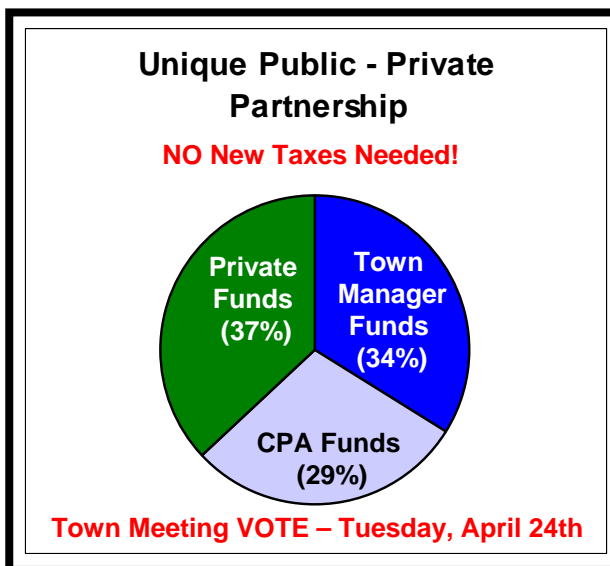
Another 60' diamond or the conversion of an existing field to a skinned diamond for softball will be built in the third year. A number of sites, including land available at the Ripley School are being explored.

NEXT

We Need Your Help – Today!

The Funding: The three-year, 6 field project has an estimated total cost of \$5.1M (which includes a 20% allowance for “soft costs” + contingencies).

The project will be funded by a unique public – private partnership. The Concord Town Manager and the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Committee have already committed \$3M *this year* – to be approved at the 2007 Town Meeting. **We are raising \$1.9M in private funds to complete the project. As of March 2007, we’ve raised nearly \$1M from a small number of generous citizens.**



“This project has been a model for how we should solve problems in town. After years of study and hard work, it’s great to see new fields starting to become a reality. The Board of Selectmen unanimously support this project....along with 8 other town committees by a combined 54-1 voting margin”. - Greg Howes, Selectman

Please Make Your Pledge of Financial Support Today “Friends of Concord – Carlisle Fields” Capital Committee

Phil Gibson, <i>Chairperson</i>	Baseball and Softball	(978) 369-7932
Chris Clark	Baseball and Softball	(978) 369-4202
Bill Barrett	Football	(978) 369-4476
Amy Carlton	Lacrosse	(978) 369-2987
Silas Witherbee	Lacrosse	(978) 369-2138
Dekkers Davidson	Soccer	(978) 369-7117
Timothy Dibble	Soccer	* * *
Suzanne Giles	Soccer	(978) 371-5858
Johanna Hunter	Soccer	(978) 369-0238

**Send to: Attention – Phil Gibson
FCCF Capital Campaign, 32 Highland Street, Concord, MA 01742**