



TOWN OF LINCOLN

Middlesex County...Massachusetts

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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December 1, 2014

TO: Ms. Jennifer Glass, Chair
Lincoln School Committee

FROM: Jonathan Dwyer, Chair
Lincoln Parks and Recreation Committee

RE: Parks and Recreation Sport Court Project

Dear Ms. Glass,

I am writing to request that the School Committee grant Lincoln's Parks and Recreation Department (PRD) permission to install a multisport court within the Ballfield Road complex. The Parks and Recreation Committee, which provides governance for the PRD, is requesting \$150K from FY16 Community Preservation Act funds to install this court and benefit the community in a number of ways:

- 1) The town will finally have a public, outdoor basketball court – a gap in facilities perennially noted by adults and youth. Youth want a place to meet up and have free play when they feel like it, as opposed to scheduled, structured, or supervised play, or playing on an unlined, uneven driveway. Parents remember enjoying public court facilities with friends when young, and want their kids to have a similar experience. In short, the town needs a court that is available on a drop-in basis, when people want to play.
- 2) The sport court can be reconfigured to provide volleyball, tennis, badminton, pickle ball, floor hockey, and ice hockey in winter. It makes efficient use of space, and would be lighted to allow for early nighttime play, increasing its relevance to working adults.
- 3) As a tennis court, this facility would support tennis programs offered by the school and by PRD by providing a play surface when the clay courts are too wet or closed for the winter.

We believe the ideal location for this court would be next to the blue tot playground, adjacent to the Brooks Gym parking lot. This location has a number of advantages:

- 1) It is highly accessible and visible. It can be easily monitored by both PRD and Lincoln Police, and is easily accessed by public safety vehicles and personnel, which are important safety considerations.
- 2) It is near the pool, the LEAP program, the Summer Day Camp and the Hartwell Pods, centralizing recreation opportunities for families.
- 3) Its high-traffic usage times will be opposite of the school and work day, minimizing parking impacts.
- 4) The impact of court lighting is mitigated by its location next to the already illuminated Brooks Gym lot. We are extending an existing illuminated area instead of creating a new, isolated one.

We understand that the location may be impacted by future school building renovations, which is why our proposal includes a moveable subsurface that can be picked up and installed elsewhere, and not a traditional concrete pad.

Both, the school committee and PRD, value the health and wellness of Lincolmites and those who work and learn in Lincoln's public schools. We share facilities and cooperate in programming delivery. In this spirit of mission, we introduce this proposal and look forward to learning the school committee's point of view.

I have included our project narrative and would be happy to discuss this in person if you feel that would be beneficial to the school committee.

Thank you.

Jonathan Dwyer
Chairman, Parks & Recreation Committee

SPORT COURT FY16 CAPITAL PROJECT OVERVIEW

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPT

REQUEST:

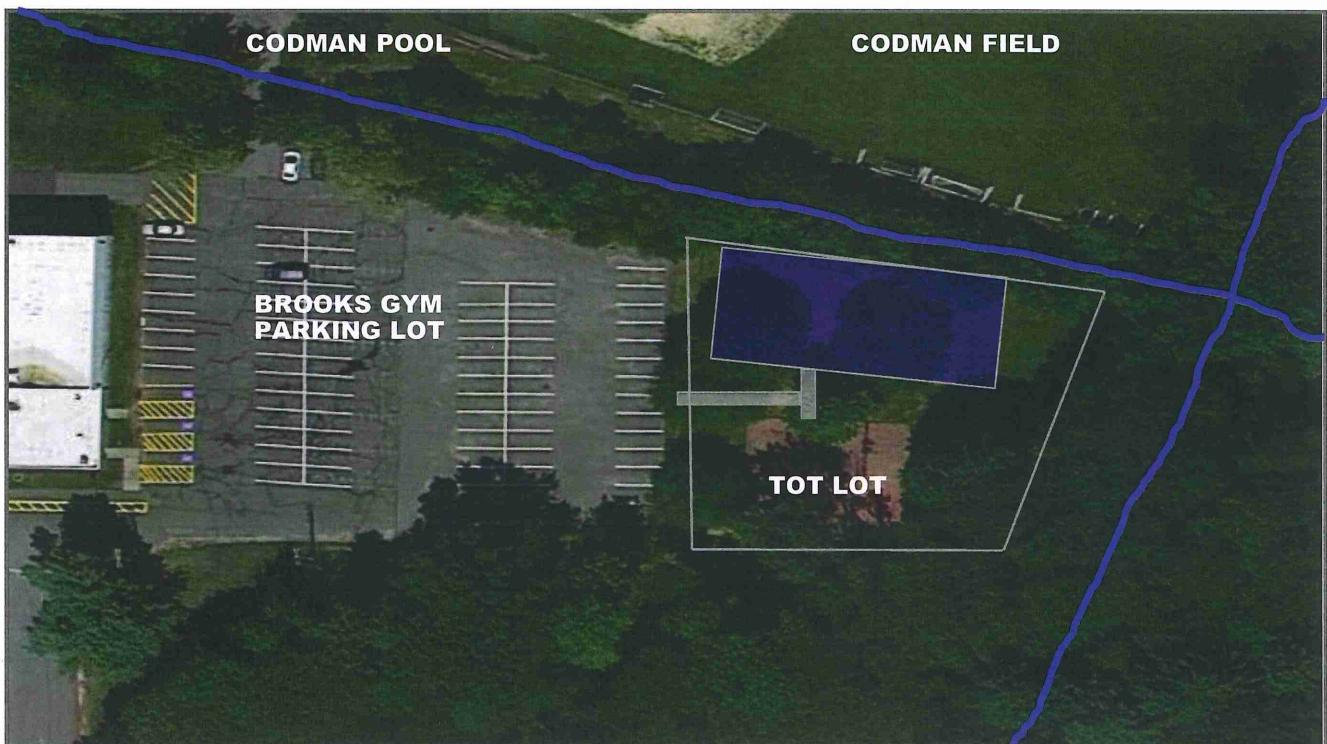
That the Lincoln School Committee approve the installation a multi-sport court in the existing tot lot park, located on the Ballfield Road Campus.

OVERVIEW:

The Parks and Recreation Committee has identified a shortage of outdoor facilities that build community through casual recreation opportunities and can serve as a destination for interested residents. To help address this issue, we are proposing the construction of a multi-sport court that would provide outdoor basketball, deck hockey, ice hockey, volleyball, badminton and tennis (in the event the clay courts are not usable) for all ages. This court would be lighted to provide night time use that would expand its availability, similar to the town tennis courts.

Programmatically, this is a facility that introduces new opportunities to residents through both new programs and drop-in play. However, the ability to use the court as a back up tennis court will provide significant service to the town sponsored tennis lessons (which need to cancel frequently due to the clay courts inability to handle rain) and the middle school tennis program, which needs to delay the start of their season by a month because the clay courts can not open in March.

LOCATION:



The multi-sport court will be ideally sited on Ballfield Road in the park adjacent to the Tot Lot, near the Codman Pool. This location serves to concentrate the recreational opportunities in that area while also allowing for easy monitoring by Parks and Recreation and Public Safety staff.

The location is adjacent to a parking lot that should provide sufficient parking, as usage of this court would predominantly be after school hours and weekends. The parking lot also provides lighted poles, so the additional light poles would only represent a modest expansion of what is already there.

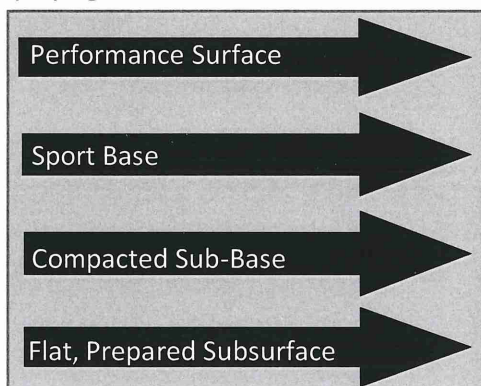
THE SPORT COURT:

The court would be approximately 80' x 45' (3600 sqft), roughly the size of a basketball court. It would be surrounded by soft netting to contain play within the designated area. The court would be lined for basketball, floor (ice) hockey, volleyball, tennis and badminton, with opportunities for other games. A dasher board (10") would line the court perimeter to allow for both floor hockey and ice hockey, should the community want to flood the court in the winter.



CONCEPT IMAGE OF SPORT COURT

The court system we are proposing comes with a base made out of 100% recycled plastic. This base provides 2-3 times the shock absorption of a traditional concrete base, making for a safer and more comfortable playing surface. It is also both eco-friendly and portable. The material allows water to pass directly through



the surface, eliminating run-off, which is desirable when considering the courts proximity to wetlands. Additionally the base is completely portable, which allows us to move the entire facility in the event the site needs to be repurposed in the future.

AMENITIES:

In addition to the court installation, the project includes: replacing the entire park perimeter fence (app. 500 linear ft) which is in poor condition, an ADA compliant walkway to service both the sport court and play-ground, and the extension of a nearby water line to allow for easier water access, should the community choose to flood the rink in the winter. We would also be paying an electrician to hook up the new lights to the existing power grid and install a meter.

FINANCES:

Sport Court with Lighting Installation:	\$113,000
Fence Repair	\$10,000
Water Line Extension	\$2,000
ADA Accessible path into the park	\$2,000
15% contingency	\$19,000
Total	\$146,000

We are seeking full funding through the Community Preservation Act. The Community Preservation Committee has determined that the project does qualify, and they are in the process of considering the request for recommendation at Town Meeting 2015. If approved, funding would be available on July 1.

INSTALLATION:

According to Sport Courts New England, installation takes about one week. With funding available on July 1, we would plan for installation in early August with a plan to be completed by August 30, 2015.