



# Athletic Fields Feasibility Study

Fields for the Future – Investing in our Champions Today

***Board Work Session  
Thursday, April 10, 2025***





# The “Why”

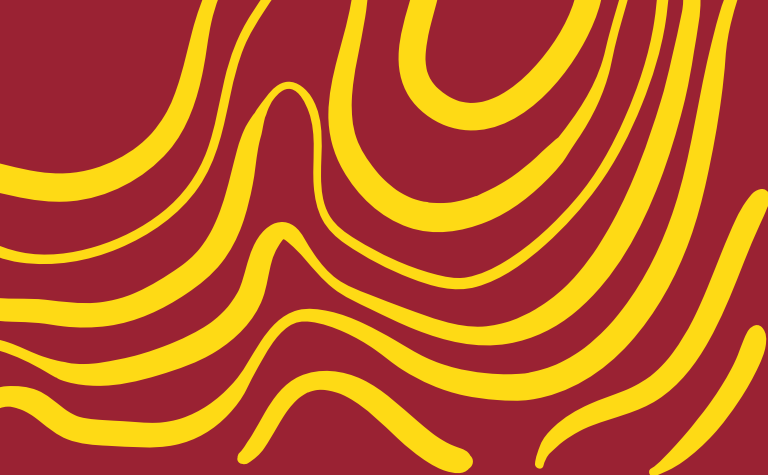
In the fall of 2024, the Rose Tree Media School District requested a feasibility study be conducted on the District’s outdoor athletic facilities. The scope of the study included athletic fields and outdoor facilities.

# The Goals

- Identify the proper number of fields and facilities needed to accommodate current and future athletic programs & identify design concerns with current RTMSD facilities.
- Account for equity amongst facilities in accordance with Title IX.
- Identify potential safety issues with the fields and facilities and establish budgets to address those items.
- Establish a phased approach to the recommendations.

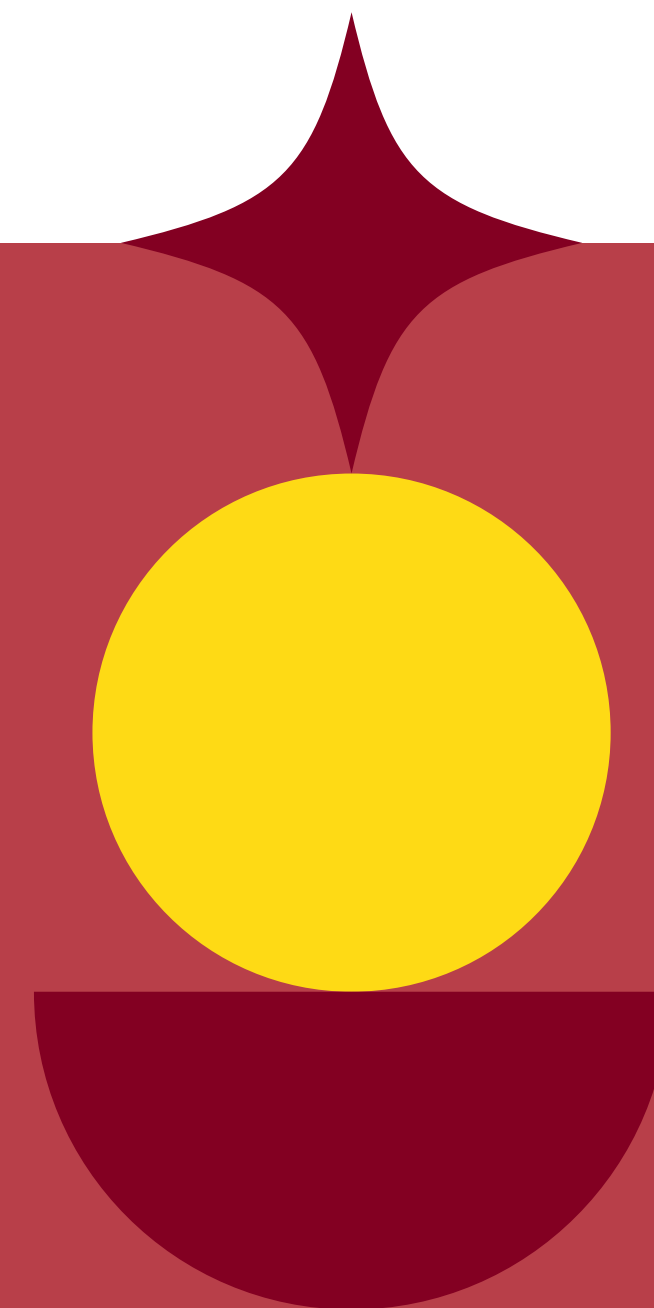






# The Purpose of a Master Plan

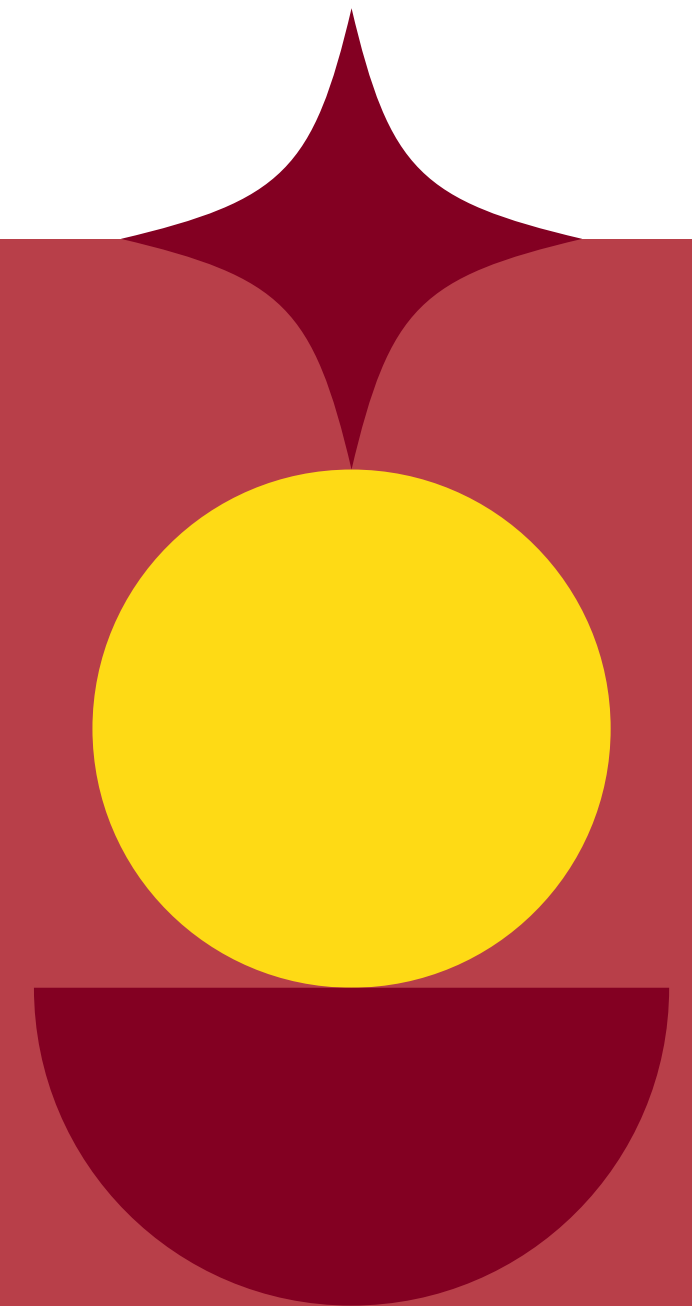
- Design a top-of-the-line facility that is aesthetically pleasing, easy to maintain, sustainable and provides our Student-Athletes the best and safest venues.
- Provide as many multi-purpose fields as possible to meet the needs of the sports programs and community needs.
- Provide access for all students, staff, and spectators to all venues on the complex.
- Plan for phases to allow for capital investment over time.





# Key Insights

- Based on the heavy field usage, field conditions, and programmatic needs, RTMSD should consider installation of a synthetic turf field complex at Penncrest and Springton Lake.
- Many of the maintenance issues at the facilities stem from the original construction. The grading of many of the fields is too flat to promote proper drainage or results in areas of saturation on the fields. This leads to poor grass growth, unplayable conditions, and chronic problems that must be continually solved. Major field reconstruction should be considered for some fields, including regrading and/or implementation of a subdrainage systems such as “sand slit” type.
- Implement a comprehensive program to improve the quality, safety, and overall athletic experience for the student athletes at the middle school and high school varsity and junior varsity level.





# The Process



- Meetings and conversations with District administrative and athletics staff and information provided by these parties regarding field use, maintenance program, and assignments for athletics, physical education, and community use;
- Site inspection/review of the athletic fields and facilities at the high school and middle school;
- Review of District field use practices, primarily related to scheduled field assignments, including type of sport/program and number of scheduled events (games and practices).



# Public Input

During the process of the Study, the general public was involved providing input in two ways:

1. During an open meeting, attended by approximately 60 residents, on February 20, 2024. Those attending were broken out into groups to brainstorm ideas based on the following questions:
  - *What's Good? What Needs Improvement? Anything Else?*
2. Through an open ended, online survey question: *"As we continue to develop our comprehensive plan for our athletic fields, please share your thoughts and/or questions regarding the project."*

An analysis of the responses revealed:

***"Field" is the most common word.***

***"Turf" (synthetic) is the second most common word.***

***"Softball" and "Springton" were third and fourth.***

***What can be construed from the term "field" and reading the responses from the public is that there is a desire to address all fields at all sites due to the current conditions.***



# Penncrest High School





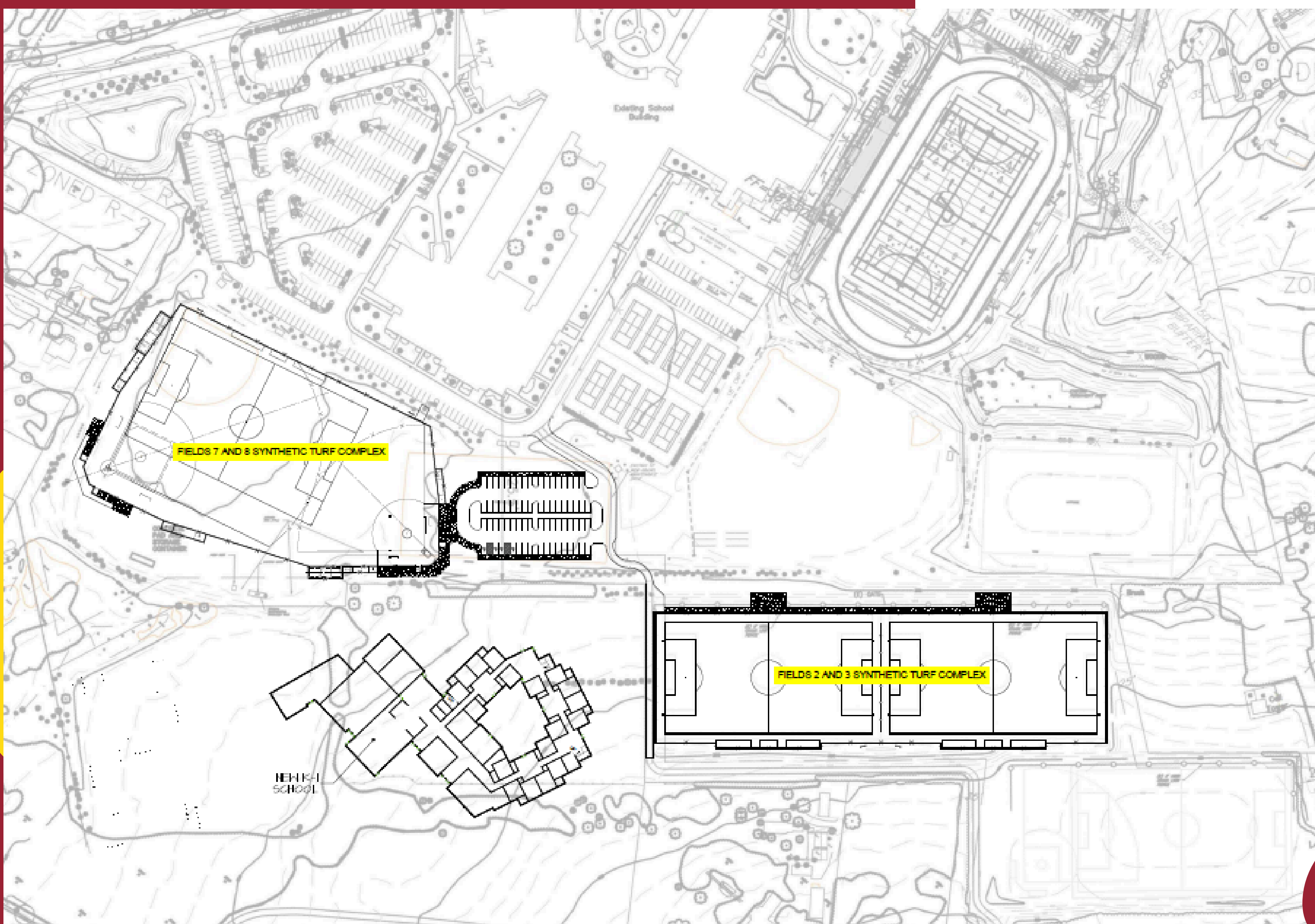
**TABLE A – Penncrest HS Multi-Purpose Field Use Estimates<sup>1</sup>**

<b>VENUE</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring/Summer</b>	<b>TOTAL EVENTS</b>
Stadium	145	175	320+
Penncrest #1	52	0	52
Penncrest #2	52	91	143
Penncrest #3	52	178	230
Penncrest #4	2	95	97
Penncrest #5	52	99	151
Penncrest #6	109	111	220
Penncrest #7 / #8	250	207	457

**Penncrest High School**

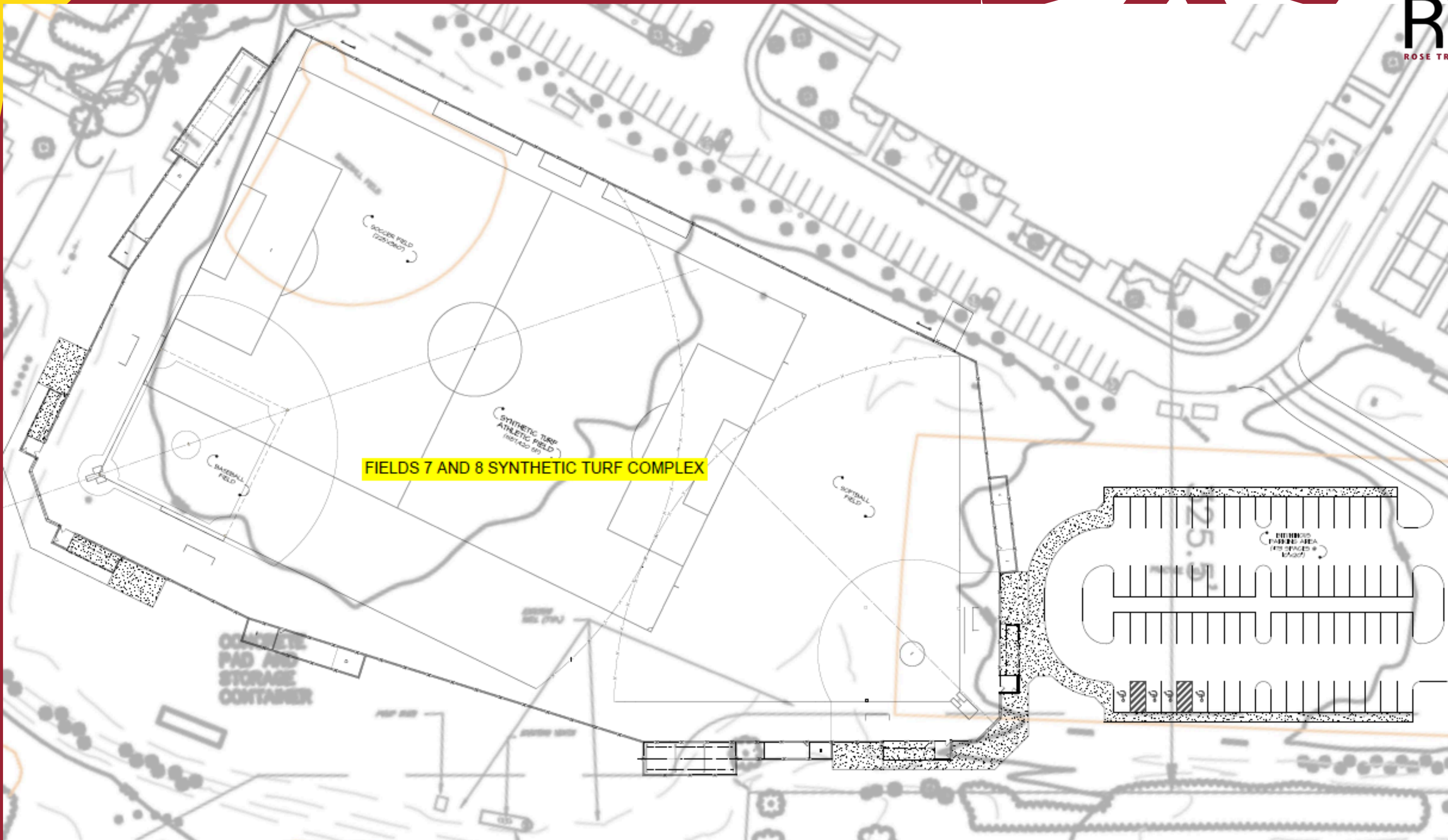


# Penncrest High School





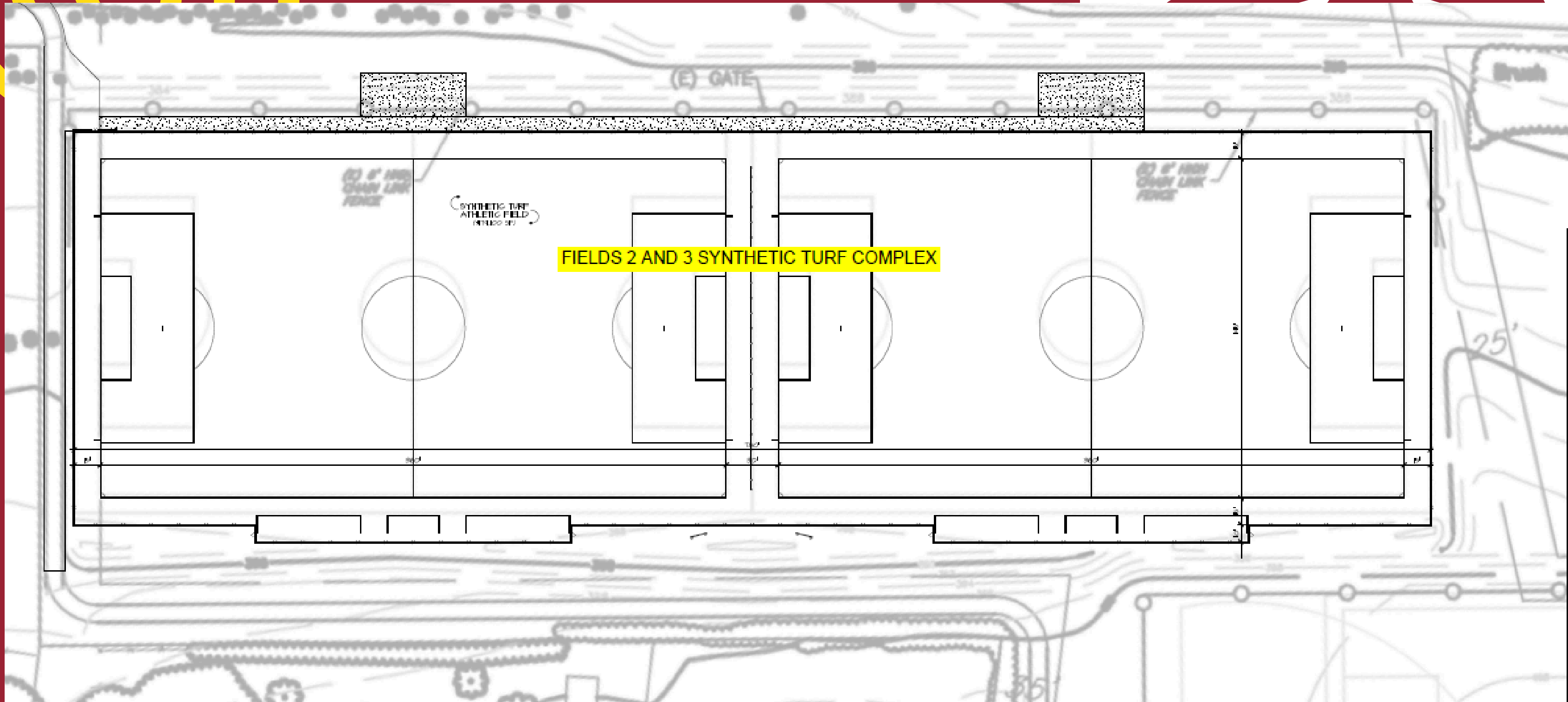
# Penncrest High School





# Penncrest High School

FIELDS 2 AND 3 SYNTHETIC TURF COMPLEX



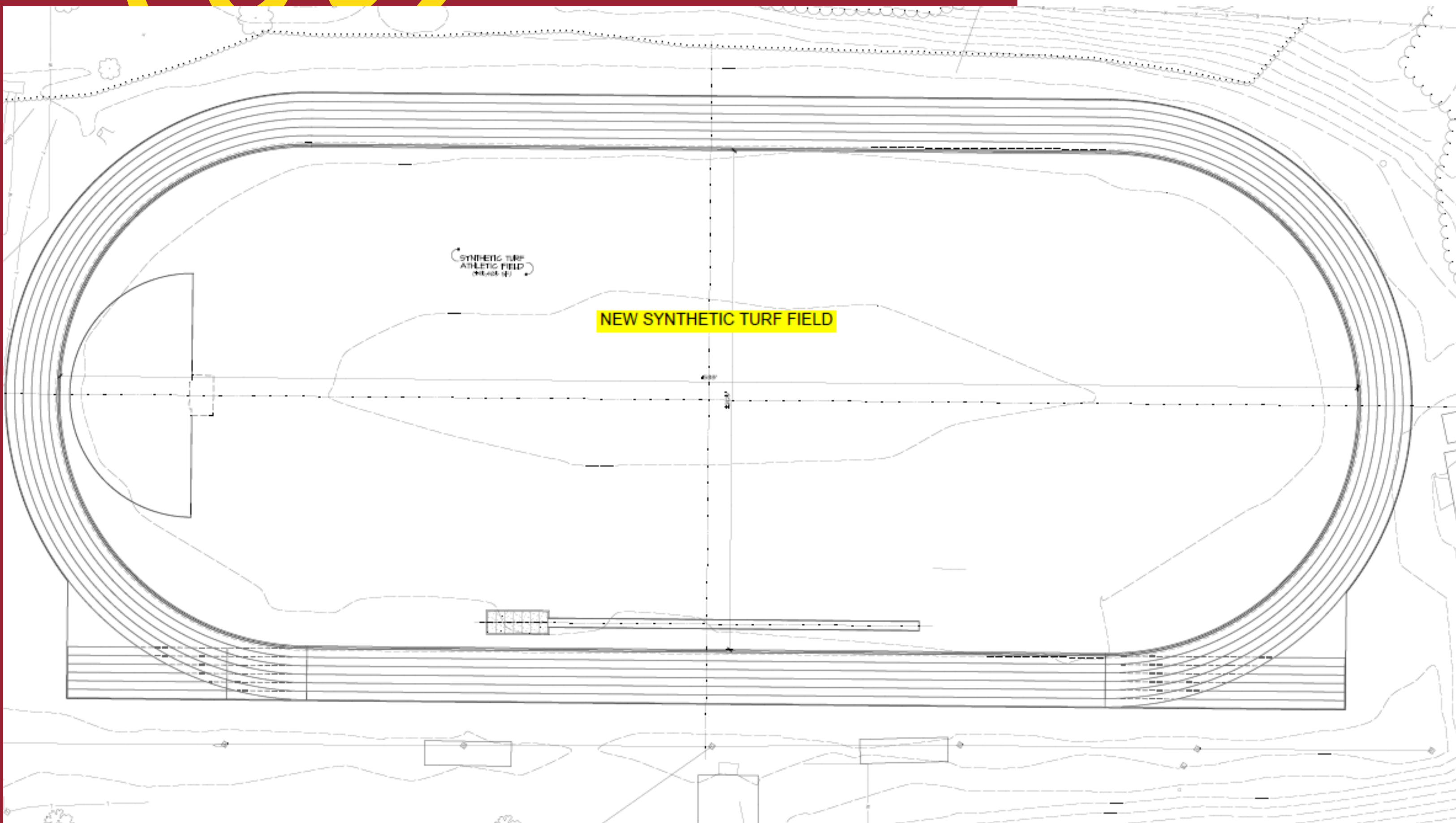


# Springton Lake Middle School





# Springton Lake Middle School







Item No.	Field / Sports	Recommended Improvements / Alternatives
<b>Penncrest High School Campus</b>		
1	Field 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Minor Renovations</li> <li>2. Provide paved access to field.</li> <li>3. Investigate proposing parking lots at the rear of the K-1 school to serve this and Fields 2 and 3.</li> </ol>
2	Fields 2 and 3 (Option 1)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Major Renovations / Drainage (Sand Slit)</li> <li>2. Provide paved pedestrian / service / emergency vehicular access.</li> </ol>
3	Fields 2 and 3 (Option 2)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Construct Synthetic Turf Facility w/ 8 Field Lights.</li> <li>2. Provide paved pedestrian / service / emergency vehicular access.</li> </ol>
4	Field 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Minor Renovations</li> <li>2. Provide paved access to field.</li> </ol>
5	Field 5 (Option 1 – w/ No New Synthetic Turf on Campus)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Major Renovations / Drainage.</li> <li>2. Reconstruct / regrade infield.</li> <li>3. Provide paved access to field.</li> </ol>
6	Field 5 (Option 2 – Dedicated Ballfield w/ New Synthetic Turf on Campus)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Major Renovations / Drainage.</li> <li>2. Reconstruct / regrade infield.</li> <li>3. Team Shelters</li> <li>4. Scoreboard</li> <li>5. Provide paved access to field.</li> </ol>
7	Field 6 (Option 1 – Remains Grass)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Major Renovations / Drainage</li> </ol>
8	Field 6 (Option 2 – w/ Field 7/8 as New Turf Complex)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Convert to parking lot.</li> </ol>
9	Field 7 / 8 (Option 1)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Construct Synthetic Turf Facility w/ 12 Field Lights (include baseball / softball / MPF overlay / dugouts / batting tunnels / bullpens/ scoreboard)</li> <li>2. Construct parking lot , pedestrian access, and service / emergency access / lights.</li> </ol>





Item No.	Field / Sports	Recommended Improvements / Alternatives
Penncrest High School Campus		
10	Field 7 / 8 (Option 2 – If Item 3 is taken)	<div>1. Major Renovations / Drainage</div> <div>2. New dugouts / add bullpen / upgrade batting tunnel.</div> <div>3. Add ball barrier netting.</div> <div>4. Add field fencing.</div> <div>5. New scoreboard.</div>
11	Louis Scott Stadium	<div>1. Replace synthetic turf.</div> <div>2. Topcoat track surfacing.</div> <div>3. Paved paths to visitor’s grandstand.</div> <div>4. Relocate track fencing.</div> <div>5. More parking spaces.</div>

# Penncrest High School





Item No.	Field / Sports	Recommended Improvements / Alternatives
1	Stadium Field (Option 1)	1. Construct Synthetic Turf Facility w/ 4 Field Lights. 2. Provide paved access to field. 3. Fence stadium complex.
2	Stadium (Option 2)	1. Major Renovations / Drainage 2. Provide paved access to field.
3	Baseball / Overlay Field B	1. Major Renovations / Drainage. 2. Reconstruct infield. 3. Install improved ball barrier netting. 4. Provide paved access to field.
4	Baseball / Overlay Field C	1. Major Renovations / Drainage. 2. Reconstruct infield. 3. Install improved ball barrier netting. 4. Provide paved access to field.
5	Multi-Purpose Field D	1. Moderate Renovations – Limited aerations, topdressings and dragging. 2. Provide paved access to field.

**TBD - Softball Fields**





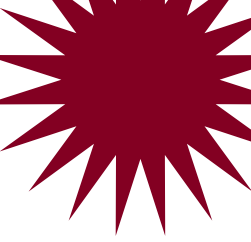
Item No.	Field / Sports	Recommended Improvements / Alternatives
<b>Indian Lane Elementary</b>		
1	Baseball Field	1. Moderate Renovations – Limited aerations, topdressings and dragging. 2. Install and Bullpens 3. Provide paved access to field
2	Multipurpose Field / Cinder Track	1. Moderate Renovations – Limited aerations, topdressings and dragging. 2. Renovate cinder track. 3. Provide paved access to field
<b>Glenwood Elementary</b>		
1	Baseball Field	1. Moderate Renovations – Limited aerations, topdressings and dragging.
<b>Rose Tree Elementary</b>		
1	Grass Field	1. Moderate Renovations – Limited aerations, topdressings and dragging.

**Indian Lane ES**

**Glenwood ES**

**Rose Tree ES**





# Essential Practices for Field Maintenance – Natural Grass

- With active athletic fields, use of sod is recommended – if seeded the field must remain unused for at least two growing seasons to achieve sufficient grass coverage prior to usage. Based on field demands in the District, this is unlikely. With sod it is possible to not lose a season depending on timing of installation
- *Note – For All Natural Grass Fields the Following Apply:*
  1. Major Renovations – Multiple aerations, topdressings, dragging and rolling to even the field surface.
  2. Major Renovations / Drainage – Install sand slit system, multiple aerations, topdressings, dragging and rolling to correct field planarity.
  3. Moderate Renovations – Limited aerations, topdressings and dragging.
  4. Minor Renovations – Address compacted or damaged areas.
  5. Drainage – Install Cambridge system with associated drainage improvements.
  6. Reconstruction – Includes kill existing grass, till and sod.
  7. Major Reconstruction – Includes rebuilding of field and installing sod.





# Next Steps

*Planting the Seeds for Tomorrow's Champions*

**01**

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Finalize conceptual plan and associated cost estimates.

**02**

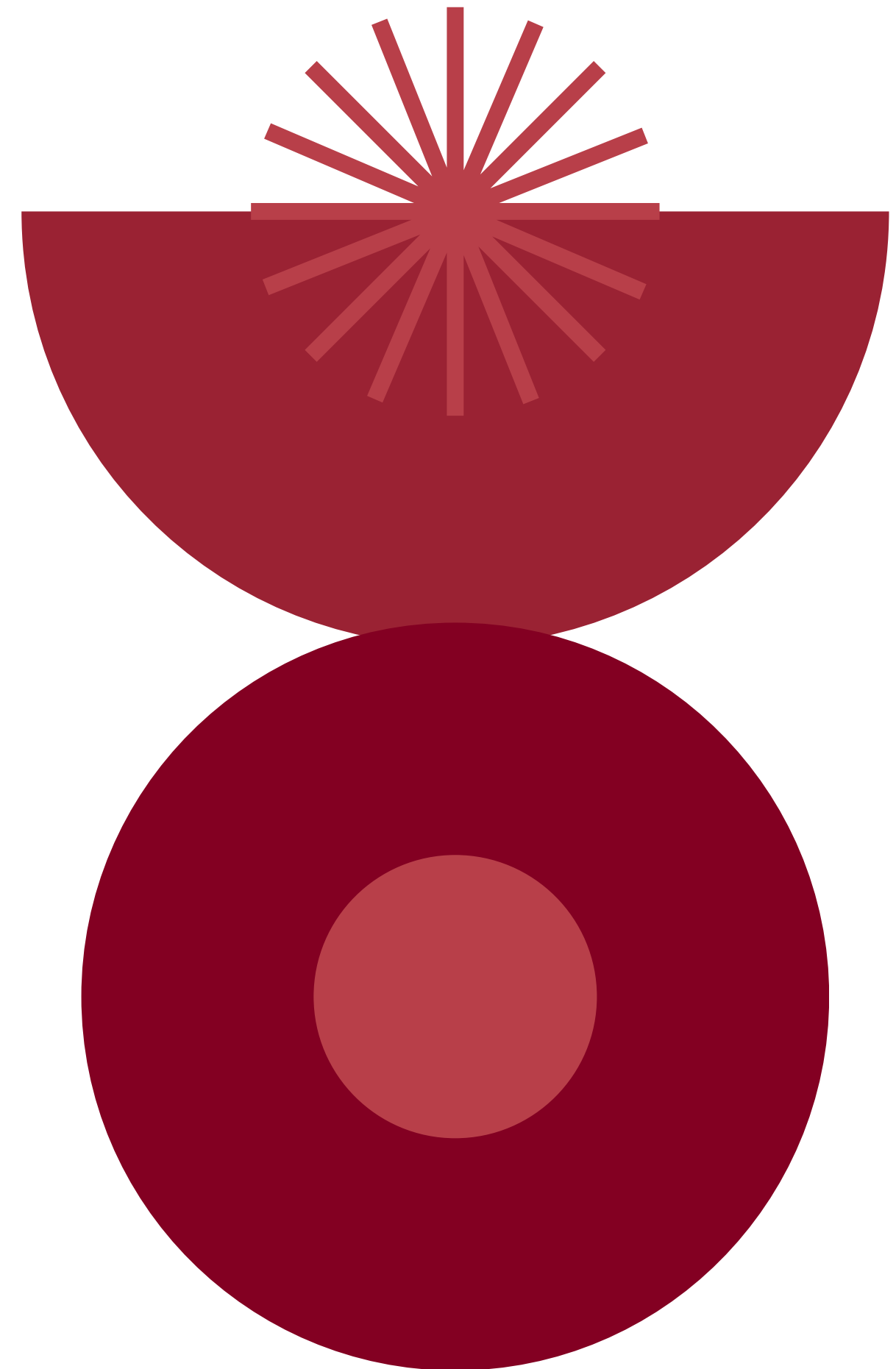
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Decide on overall field structure and financing options for project completion.

**03**

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Determine implementation schedule and overall impact on outdoor seasons.







# Questions & Discussion

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