Reconstruction of Foss Park Multi-Purpose Athletic Field

Somerville, MA
DCR Project Update
June 2020
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor
Charles D. Baker

Lieutenant Governor
Karyn E. Polito

Energy and Environmental Secretary
Kathleen A. Theoharides

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner
Jim Montgomery
DCR Mission Statement

To protect, promote and enhance our commonwealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all.
Purpose of Update

To provide an update on:

• Final design revisions and current construction schedule

• Impacts to the abutting areas of the park including the playground, swimming pool, and parking lot

• Future commitments and planning related to the new field construction
Project Team

Department of Conservation and Recreation
Owner

The Vertex Companies, Inc.
Civil, Structural and Site Engineers

Traverse Landscape Architects
Landscape Architects

Heimlich Landscaping & Construction Corp.
Contractor
Purpose of Project:

- Installation of a new synthetic turf athletic field to meet the current and future recreational demands at Foss Park
Key Objectives of Project:

- Establish a new multi-purpose athletic field suitable for the high levels of use at Foss Park

- Maintain public use of the field and improve circulation, drainage and lighting where needed

- Provide for 2:1 tree replacement as mitigation for impacts by the field construction (expected 15-20 new trees planted) and new shade pavilion adjacent to field

- Include appropriate turf field maintenance as a project priority to maintain long-term sustainability
Planning & Design Process to date

- 2016: City completes Master Planning study

- 2017 – 2018: Two site walks and on-site meetings with City recreation staff

- Dec 2018: Public Meeting held as part of the Winter Hill Neighborhood Association
• Existing conditions are sub-standard due to high use, poor drainage, and failed irrigation system
**Regulation size field**
- Suitable for HS football and soccer, rugby and other activities
- 4ft fence perimeter (gated & unlocked) to prevent dog access and control balls, etc.

**Brockfill System**
- Organic, sustainably sourced alternative harvested from designated tree farms
- Highly rated for safety, performance, and durability

Foss Park Athletic Field Layout & Field Material
We heard you! Field alignment changed in February to reduce total tree loss from 8 to 6 (and loss of oak trees from 5 to 1)
• Field alignment changed to reduce tree loss and maintain regulation field size, lighting and drainage
- 2:1 Mitigation for Impacted Trees (expected to result in 15-20 new trees planted within the park in Sept./Oct)
- Project fully-funded and ready for spring start

- $2.5M Approved Funding (FY20/FY21)

- All work done within State and local COVID-19 construction guidelines

- Includes new field lighting, pathways, shade pavilion and an expected 15-20 new trees within park

Foss Park Athletic Field
Approved Project Budget
Foss Park Athletic Field

Construction Schedule

- **June/July:**
  - site preparation
  - Tree protection
  - demolition

- **July/August:**
  - foundations
  - drainage/utility systems

- **September/October:**
  - turf installation
  - lighting installation

- **October/November:**
  - fencing
  - seeding/paving

- Field completed and ready for public use by late November. Permitted use to begin in Spring 2021.
Foss Park Athletic Field
Completed and open for public use late Fall 2020
Additional Information

For more information: [https://www.mass.gov/doc/foss-park-presentation](https://www.mass.gov/doc/foss-park-presentation)

If you have questions or concerns or wish to subscribe to a DCR general information or project-related listserv: contact DCR’s Office of Community Relations at 617-626-4973 or Mass.Parks@state.ma.us.