

Ketchikan Gateway Borough

Field Usage & Development Study

JANUARY 6, 2020



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH

FIELD USAGE & DEVELOPMENT STUDY

PREPARED FOR:

Ketchikan Gateway Borough



PREPARED BY:

Corvus Design

Rain Coast Data

PDC Engineers



Landscape Architecture • Planning • Industrial Design

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Field Usage & Development Study was developed as a collaborative effort with the public, stakeholders, representatives from the various sports organizations, and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough. It would not have been possible without the time and dedication from the many individuals who demonstrated their commitment through their participation in the public meetings, user group interviews, and community survey.



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INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

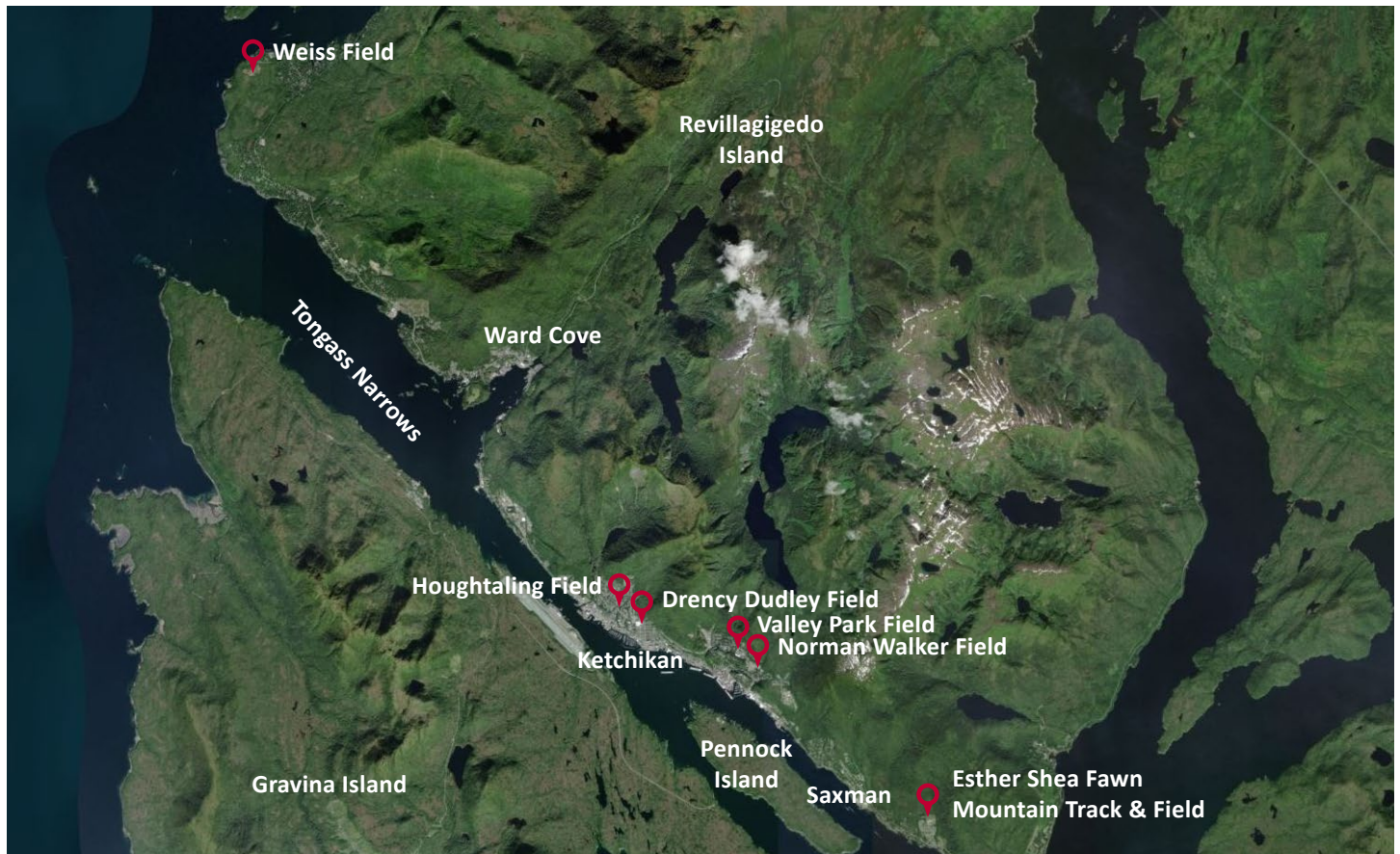
The Ketchikan Gateway Borough (KGB) Public Works Department maintains and operates the Borough's outdoor recreation and sports facilities. They provide services that include facilities maintenance, scheduling field time, preparing the fields for gameplay, and performing capital improvements. Currently, the KGB offers six separate outdoor fields that support a variety of outdoor sports programs. The fields managed by the KGB are Drenco Dudley Field, Norman Walker Field, Weiss Field, Esther Shea Fawn Mountain Track and Field, Houghtaling Field, and Valley Park (Tom Friesen) Field.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Over the last five years, the KGB has seen an increase in seasonal overlap in the sports programs resulting in conflicts between user groups and narrowing time-frames to complete major maintenance projects. The KGB hired Corvus Design, Rain Coast Data, and PDC Engineers to perform a use analysis and to make recommendations for the development of local outdoor facilities.

The consultant team will use previous research conducted throughout the project process that includes National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards, community demographics, and projected trends to drive the recommendations put forward in this study. Collectively, the Field Usage & Development Study will take this information, as well as the public input and direction from the KGB, to develop recommendations for upgrading the Borough's sports field facilities.

Context Map



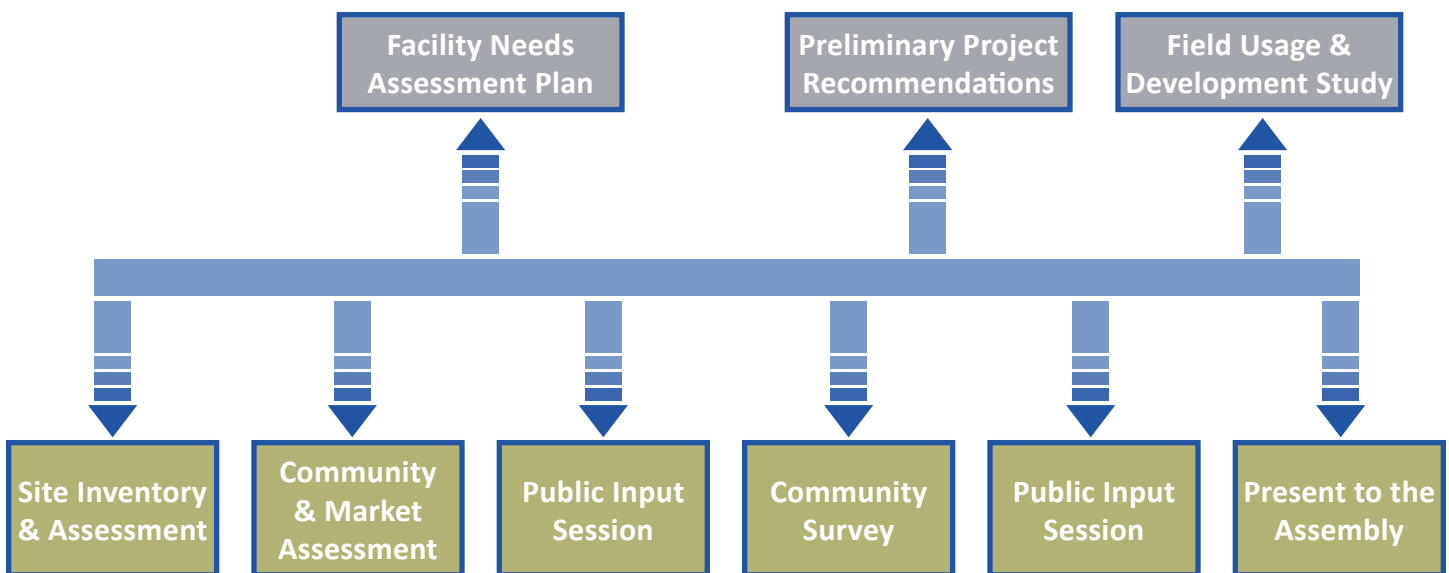
PROJECT OUTCOMES

The outcomes of the Field Usage & Development Study are to:

- Analyze and assess demographic and sports participation;
- Determine suitability of the existing athletic field facilities and ongoing programs;
- Understand the current and future field demands;
- Establish user group and public input on recommendations for field upgrades; and
- Develop capital priorities over the following five to ten years.

PROJECT PROCESS

The project followed a linear process that balanced public input with the needs of the community. In total, there were two public meetings, one meeting with specific user groups, and one community survey. This process also included multiple deliverables that included a Facility Needs Assessment Plan and Preliminary Project Recommendations, which led to gathering data for the development of the Field Usage & Development Study that will be presented to the Assembly. The project process is illustrated in the diagram below:



Project Process Diagram

DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The Field Usage & Development Study presents the overall process, findings, and recommendations of the project duration, related to the areas outlined in the scope of services. The final study compiles information from work done to date, including the existing conditions of each field, usage projections, survey data and results, and recommendations for upgrading the KGB's sports field facilities.

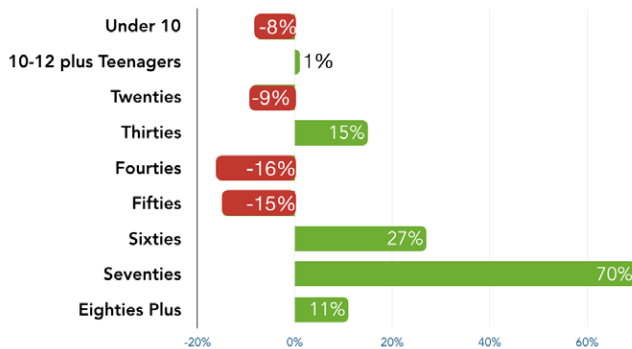
The study provides an introduction and overview of the project, including the project outcomes and process that was involved. It provides a community assessment, comparing the community of Ketchikan with national and statewide statistics, and includes information on projected trends related to population and sports. The study will review the community input process that was undertaken by the consultant team and will provide a summary of the recommendations made by the community and approved by the KGB. The public recommendations are covered in detail with graphic illustrations to display intent. Preliminary costs are included for improvements approved by the KGB. A summary of funding sources is provided that can potentially aid the KGB with improvement costs.

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

DEMOGRAPHICS

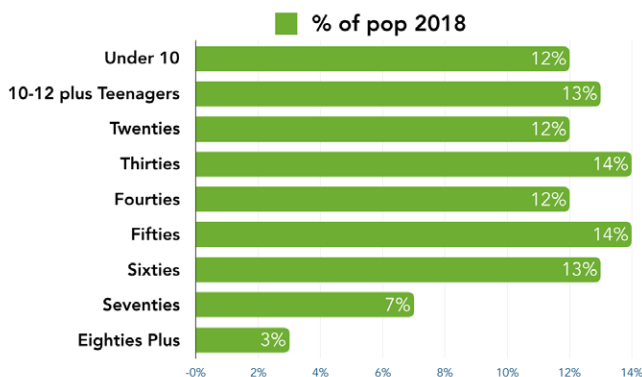
KETCHIKAN POPULATION (2018)

In 2018, a total of 13,843 people lived in Ketchikan. The last seven years in Ketchikan have been relatively flat in terms of population figures as a whole, but a more in-depth analysis of the data show significant changes over time. Between 2011 and 2018, the population as a whole increased by less than one percent, but those under the age of ten declined by 8%, a loss of 138 youth in this age group.



AGING

However, the most pronounced demographic shift has been the aging of the population. From 2011 to 2018, the 60-plus population grew by 831 people, a 35% increase over 2011 due to aging in place. Nearly a quarter (23%) of people in Ketchikan are now age 60 or older. The median age of the community is now 39.4 years old, significantly older than the median overall Alaska age of 35.2 years old. The aging population of Ketchikan is projected to continue. The Alaska Department of Labor estimates that by 2025, 27% of the population will be 60 or older.

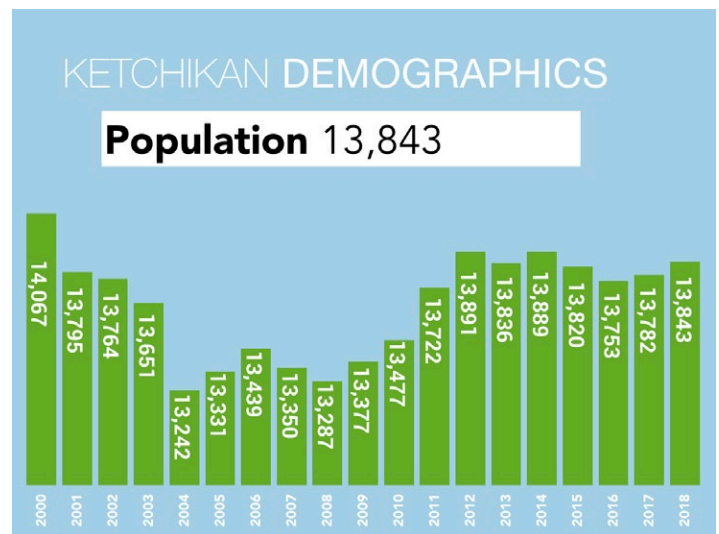


MIGRATION

More people moved to Ketchikan than moved away in 2018, and natural increases created growth as well. In 2018, there were 54 more births than deaths, while seven more people moved into the community than moved away.

POPULATION OUTLOOK

The Alaska Department of Labor is projecting incremental population losses moving forward (a loss of 30 people per year through 2035), and the completion of the two Alaska class ferries by the Ketchikan shipyard appear to substantiate these projections. Building the Alaska class ferries supported 190 jobs (both direct and indirect) in Ketchikan. However, the significant growth in Ketchikan's tourism sector will continue to add jobs across the community. A total of 1.28 million cruise passengers are expected to visit Ketchikan in the summer of 2020, a 21% increase from 2018.



NATIONAL STANDARDS

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) developed a *2019 NRPA Agency Performance Review* that summarizes key findings from the *NRPA Park Metrics*. The *NRPA Park Metrics* assists in the effective management and planning of operating resources and capital facilities. The documents work to develop a dialogue with colleagues, external consultants, partners, and policymakers on the role of parks and recreation in many communities across the United States and Canada.

The NRPA has developed a median number of residents per facility based on residents per square mile. The following tables outline the number of facilities that are

recommended for 500 residents per square mile and compares that to the facilities that are managed within the Ketchikan Gateway Borough.

It is important to note that the numbers for the Ketchikan Gateway Borough median number of residents per facility are based on multi-use sports fields that may have more than one activity using the sports field during the same season. Out of the six fields within the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, only one is a single-use sports field and not used by a school for daily activities.

Outdoor Park and Recreation Facilities - Population Per Facility (NRPA Standards)

Outdoor Facility	Median Number of Residents per Facility
Baseball	
Adult	16,184
Youth	6,890
Softball	
Adult	16,298
Youth	12,000
Soccer	
Adult	12,767
Youth	7,656
Football	
All Ages	19,235

Outdoor Park and Recreation Facilities - Population Per Facility (KGB)

Outdoor Facility	Median Number of Residents per Facility
Baseball	
Adult	13,843
Youth	6,921
Softball	
Adult	4,614
Youth	13,843
Soccer	
Adult	6,921
Youth	6,921
Football	
All Ages	4,614

NATIONAL SPORTS TRENDS

SPORTS PARTICIPATION

Nationally, participation in sports and fitness activities is on the decline. According to research conducted by the Sports & Fitness Industry Association, in 2018, there was 38 percent of kids aged six to 12 playing team sports regularly, down from 45 percent in 2008. Children are more likely to have their social interactions needs met virtually instead of on the field. The rise of interactive video games that children can play with each other, along with social media apps, like Instagram and Snap Chat, are all competing with sports for the time and attention of Gen Z kids. A secondary reason for the decline in sports participation for youth is the rise of fees associated with sports. Increased costs in sports activities are putting some activities out of reach for lower-income students.

Individual sports declined (or grew) at different rates. Baseball fell from 17% to 13% (of 6 to 12-year-olds who regularly participated during that year); football fell from 4.5% to 3.3%; soccer fell from 10% to 8%; softball and track and field participation both increased from 1% to 1.1%.

Statewide, high school field sports (baseball, cross country, football, soccer, softball, tennis, and track and field) as a whole have all seen significant growth over time. Between 2004 and 2015, participation grew by 31%, with the most significant growth in football (63%) and baseball (33%). However, they appear to peak in the 2015/2016 school year and have declined since by 5%. This decline is likely tied to the overall recession and population losses as a whole faced by the state. Again, the changes varied. Football lost 14% of its players, and cross country lost 9%; however, softball grew by 12%, while baseball remained flat. (Source: National Federation of High School Associations).

Nationally, adult physical activity has also seen a decline. Despite growing from 2006 through 2016, the percentage of those aged 15 and older participating in physical activity on a daily basis fell from 20.9% in 2016 to 19.1% in 2018. Those 18 and older spend an average of 17 minutes per day engaged in sports or exercise. (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Sports Trends in Alaska

Alaska High School Field Sport (all Alaska)	2019	Change 2016 to 2019	Change 2004 to 2015
Baseball	733	0%	33%
Cross Country	1,794	-9%	22%
Football	2,091	-14%	63%
Soccer	1,889	-3%	19%
Softball	769	12%	8%
Outdoor Track and Field	2,186	-2%	26%
Total	9,892	-5%	31%

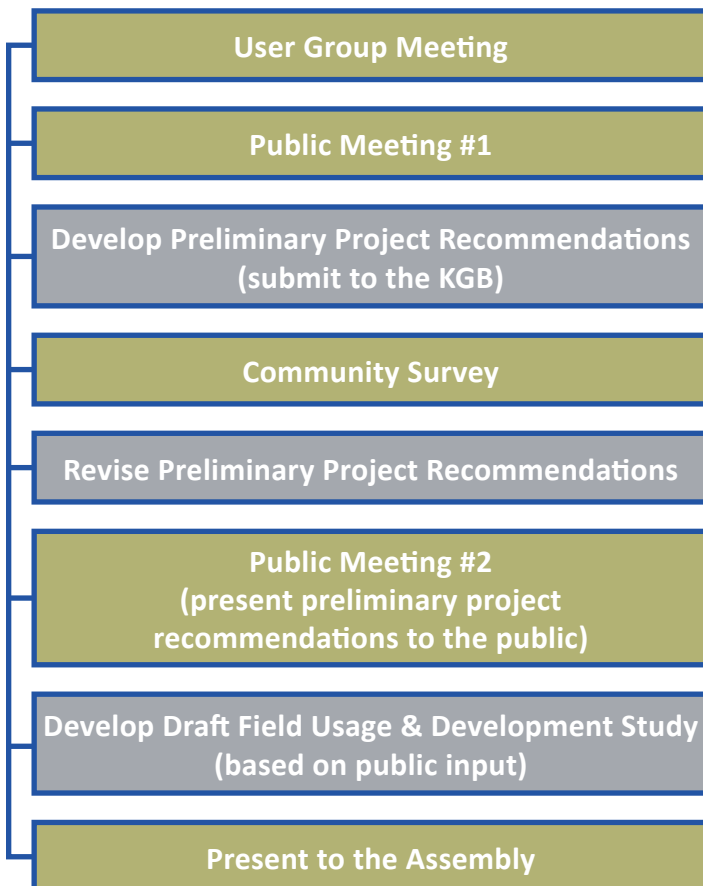
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COMMUNITY INPUT

INPUT OPPORTUNITIES

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough has developed a public outreach process that allows interested members of the community to provide their feedback, ideas, and concerns in regards to the Field Usage & Development Study. This process took place in Ketchikan and included the consultant team meeting individually with specific user groups, as well as two interactive public sessions open to all interested in the athletic field assessment. The consultant team also developed a community survey that was open to the public for three weeks in October and November. Through the public outreach process, and with direction from the KGB, the consultant team gathered the necessary information to develop recommended improvements per field that will be discussed later in the report.

COMMUNITY INPUT PROCESS



USER GROUP MEETING

In October 2019, the consultant team met individually with specific user groups and had each organized sport complete a user-specific survey related to their sport group, as well as provide input through several facilitated exercises. The user groups invited to the individual sessions were:

Softball/Baseball

- Ketchikan Little League
- Ketchikan Softball Club
- Ketchikan First City Storm
- American Legion Baseball
- Ketchikan High School Baseball

Soccer

- Ketchikan Youth Soccer League
- Ketchikan High School Soccer League
- Tongass Timbers Soccer League
- Borough Rainbird Soccer League
- Evison Soccer Camp

Football

- Ketchikan Youth Football League
- Ketchikan High School Football League
- Try Sports

Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District

- Ketchikan High School Activities
- Ketchikan High School Maintenance
- District Superintendents

USER GROUP INPUT SUMMARY

USER GROUP SURVEY - FIELD RESULTS

On October 22nd, 2019, the team met with a series of athletic directors representing the various user groups of the borough fields. In preparation for these meetings, the team developed a survey for each user group to help the consultant team quantify sports participation rates, feelings towards fields in the Borough, scheduling conflicts, conflicts between user groups, and total spectators. The purpose of the survey was to measure field use and assess obstacles in meeting user needs.

The web-based survey was administered electronically from October 22nd through October 31st. The survey consisted of 24 questions regarding field use and preferences.

A total of 17 surveys were filled out representing the following groups:

Softball and Baseball

Ketchikan Softball Association, Ketchikan Softball Club, Ketchikan High School Softball, Ketchikan Little League Baseball and Softball, First City Storm Baseball, American Legion Baseball, Ketchikan High School Baseball.

Soccer

Ketchikan High School Girls Soccer, Ketchikan High School Boys Soccer, Parks & Recreation Soccer, Soccer Men’s drop-in, Ketchikan Youth Soccer League, Tongass Timbers Soccer Club.

Football

Alaska Try Sports LLC: Flag Football Adult, Ketchikan High School Football, Ketchikan Youth Football League

Track and Field

Ketchikan High School Track and Field

A specific question in the survey asked participants to review each field on a scale of one to five and to provide reasons why they rated each field as they did. This information helped the consultant team understand how the user groups felt about each of the six fields. Results showed that user groups preferred Esther Shea Track and Field to other fields in Ketchikan. The main opinion, at 43.75% of users, felt Esther Shea Track and Field was a good field with few issues. Valley Park Field and Houghtaling Field have the least amount of teams using the field and had similar results that 25% of users felt that it was mediocre with some problems, and 25% felt it was a poor field with many problems. 30% of users felt that Norman Walker was a poor field with many problems, and 38% of users felt that Drencoy Dudley Field was a mediocre field with some problems. Further results are broken down in the table below.

Further information is provided in the appendices regarding months of activity by association, days of activity by association, and preferred field times.

Field Observations (based on user group input)

	Excellent Field	Good Field (Few Issues)	Mediocre Field (Some Problems)	Poor Field (Many Problems)	I do not use this field for my sport
Esther Shea Track & Field	25%	43.75%	6.25%	0%	25%
Weiss Field	0%	8%	23%	0%	69%
Norman Walker Field	0%	23%	23%	31%	23%
Drencoy Dudley Field	0%	15%	39%	23%	23%
Houghtaling Field	0%	0%	25%	25%	50%
Valley Park Field	0%	0%	25%	25%	50%

FIELD SPORTS PARTICIPATION

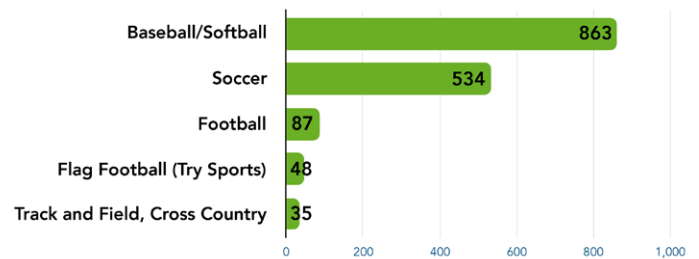
Further results from the survey showed that Ketchikan has a total field sports participation of 1,567 users. Of sports users, 67% are male, and 33% are female. Baseball and softball see the highest participation rates at 863, with soccer second at 534, and football and track and field show minimal participation rates with each sport having under 150 participants. The Field Sports Total Participants table provides an overall breakdown per sport of the total amount of users for each. User groups feel that participation in soccer is growing, participation in football is shrinking, and participation in softball and baseball is flat.

Field Sports Total Participants

Total Participants	1,567
Softball and Baseball	863
Ketchikan Softball Association	200
Ketchikan Softball Club	43
Ketchikan High School Softball	28
Ketchikan Little League Baseball & Softball	470
First City Storm	75
American Legion Baseball	17
Ketchikan High School Baseball	30
Soccer	534
Ketchikan High School Girls Soccer	32
Ketchikan High School Boys Soccer	45
Parks & Recreation Soccer	67
Men's Drop-in Soccer	59
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League	241
Tongass Timbers Soccer Club	90
Football	135
Alaska Try Sports LLC: Flag Football Adult	48
Ketchikan High School Football	27
Ketchikan Youth Football League*	60
Track & Field	35

* Ketchikan Youth Football League last year of operation was in 2018 according to the Field Usage Data provided by the KGB for 2017-2019.

Participation Rates Graph



PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

PUBLIC FEEDBACK

Through the community input process, the team gathered feedback from the KGB, specific user groups, and the general public within the study area. Fields included in the study area are Drenco Dudley Field, Norman Walker Field, Weiss Field, Esther Shea Track and Field, Houghtaling Field, and Valley Park Field. A summary of improvements identified by the public is as follows:

Overall

The most consistent comment, at each field and across all user groups, is that field use by dog owners is creating conflict. While primarily a management issue, the public felt that a dog park at or near the fields, or in a readily accessible location, will benefit the community as a whole.

From an improvement perspective, the public prioritized creating designated use fields, provided it was achievable, followed by installing turf, and covered seating. A summary of improvements by field is as follows:

Drenco Dudley Field

Feedback for Drenco Dudley Field was largely by the softball user group with some input for other user groups and the School District. General findings for Drenco Dudley Field is that the field is not sized appropriately, there are no permanent batting cages, no foul ball netting, no scoreboard for the south field, and inadequate seating. The general priorities based on user group feedback was to provide an improved speaker system, closure along the back of the grandstand, resolve parking with the high school, and improve the field surfacing.

The softball/baseball user groups feel the field should be designated for softball only with two fields located on the north and south side and artificial turf surfacing. The upper field will require expansion to the west to achieve an outfield fence that is 200 ft from home plate. Softball/baseball user groups would like to see batting cages installed at the futsal court.

The soccer user group felt that Drenco Dudley Field would be ideal as an overflow field for soccer practice when not being used for softball. The user group expressed interest in artificial turf surfacing.

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District (KGBSD) would like to see better parking management at the lower side of the field near the high school auto shop. The auto shop uses this area for year-round parking, creating limited parking availability for lower field users.

Norman Walker Field

Input for Norman Walker Field was primarily by baseball users, with input also from Little League and the School District. Overall, the user groups and the public would like to see Norman Walker Field dedicated to baseball with artificial turf surfacing, permanent fencing, spectator seating upgrades, better lighting, and improved parking facilities. There are significant safety issues with Norman Walker Field that include the adjacent roadway, parking and circulation problems, and the proximity of the field to the roadway and the power substation.

The soccer user groups would like to see the field used as an alternative for soccer; however, designating the field for baseball remained the general consensus by user groups.

The KGBSD would like to see a playground installed for use during baseball games. They also felt that an improved sound system would benefit Norman Walker Field.

Weiss Field

A majority of public feedback for Weiss Field was from adult softball, with some input also from soccer, the School District, baseball, and Little League. User groups and the public felt that the priority for Weiss Field is to manage drainage issues for both existing softball fields. Another consistent comment between interested parties is to develop a dedicated parking area to accommodate field users.

The public felt that a covered seating area would be of benefit, as well as upgrading the lighting to LED, increasing security through the use of security cameras, and installing foul ball fencing around the fields. Other comments heard by the public is to upgrade the fields to have ADA access and better seating, as well as to have better maintenance regimes surrounding the fields, such as brush clearing.

The KGBSD felt that it would benefit the site to develop the existing gravel field for soccer and general school use. A location that was mentioned by the KGBSD is the existing field located on the northwest side of Point Higgins Elementary School. There is also ample area to the east of the existing ball fields that could suit as a location for a soccer field. The KGBSD felt that a playground would benefit the space.

Esther Shea Track and Field

Public input for Esther Shea was predominantly from soccer users and the KGBSD. No input was received from football users. Priorities addressed by the user groups and the public is to see the track and field activities consolidated to a location adjacent to the track to improve safety between track and field activities and field sports activities. The soccer user groups would like to have a single post upright that does not visually interfere with the soccer goals and is not affixed to the football goal. There is a need to improve field drainage.

The user groups and the public feel that a concession, improved sound system, and better coverage for spectator seating will benefit the field experience.

The soccer users' priorities are to remove the soccer goals affixed to the football goal in favor of a single post upright to improve overall safety and eliminate visual interference with the soccer goals, and improvements to field drainage. Other recommendations included building an additional soccer field nearby or within another area in Ketchikan and suggested a covered sports field or field house would improve their ability to be competitive.

Priorities discussed by the KGBSD are providing a location in which track and field activities could be consolidated in a location adjacent to the field and providing a separate, nearby area in which warmup or overlapping sports activities are conducted to improve user safety.

Houghtaling Field

Feedback for Houghtaling Field was from a variety of users; mostly softball, baseball, and soccer users. As a whole, the priority for each interested party was to provide better access to the fields for vehicles and pedestrians and to provide a safer parking area.

The youth baseball user group felt that a drinking fountain would benefit the field, and the public would like to see centrally located bathrooms.

The soccer user groups and the KGBSD felt that improved and possibly covered seating would benefit the field. The soccer user groups would like to include lighting to the field, and the KGBSD expressed interest in improving and providing additional play equipment.

The baseball/softball and soccer user groups, as well as the public, expressed interest in re-grading and resurfacing the field, with the possibility of upgrading to artificial turf. However, artificial turf is not a priority at Houghtaling Field.

Valley Park Field

Priorities at Valley Park Field include expanding the fencing by 25 ft to expand the Little League baseball age ranges. However, the KGBSD would like to ensure that there be a 15-ft clearance maintained between the building and the field. It was the consensus of the user groups as well as the public that permanent restrooms should be offered at Valley Park Field, as the field provides no permanent restrooms and portable restrooms. Another comment provided by all interested parties was to improve and cover available seating.

Field House

A majority of participants at the public meeting support the development of a field house similar to the Juneau Field House at Dimond Park. The facility has a large artificial turf field used for indoor soccer and baseball and a running track located on the mezzanine floor. A field house has the potential to extend the season of use for soccer and softball/baseball, as well as provide new opportunities for the community (tot time, birthday parties, indoor running, special events). Hosting sporting events in the winter will offer potential economic opportunities. All agreed that a field house in Ketchikan is a long-term goal and that improvements to existing outdoor athletic facilities are a priority at this time.

SWOT ANALYSIS

DRENCY DUDLEY FIELD

Strengths

Central location
 Parking
 New covered bleachers
 Bleachers and score shack (upper)

Weaknesses

No lower bathroom
 No lower scoreboard
 Lack of lower seating on lower field
 Foul poles (upper and lower)
 Bad field surface/drainage (lower)
 Better view in new score shack, can't see home plate,
 lower the window and raise up the scorer's table
 Better concession with hood
 Multi-use
 Poor P/A system
 Better shelter needed on new grandstand seating
 Moving the pitching plate

Opportunities

Covered batting cage at the lower tennis court
 Expand upper field by filling the creek
 Artificial turf (outfields) for both fields
 Make (2) regulation size softball fields
 Dome fields- make indoor facility

Threats

Funding
 Erosion
 High school auto shop parking

NORMAN WALKER FIELD

Strengths

Central location
 Concession stands
 Drains well
 Grandstand size (not quality)

Weaknesses

Field size too small (both)
 Multi-use
 Moving fences
 New fencing needed
 Lighting design
 Busy traffic
 Parking

Opportunities

Tournament play
 Water main project
 Reconfigure to fit (2) full sized fields or one adult field
 Artificial turf

Threats

Security
 Homeless presence
 Funding
 Multi-use

WEISS FIELD

Strengths

- Two fields
- Grass
- Concessions and restrooms
- Parking
- Lighting

Weaknesses

- Location/distance
- Wet outfields
- Not ADA accessible
- Foul ball fencing
- Drainage
- No covered seating
- More parking needed
- Uneven ground in outfield
- Dogs allowed on fields

Opportunities

- Playground
- Location/gathering place
- Expansion
- Use gravel play area at school
- Create a multi-field complex that is good for tournaments

Threats

- Dog poop
- Dogs
- Security and lack of
- Weed control and maintenance

ESTHER SHEA TRACK & FIELD

Strengths

- Scoreboard
- New stands
- Announcing booth
- Turf
- Home/visitor facilities
- Track surface
- Drainage track
- Get a lot of teams at a time

Weaknesses

- Track & field storage
- Bathrooms (no water)
- Gum on track & field
- Location 4 miles south of town

Opportunities

- Develop lower kickball field
- Hosting region track 2021
- Available land for expansion

Threats

- Dog poop
- Vandalism
- Conflict between uses

HOUGHTALING FIELD

Strengths

Versatility
Location

Weaknesses

Seating
No lights
No access to bathroom during games
Parking/access
ADA access
Drainage

Opportunities

Room for growth
Improve right of way access
Undeveloped land to the north for expansion or parking

Threats

Development in area
Security

VALLEY PARK FIELD

Strengths

Central location
New recreation center
Good drainage

Weaknesses

Small field
No bathroom
Field needs maintenance
Not level
No scoreboard
No covered seating
Black rubber on field from playground

Opportunities

Not too big to cover
Expand field for little league use

Threats

School district planning

COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY

SURVEY DEVELOPMENT

The consultant team met with a series of athletic directors representing the various groups that use the athletic fields and hosted a public meeting with community members who have a vested interest in the Ketchikan athletic fields. Through these efforts, the team built a community survey to measure the field use preferences, priorities, scheduling, and obstacles.

The community survey asked Ketchikan residents to respond to 22 questions and 39 sub-questions about their community athletic field preferences and priorities. The web-based survey was administered electronically from October 25 through November 13. The KGB offered a prize as an incentive for community members to participate in the survey, which included an annual membership to the Gateway Recreation/Gateway Aquatic Center or a free pool rental at the Gateway Aquatic Center.

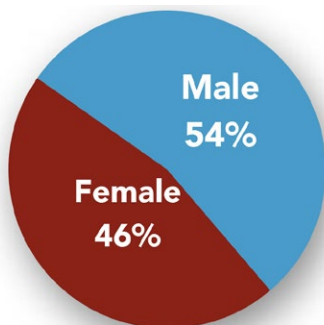
A total of 246 surveys were filled out representing 542 current users of Ketchikan’s athletic fields out of 1,567. This means 34% of community members using the fields were represented in this process, for a survey confidence level of 95% with a margin of error of 3%. The full survey results can be found in the Appendix.

SURVEY RESULTS

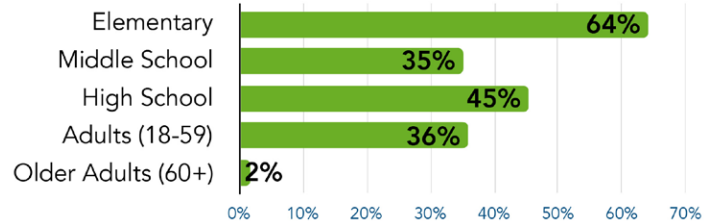
How many members of your family are currently playing a field sport in Ketchikan?

- 542 current players.
- Nearly a third of respondents said that multiple family members are engaged in field sports in Ketchikan.
- Two-thirds of respondents said that they have an elementary student engaged in field sports.

Of the above response, how many are female?

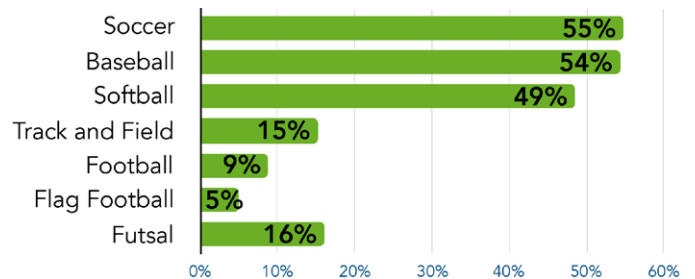


Which age groups in your family play a field sport in Ketchikan?



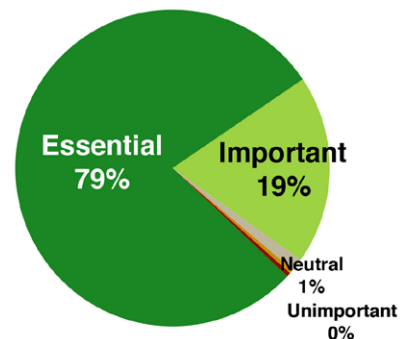
Just a third of respondents were representing a single field sport in their survey. Most said that their families participated in multiple field sports in Ketchikan. Soccer, baseball, and softball were the most common responses.

What sports do you or your family play?



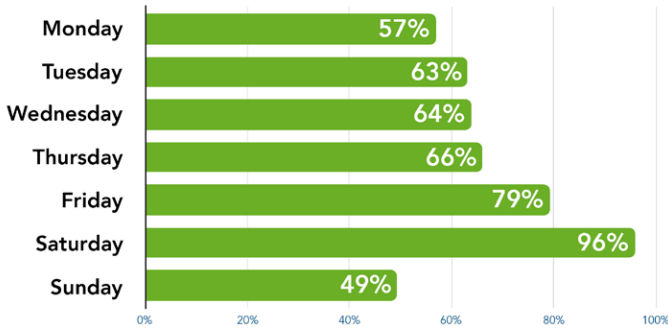
How valuable are Ketchikan's field sports to you and/or your family?

- 79% say participation in field sports is “essential” defined as a critical element to their quality of life.
- 19% called Ketchikan field sports important.
- Less than two percent called field sports “neutral”, “not important”, or “very unimportant”.

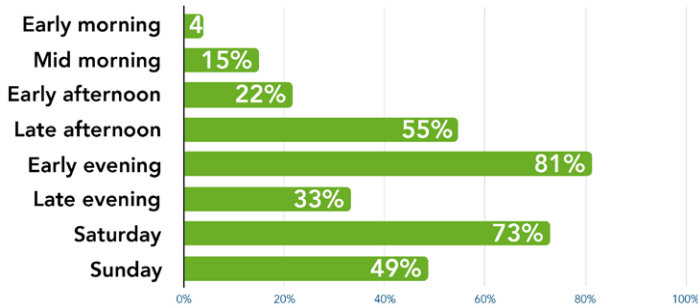


The most popular preferred field times include Saturday's, and after work on weekdays, especially Friday.

Which days of the week do you, or your child, prefer to use the field?

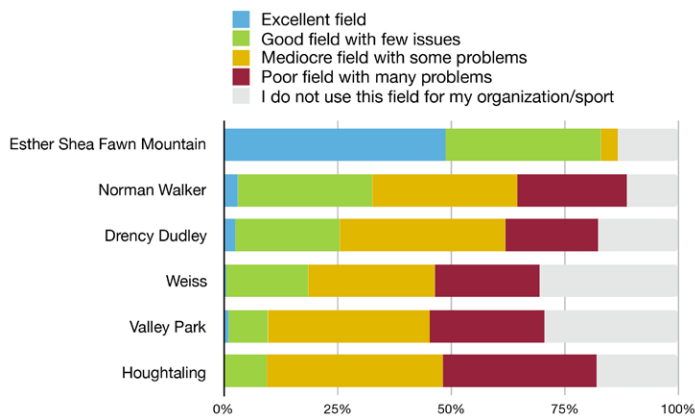


What time of the day is your preferred field use time?



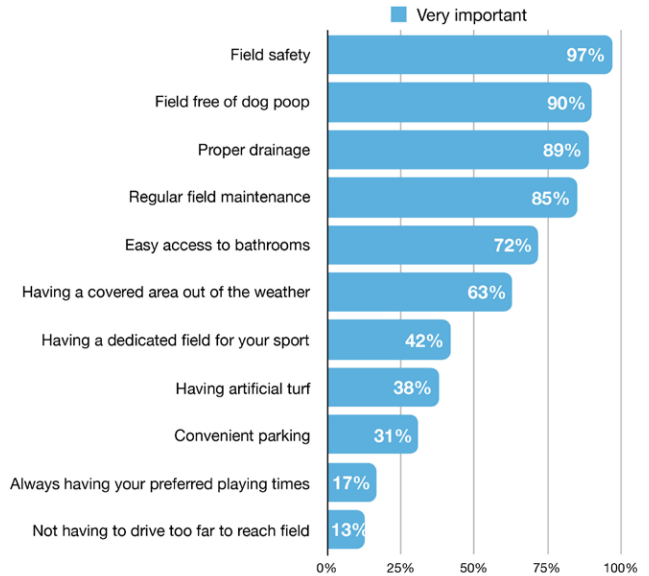
How do you feel about the fields?

Respondents were asked to rate each of the athletic fields in Ketchikan. Esther Shea was rated the highest, with 88% calling it an excellent or good field. Houghtaling was ranked the lowest quality, with 73% calling it a mediocre or poor field. Norman Walker is the most used field. Respondents provided 678 specific reason for why they rated each field how they did. These responses can be found in the Appendix.

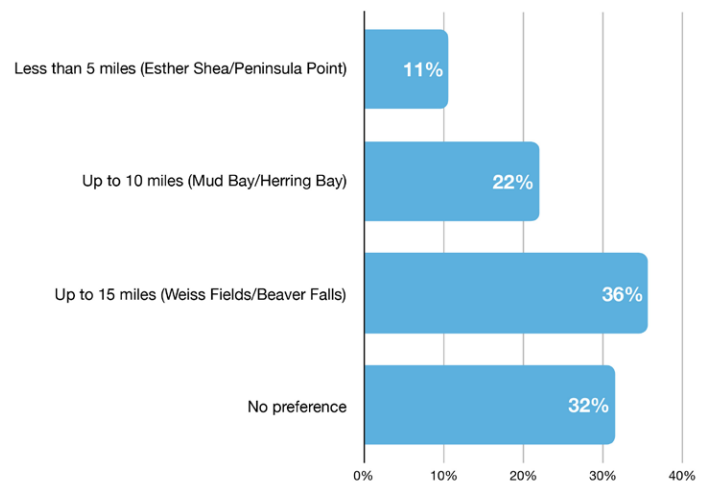


As a player, coach, or parent of a player, what is important to you when it comes to playing field sports?

Respondents said that field safety is the most important, followed by a field free of dog feces, and proper drainage. Ranked as the least important considerations include not having to drive to far to reach the field, and preferred playing times.



If new sports facilities were developed, how far would you be willing to travel from Downtown to access these areas?



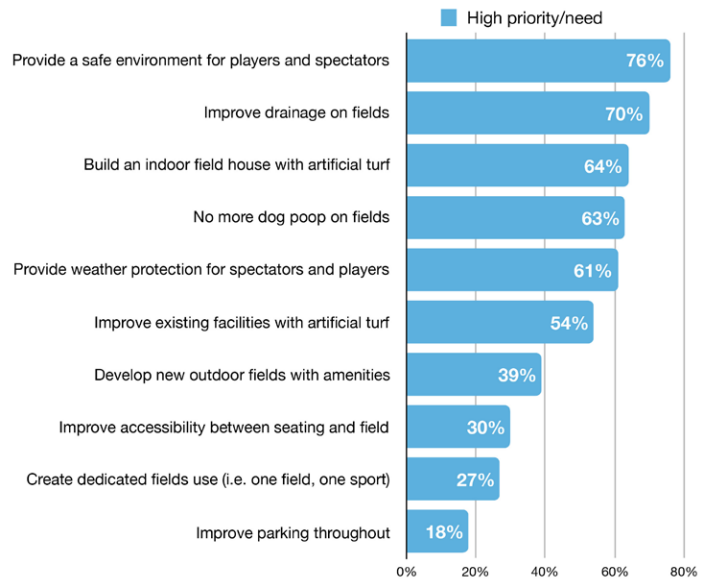
Please rate your satisfaction with the following elements of your (or your child's) field sport:

Respondents are more satisfied about the ease of sports registration. Only eight percent say that they are “very satisfied” with field quality, which ranked the lowest, while 45% said that they are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with field quality.



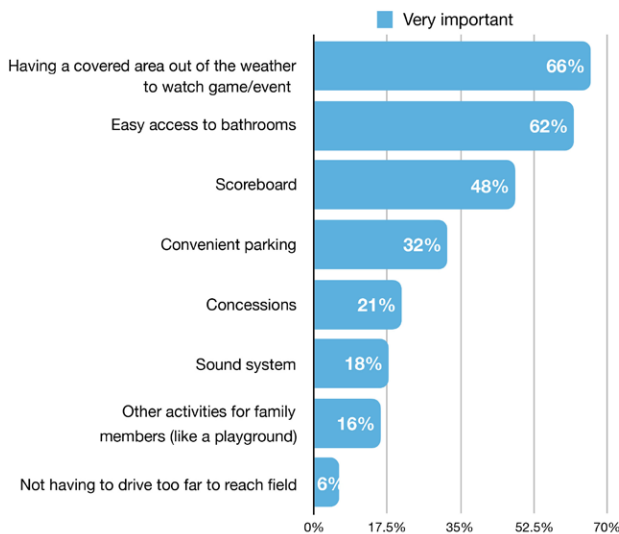
How would you prioritize the following field related improvements in Ketchikan?

Improving safety and drainage were ranked at the highest priority areas of focus, followed by developing a field house, and eradicating dog feces from the athletic fields.



As a spectator, what is important to you when it comes to watching field sports?

Two-thirds of spectators said that having a covered area to view the game is “very important” while another 28% called it important. Easy access to bathroom was ranked as the second most important spectator element.

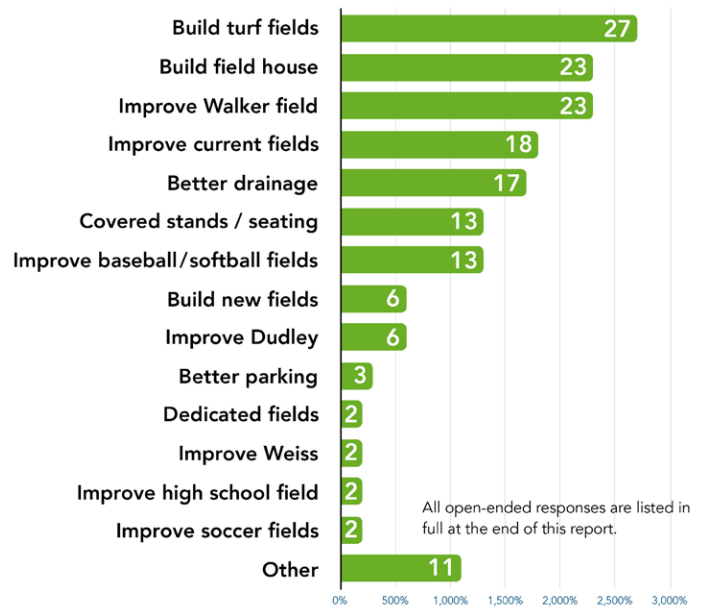
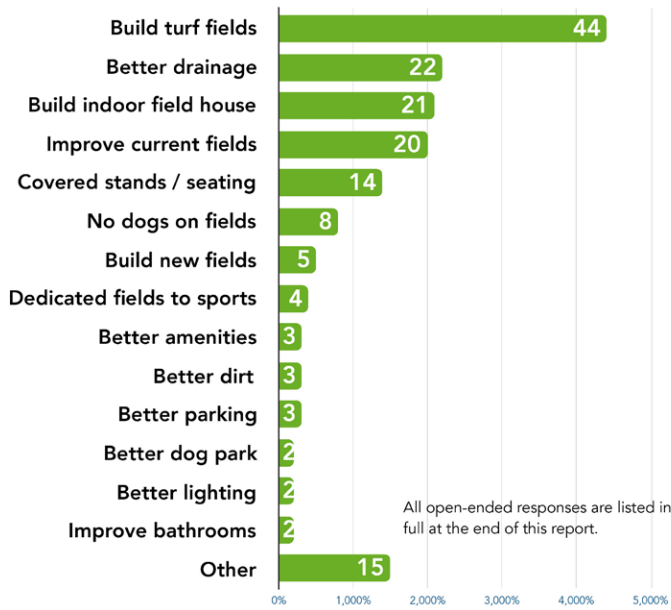


If you had to make only one change to the Borough's sport field, what would it be?

A total of 168 respondents participated in this question. The top answer was to add turf to more of Ketchikan's fields, with 44 comments related to this, followed by better drainage, and building a field house.

What should be the Borough's #1 Sports Field priority for capital improvement?

The top priority remained adding turf to the existing fields, followed by the development of a field house, and improving Norman Walker Field specifically.



ATHLETIC FIELD ASSESSMENT

SITE INVENTORY

INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT

A site inventory and overall facility assessment was conducted as a subsection for the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Field Usage and Development Study. The purpose of the site inventory was to evaluate the existing conditions, capacity, and functionality of the athletic fields managed by the Ketchikan Gateway Borough (KGB). The on-site review includes the Drenco Dudley Field, Norman Walker Field, Weiss Field, Esther Shea Track and Field, Houghtaling Field, and Valley Park Field.

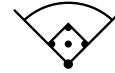
Corvus Design was supported by KGB staff who supplied essential information regarding athletic field conditions and performance. The KGB also provided insight into the functional relationships and challenges present that affect customer service. The following sections summarize the methodology of the site inventory and the findings for each field assessed.

METHODOLOGY

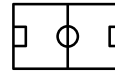
Corvus Design conducted an on-site inventory of the outdoor sports facilities within the KGB in October 2019. Specific areas reviewed at each field site were:

- Parking capacity
- Seating capacity
- Facility operations & amenities
- Sports use
- Non-sports use
- Athletic field lighting
- Field orientation
- Field surfacing
- Concessions
- Restrooms
- ADA accessibility

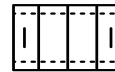
AMENITY LEGEND



Baseball/Softball



Soccer



Football



Parking



School Use



Restroom



Seating



Concession



Media Booth



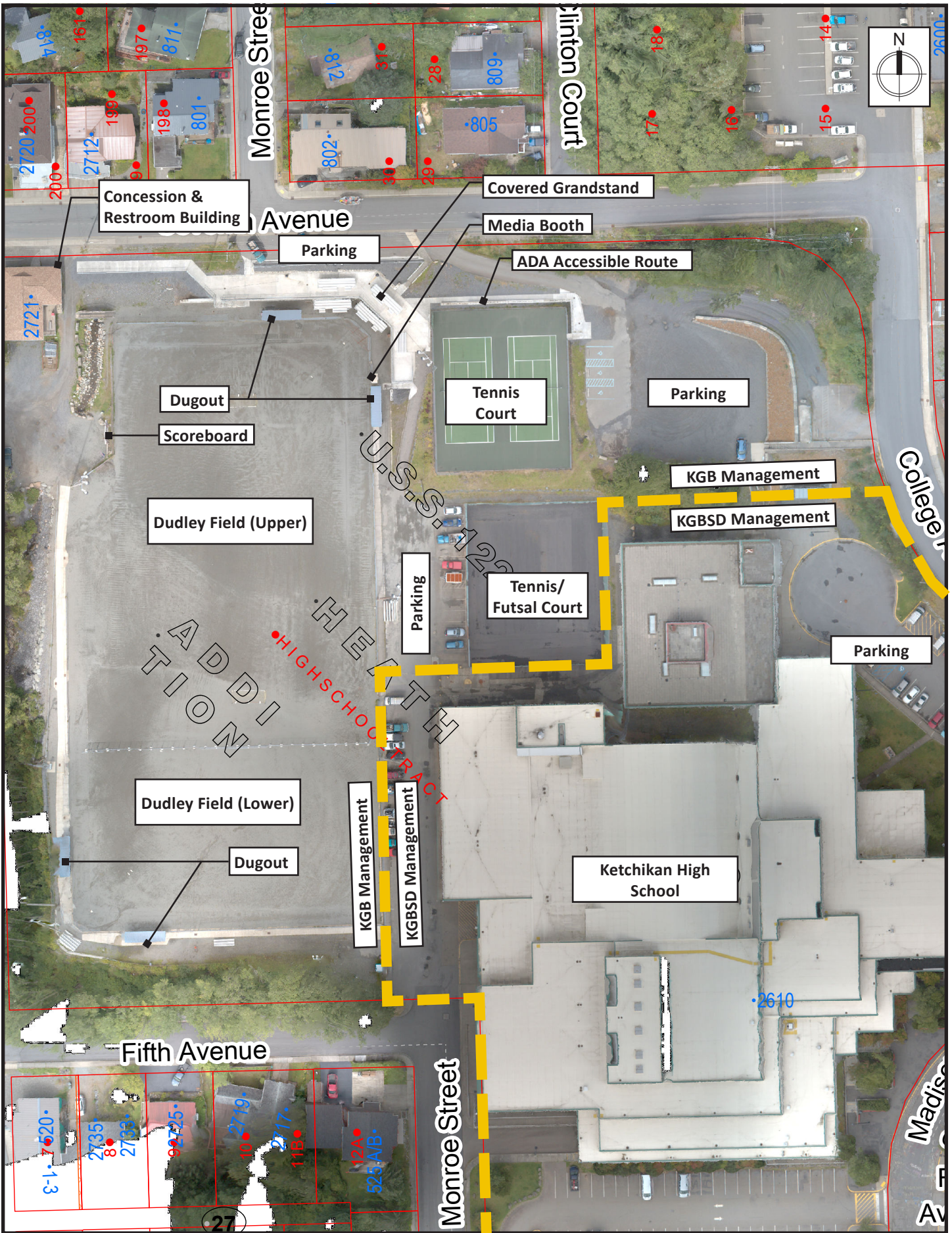
Scoreboard



Lighting



Sound System



DRENCY DUDLEY FIELD

SITE OVERVIEW

Drency Dudley Field is located at the Ketchikan High School and is a distance of 1.8 miles from downtown Ketchikan. It is a sand-surfaced multi-use field that accommodates two baseball/softball fields, one each small and large soccer fields, or one small soccer field and a softball field. Portable fences are used to delineate the fields depending on the users. Over the years, Drency Dudley Field has been used by the Ketchikan High School Softball team, Ketchikan Little League teams, Ketchikan Softball Club, and the Ketchikan Youth Soccer League. It is primarily used for softball and soccer, as well as by the Ketchikan High School for daily use August through June.

Drency Dudley Field facilities include restrooms and a concession that is accessible from the upper field. The upper field has access to a media booth, scoreboard, and also has covered grandstands. There are additional bleachers available for seating at the upper and lower field. Each field has two dugouts with field lighting throughout. Drency Dudley Field is oriented north to south.

The adjacent Mead Building, accessible from the north field, houses sports offices, restrooms, and concessions. The concession does not have a class 1 hood, limiting the food that can be served at games or requiring that barbecues are set up outside for grilling.

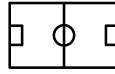
Drency Dudley Field has a large parking capacity with multiple parking lots and (3) ADA stalls that have access to the grandstands, restrooms, and concession on the north side of the field. The High School commonly uses parking available along the east side of the lower field for its automotive repair program. Additional facilities on site are two tennis courts, the lower of which is converted to seasonal batting cages and a futsal court.

Surrounding uses include the Ketchikan High School, medium-density residential, and the University of Alaska Southeast.

SITE AMENITIES



Softball (all ages), Ketchikan Little League (minors, majors, senior), Ketchikan Softball Club



Ketchikan Youth Soccer League (all ages)



N/A



**Capacity: Regular stalls (Unknown)
ADA stalls (3)**



Ketchikan High School Daily Use



**Capacity: Men's (2 fixtures)
Women's (2 fixtures)**



**Capacity: Grandstand (300)
Bleachers (200)**



Yes



Yes: North Side



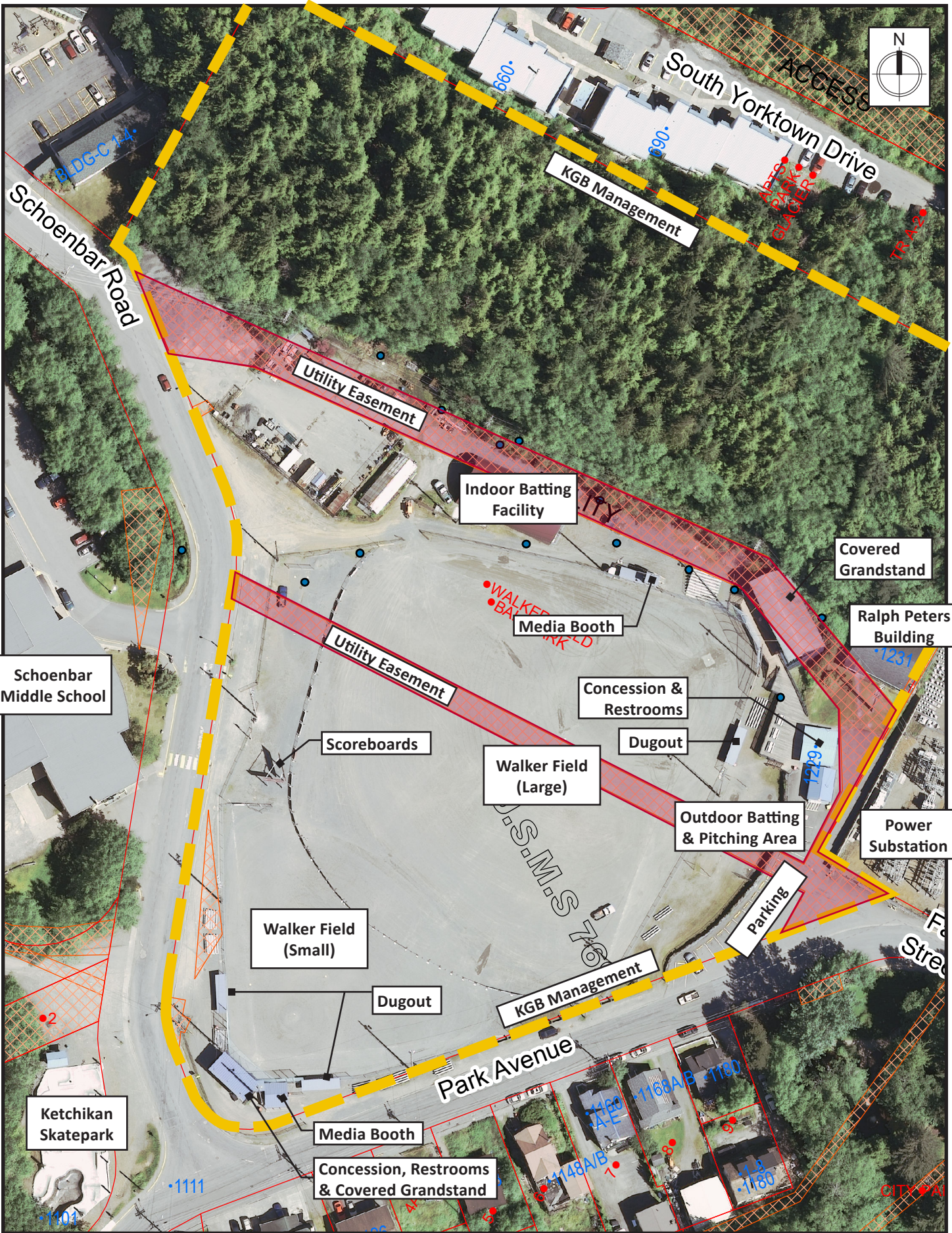
Yes: North Side



Stadium lighting



Temporary



NORMAN WALKER FIELD

SITE OVERVIEW

Norman Walker Field is located 0.6 miles from downtown Ketchikan. It is a sand-surfaced multi-use field used for baseball, softball, soccer, and football. The field can be used as a single-use baseball field or separated into a large and small field. Changing the field alignment creates additional labor for the KGB as fences must be moved frequently to accommodate the two field configurations. The Schoenbar Middle School uses the field during the school day August through May.

Norman Walker Field facilities include two sets of restrooms, two concessions, and two sets of covered grandstands. The restrooms on the northeast side of the field have two fixtures each, and the restrooms on the south side of the field have two fixtures in the male restroom and one fixture in the female restroom. The restrooms and facilities servicing the large field are raised relative to the field and do not provide an accessible route via the dugouts. The restrooms servicing the small field should be reviewed for accessibility purposes. The concessions are both equipped with a class 1 hood. The covered grandstands on the north side of the field are larger than the grandstands on the south side of the field. The field also supports additional seating with moveable bleachers. The grandstands are in good shape; however, the moveable bleachers do not meet code. There are two media booths at each end of the field and two scoreboards located on the west side of the field that service both the large field and the small field. The facilities are equipped with lighting.

Norman Walker Field has an indoor batting facility with two batting cages and one unisex restroom. Located on the west side of the field is an outdoor batting cage and outdoor pitching cage. There are four dugouts, two that service the large field, and two that service the small field. Norman Walker Field is orientated northeast to southwest.

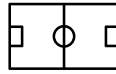
Norman Walker Field has parking capacity for (14) vehicles, including (2) ADA stalls. There is an old building on site that is in poor condition and was used historically as a juvenile detention center. It is now leased to user groups as sports offices.

Surrounding uses include the Schoenbar Middle School, single-family and multi-family residential, a skate park, and a power substation with utility buildings.

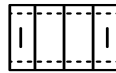
SITE AMENITIES



Ketchikan Little League (majors, senior), High School League, American Legion Baseball



Ketchikan Youth Soccer League



Ketchikan Youth Football League



**Capacity: Regular stalls (14)
ADA stalls (2)**



**Schoenbar Middle School Daily Use,
Schoenbar Field Day**



**Capacity: Men's (2 fixtures each)
Women's (1 & 2 fixtures)**



**Capacity: Grandstand (1500)
Bleachers (400)**



Both sides of field (class 1 hood)



Both sides of field



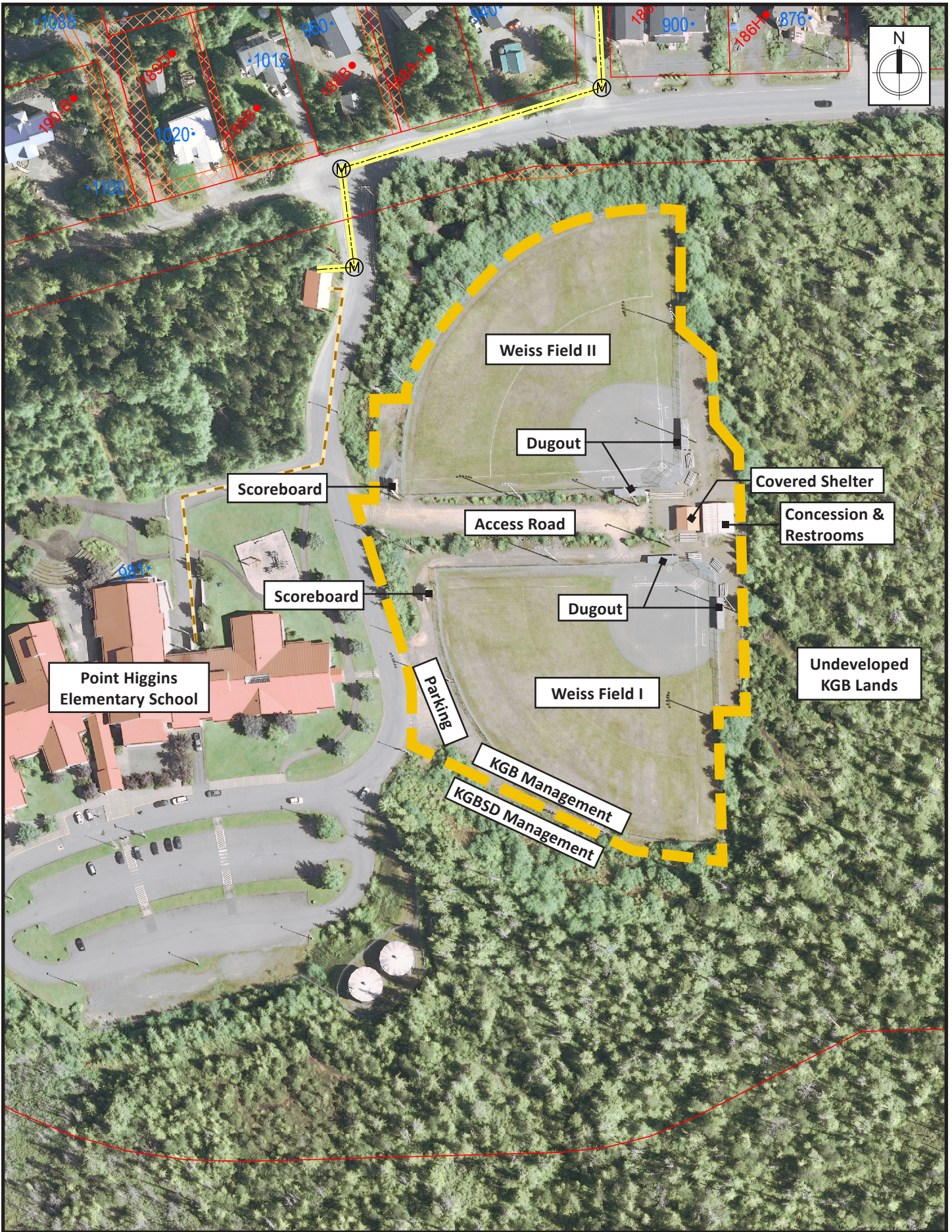
Both sides of field



Stadium lighting



Permanent sound system



WEISS FIELD

SITE OVERVIEW

Weiss Field is located near the Point Higgins Elementary School and is 15 miles from downtown Ketchikan. The facility has two multi-purpose fields that have a natural turf surface. Both fields can be used for baseball/softball and are currently being used for men’s, women’s, and coed adult softball leagues, as well as people exercising their dogs.

Facilities at Weiss Field include a concession with no hood, restrooms, and a covered shelter. The men’s restrooms have three fixtures, and the women’s restroom has two fixtures. The facilities are not accessible. There are no media booths at Weiss Field; however, the facilities are equipped with field lighting.

Weiss Field I is oriented northeast to southwest, and Weiss Field II is oriented northwest to southeast.

Weiss Field I has seating capacity for (150), and Weiss Field II has seating capacity for (170). Each field has a scoreboard and two dugouts.

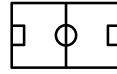
People are currently parking in a small gravel parking area located on the west end of Weiss Field I or along the access road. The gravel parking area does not support easy access to the site. People park on an angle on the access road, which does not provide sufficient room to maintain parking and access to the fields.

Surrounding uses include the Point Higgins Elementary School and single-family residential. There is a large portion of undeveloped Ketchikan Gateway Borough land to the east and south of the fields.

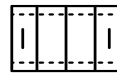
SITE AMENITIES



Ketchikan Softball Association (Adult)



N/A



N/A



Capacity: N/A



N/A



Capacity: **Men’s (3 fixtures)**
Women’s (2 fixtures)



Capacity: **Bleachers Weiss I (150)**
Bleachers Weiss II (170)



Yes



N/A



Weiss I: Yes
Weiss II: Yes



Stadium lighting



N/A

ESTHER SHEA TRACK & FIELD

SITE OVERVIEW

Esther Shea Track and Field is located beside the Fawn Mountain Elementary School and is 4.5 miles from downtown Ketchikan. It is a multi-use field that is used for football, soccer, and track. There are also field facilities for track and field events. The field is artificial turf with a surrounding rubberized 400-meter track. The Fawn Mountain Elementary School uses the field during the school day August through May.

Facilities at the Esther Shea Track and Field include a covered grandstand that was built recently and is accessible with seating for approximately (255) people. There is a restroom building that has three fixtures for both men and women and two locker rooms with one bathroom fixture each. There is no concession at the Esther Shea Track and Field. There is a media booth located in the covered grandstand; however, no sound system is present. A scoreboard is located on the western side of the field. The field is equipped with lighting and is oriented east to west.

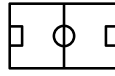
There are (4) ADA accessible parking stalls provided for field users with all other parking surrounding the Fawn Mountain Elementary School. The exact parking capacity at Esther Shea Track and Field is unknown.

Surrounding uses include the Fawn Mountain Elementary School, single-family residential, and lands zoned for future development.

SITE AMENITIES



N/A



Ketchikan High School Soccer, Ketchikan Youth Soccer League, Tongass Timbers Soccer, Homeschool Soccer, Evison Soccer Camp



Ketchikan High School Football League, Ketchikan Youth Football League, Co-Ed Flag Football



**Capacity: Regular stalls (Unknown)
ADA stalls (4)**



Fawn Mountain Elementary School Daily Use



**Capacity: Men's (3 fixtures)
Women's (3 fixtures)**



**Capacity: Grandstand (155-255)
Bleachers (N/A)**



N/A



Yes



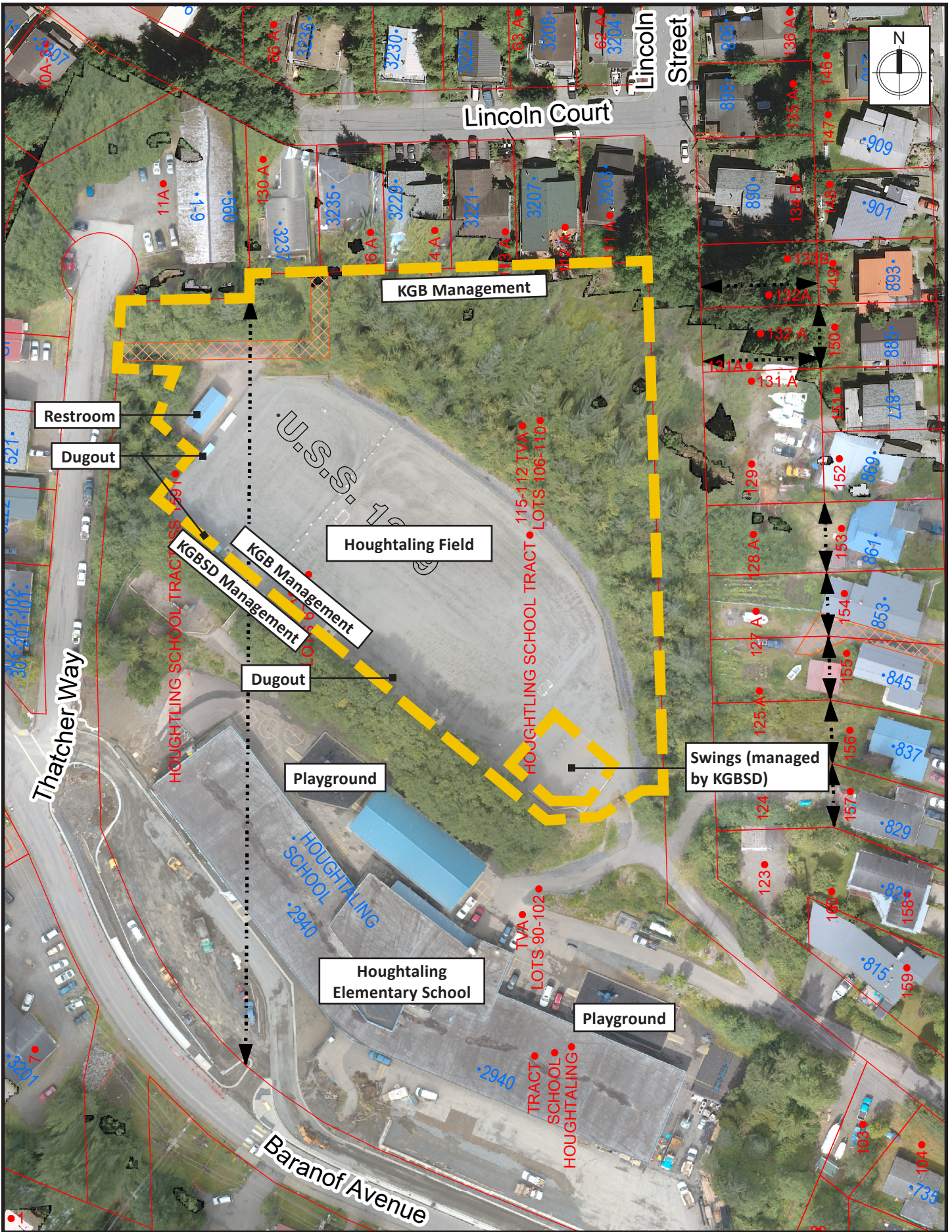
Yes



Stadium lighting



N/A



HOUGHTALING FIELD

SITE OVERVIEW

Houghtaling Field is located at the Houghtaling Elementary School and is approximately 2 miles from downtown Ketchikan. It is a sand-surfaced field that is split into two small fields and used by the Ketchikan Little League or the Ketchikan Youth Soccer League for younger children. In recent years the Ketchikan Little League is using the field for Coach Pitch and T-ball, and the Ketchikan Youth Soccer League is using the field for Micro, Second to Third, and Four to Five Leagues. The Houghtaling Elementary School uses the field during the school day August through May.

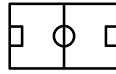
Houghtaling Field has a restroom building with two fixtures each. The restroom building is accessible, but access to the building is not accessible. There is no designated parking for Houghtaling Field. Portable bleachers are used for seating with an approximate seating capacity for 140 vehicles. Houghtaling Field does not have a scoreboard, media booth, and the field is not equipped with lighting. The field is oriented north to south.

There are two sets of swings located on the southeast side of the field and are managed by the KGBSD. Surrounding uses include the Houghtaling Elementary School and single- and multi-family residential.

SITE AMENITIES



Ketchikan Little League (coach pitch, t-ball)



Ketchikan Youth Soccer League (micro soccer)



N/A



Capacity: N/A



Houghtaling Elementary School Daily Use



**Capacity: Men's (2 fixtures)
Women's (2 fixtures)**



**Capacity: Grandstand (N/A)
Bleachers (140)**



N/A



N/A



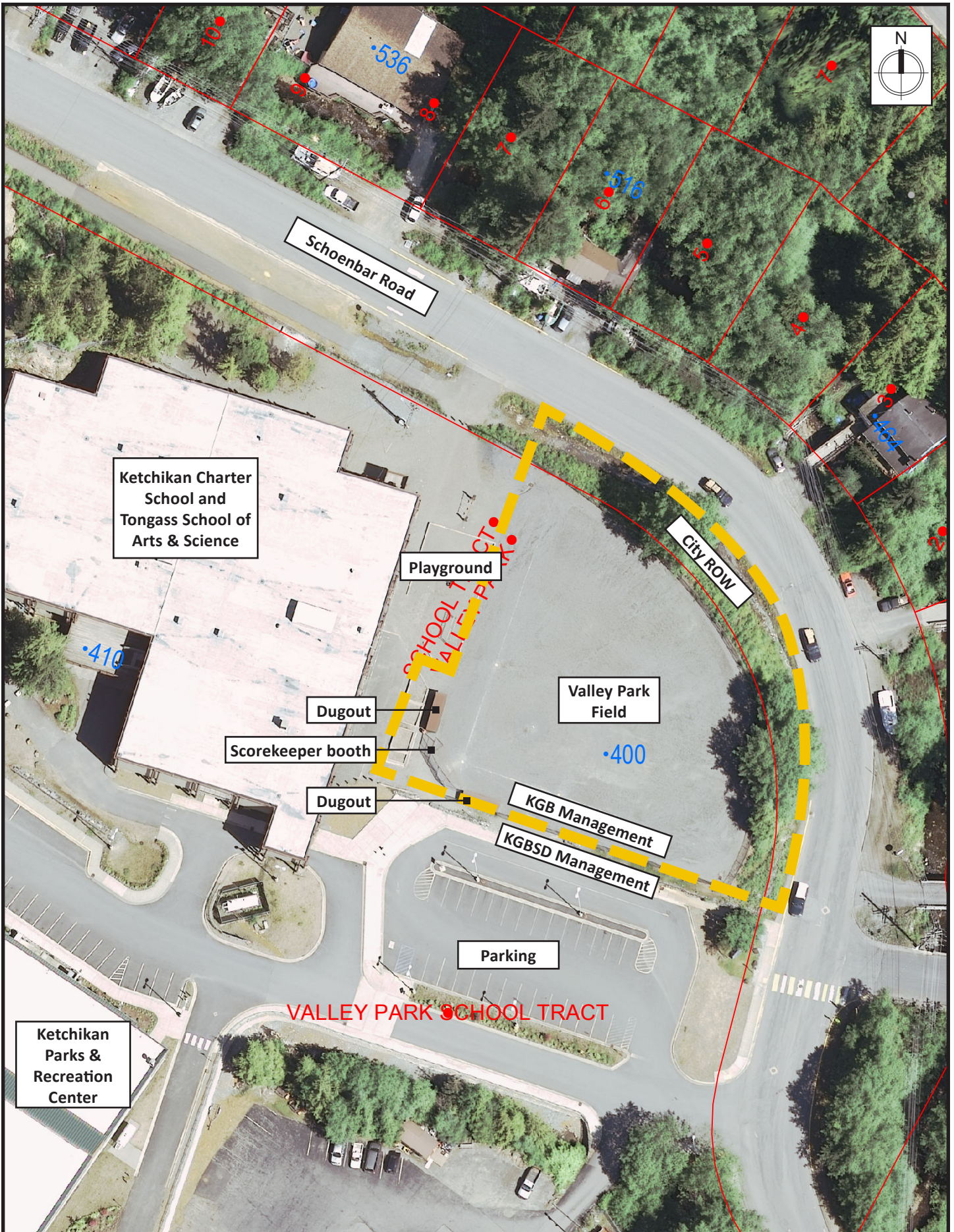
N/A



N/A



N/A



VALLEY PARK FIELD

SITE OVERVIEW

Valley Park Field sits beside the Ketchikan Charter School, the Tongass School of Arts & Sciences, and the Ketchikan Parks and Recreation Center and is located 1 mile from downtown Ketchikan. It is a sand-surfaced field that is used mainly for younger sporting events and by the Ketchikan Charter School and the Tongass School of Arts & Sciences for daily activities August through May.

The facilities at Valley Park Field are two dugouts and one scorekeeper's booth. There is a temporary port-a-potty placed at the field during seasonal use by the Ketchikan Little League. The field has a set of moveable bleachers that have a capacity for approximately (40) people. There is no concession, media booth, or scoreboards at this facility. The field is not equipped with lighting and is not accessible.

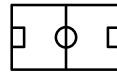
There are (27) regular parking stalls adjacent to the field with no ADA stalls located close to the field access point. Parking at the Ketchikan Parks & Recreation Center can be used if necessary.

Surrounding uses include medium and high-density residential, as well as the Ketchikan Charter School, Tongass School of Arts & Science, and the Ketchikan Parks & Recreation Center.

SITE AMENITIES



Ketchikan Little League Baseball (minor)



N/A



N/A



**Capacity: Regular stalls (27)
ADA stalls (N/A)**



Ketchikan Charter School & Tongass School of Arts Daily Use



Capacity: Seasonal



**Capacity: Grandstand (N/A)
Bleachers (40)**



N/A



N/A



N/A



N/A



N/A

PUBLIC RECOMMENDATIONS

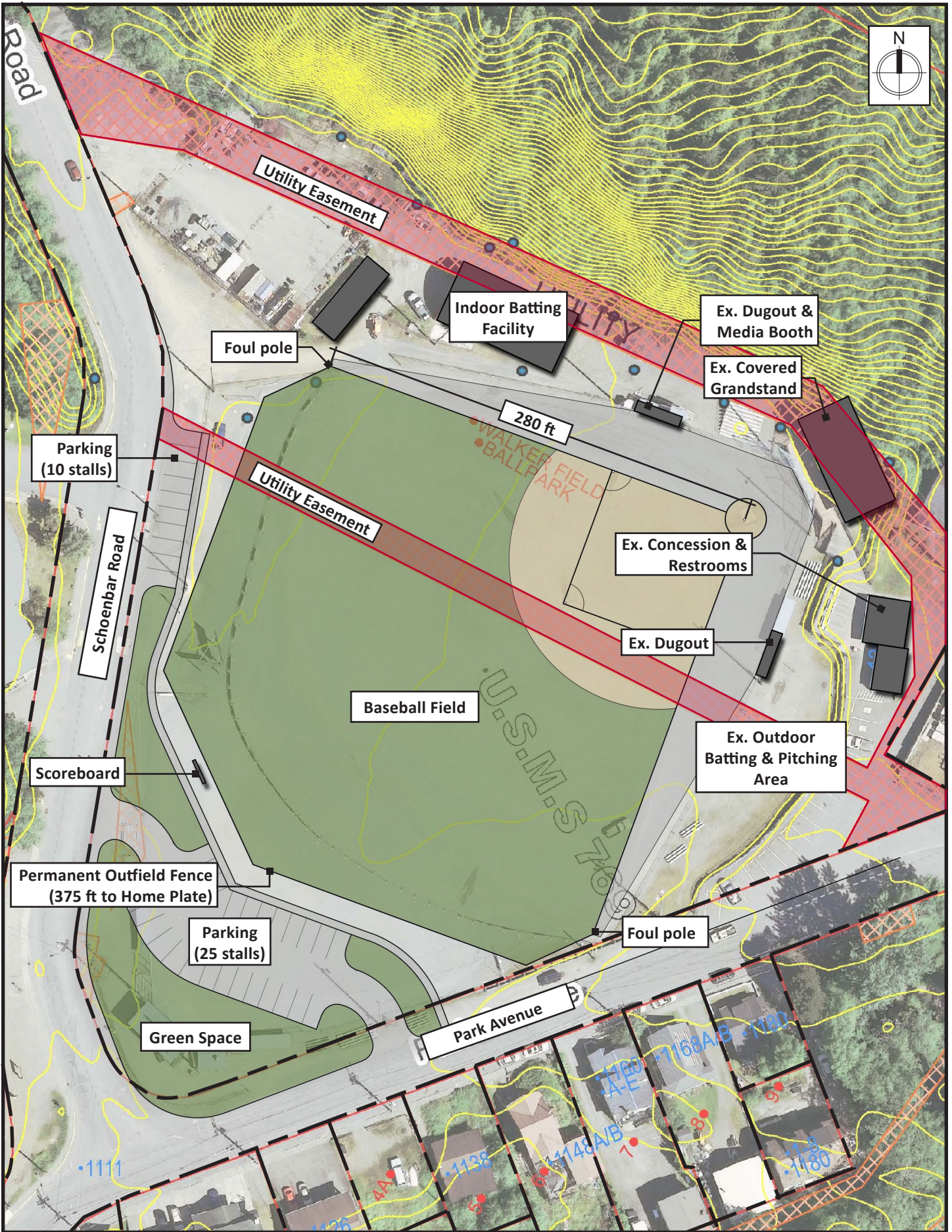
Based on the site inventory, individual user group interviews, and the public meetings conducted in October and November 2019, the following represents the overarching recommendations for the athletic fields described in this study. These fields include Drenco Dudley Field, Norman Walker Field, Weiss Field, Esther Shea Track and Field, Houghtaling Field, and Valley Park Field. The main recommendations heard by the public are:

- Improving field safety for players and spectators;
- Prohibiting dogs and other pets from the athletic fields and providing dog parks to meet needs;
- Improving drainage at all fields;
- Reducing maintenance and operation at all fields;
- Making all fields and related facilities accessible;
- Ensuring restrooms are provided at all fields;
- Offering covered spectator seating at all fields;
- Dedicating each field to a single-use with all the necessary support facilities. For each field's primary use, do it well;
- Offering secondary use at fields if needed, but not diminishing the primary use;
- Surfacing Drenco Dudley Field and Norman Walker Field with artificial turf. Maintaining Weiss Field as natural grass;
- Addressing parking needs at each field;
- Developing one new little league field to meet demand (to be verified based on scheduling review by the Parks and Recreation Department);
- Developing one new 135 ft x 210 ft soccer field;
- Providing adequate lighting at all fields (except Houghtaling Field and Valley Park Field); and
- Installing scoreboards at all fields with the exception of Houghtaling Field.

The following site plans summarize field improvements generated through public feedback gathered during the public meetings, user group interviews, and community survey, and approved by the KGB. Some items heard through the public process relate directly with operational issues that will be considered by the KGB and brought forward to the Assembly if necessary. Items focused on in the Field Usage & Development Study relate to capital priorities and will address field and facility improvements above and beyond operations and maintenance. Moving forward, the study and public recommendations will be presented to the Assembly in January 2020 for approval.

Although the community survey strongly supported the construction of a field house, user groups that attended the public meetings did not prioritize a field house over other improvements that are outlined in this study. The KGB has provided direction to focus on other improvements prioritized by the public and feasible within the duration of this study timeline. The original concepts for the field house locations have been retained and can be found in the Appendix.





NORMAN WALKER FIELD

CONCEPT

Norman Walker Field, in conjunction with Drenco Dudley Field, is a number one public priority for improvements. The desire for Norman Walker Field is to dedicate it operate as a single-use baseball field. The field will be expanded to accommodate American Legion and High School Baseball and will have an outfield pocket to 375 feet from home plate with foul poles 280 feet from home plate. Other priorities for Norman Walker Field include resolving drainage issues, installing artificial turf, and installing permanent fencing.

Eliminating a field and dedicating Norman Walker Field to a single-use artificial turf field will reduce daily maintenance and field preparation. Reducing daily maintenance will allow KGB personnel to put their efforts towards improved cleanup and more frequent maintenance, which may provide the opportunity for earlier start times for user groups and possibly decreasing congestion and wait times in the long-term.

The existing concessions, restrooms, and dugouts at the upper field will remain, as will the existing outdoor batting and pitching area. The grandstands will remain in their current location and elevation, but may be replaced as they are aging and are not accessible from the field. If they remain, accessibility issues will need to be addressed from the dugouts to the grandstands, concessions, and restrooms. Ramping will be required either on the west side of the grandstands or along the east side of the field where the outdoor batting and pitching area is located. The scoreboard and lighting will be replaced.

The lower field will be removed, as well as the grandstands, restrooms, concession, and media booth that serves the lower field. The lower section of the field not utilized for the expanded baseball field will be converted into a parking lot that will accommodate parking for 25 vehicles, with an additional ten stalls available along the west edge abutting Schoenbar Road.

There is room for a small green space at the corner of Schoenbar Road and Park Avenue adjacent to the parking area. The green space can be used as a picnic spot and a place where people can watch games. It will also provide a buffer that may minimize conflicts with baseballs entering the roadway.

Converting Norman Walker Field to a single-use field that serves American Legion and High School Baseball will remove a Little League baseball field from service, as well as a field used previously as overflow for football. Football has low participation numbers and is well served by Esther Shea Track and Field. Several locations are available for the development of a Little League Field or may be upgraded to provide this service. Users responded that lower Drenco Dudley Field accommodates Little League baseball users with a portable mound (see Drenco Dudley Field Concept). Future projects include expanding Valley Park Field (see Valley Park Field Concept) or a new field could be built at Weiss Field (see Weiss Field Concept).

There are concerns that the City of Ketchikan d/b/a Ketchikan Public Utility's existing raw water main beneath Norman Walker Field is nearing the end of its lifespan, as pipe segments in Schoenbar Road nearby have consistently failed over the last twenty years. Competency testing is preliminarily slated for 2020. Should this main require replacement, turf installation should not occur until the water main is upgraded in order to reduce the likelihood of future failing and impacts to the new field surfacing.

An alternative concept for Norman Walker Field that maintains a double field layout is provided in the Appendix. The Assembly previously adopted this concept as the preferred alternative, but the public overall preferred expanding the existing field and removing the smaller field.

DRENCY DUDLEY FIELD

CONCEPT

The upper field at Drenco Dudley Field, in conjunction with Norman Walker Field, is a number one public priority for improvements. The upper field will be expanded with an outfield fence to 200 ft from home plate and dedicated to softball use. Permanent fencing will be installed at the upper field, and drainage issues will be addressed for both fields.

In order to achieve an outfield fence to 200 ft from home plate, the upper field will have to be expanded to the west, filling in the drainage ditch, and leaving room for an 8-ft access road between the outfield fence and the existing concession building. A portion of the existing drainage ditch will be placed within a culvert, and mitigation for filling the creek may be required. Lighting will be replaced throughout.

Foul poles will be installed at the upper field, and there will be minor improvements made to the grandstands to protect users from the elements.

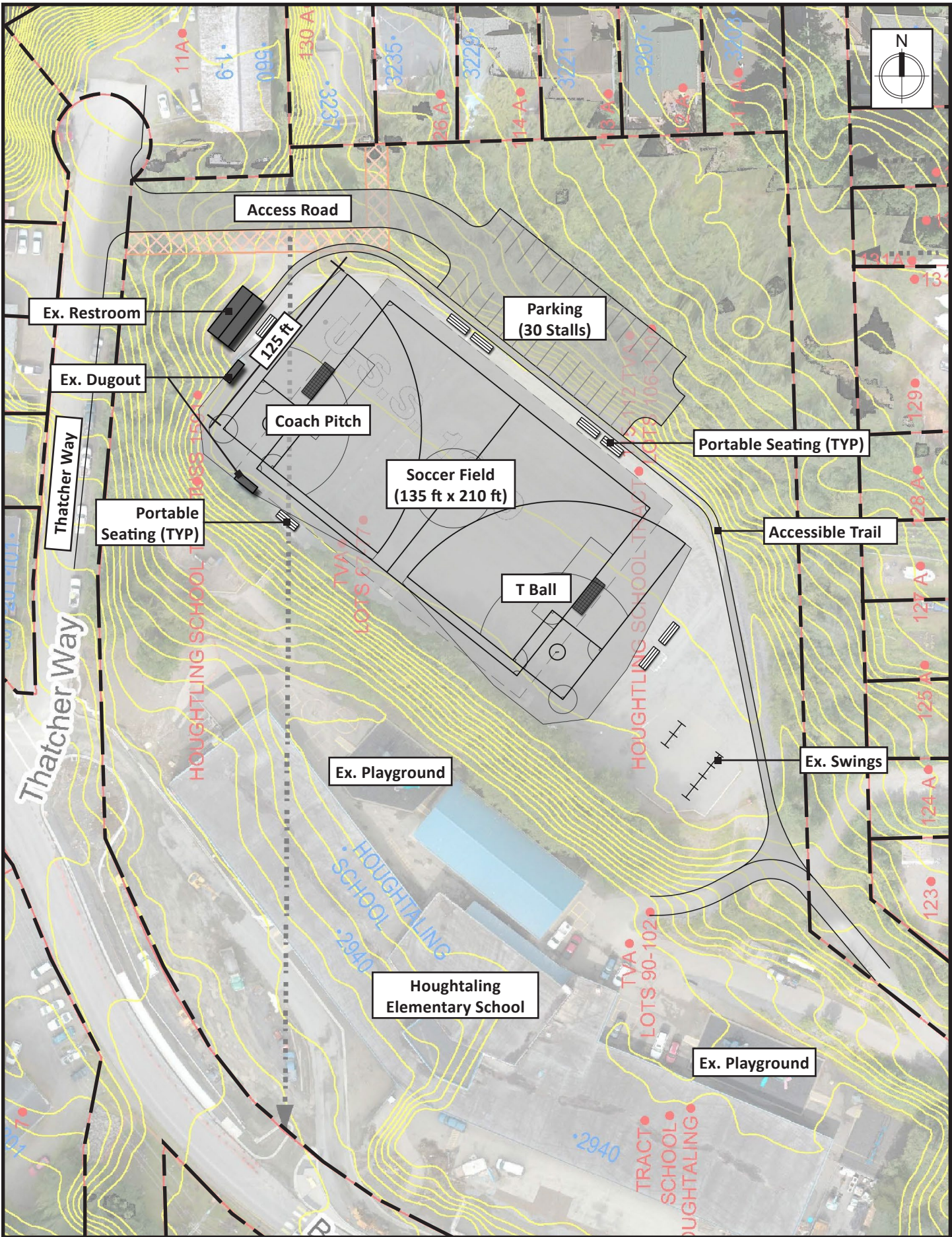
ADA accessibility will be addressed, and a route will be constructed from the lower field to the concession. It is recommended that the concession stay as-is with minor upgrades to include a Class 1 hood. Currently, the KGB is in the final planning stages to develop restrooms on the south side of the field: a new concession or storage may be appended to the restrooms if the Mead Building is determined to be unsuitable for renovation.

Two batting cages, 14 ft x 17 ft, will be installed on the existing tennis/futsal court for warm-up before games. Installing batting cages will eliminate the lower court for futsal, which will have to be relocated.

The lower field will remain as a sand-surfaced softball/baseball field with a portable pitching mound. It will be flexible to serve as an overflow field for soccer practice or as a small field for soccer games. The fencing will remain temporary and a scoreboard and foul poles will be installed. It is recommended that the KGB work with the Ketchikan High School to address parking conflicts at the south field associated with the auto shop.

The KGB intends to improve the lower field with expanded seating areas to improve spectator experience. To accommodate an expanded seating area it is recommended that the field be shifted to the east and that the existing dugouts be relocated. This will mitigate retaining that will be required due to the extensive slope on the west side of the field.

Although it was identified through the public outreach efforts that larger improvements be made to the lower field, it is a large undertaking, and at this time, the intent is to focus funding on developing the upper field to be a fully compliant, world-class facility dedicated to use by Ketchikan High School baseball and Senior League. The lower field can be used for softball, serve as a Little League field, and an overflow soccer field in the meantime. Improvements will be made to the lower field, but further development is outside of the capital priority timeframe.



HOUGHTALING FIELD

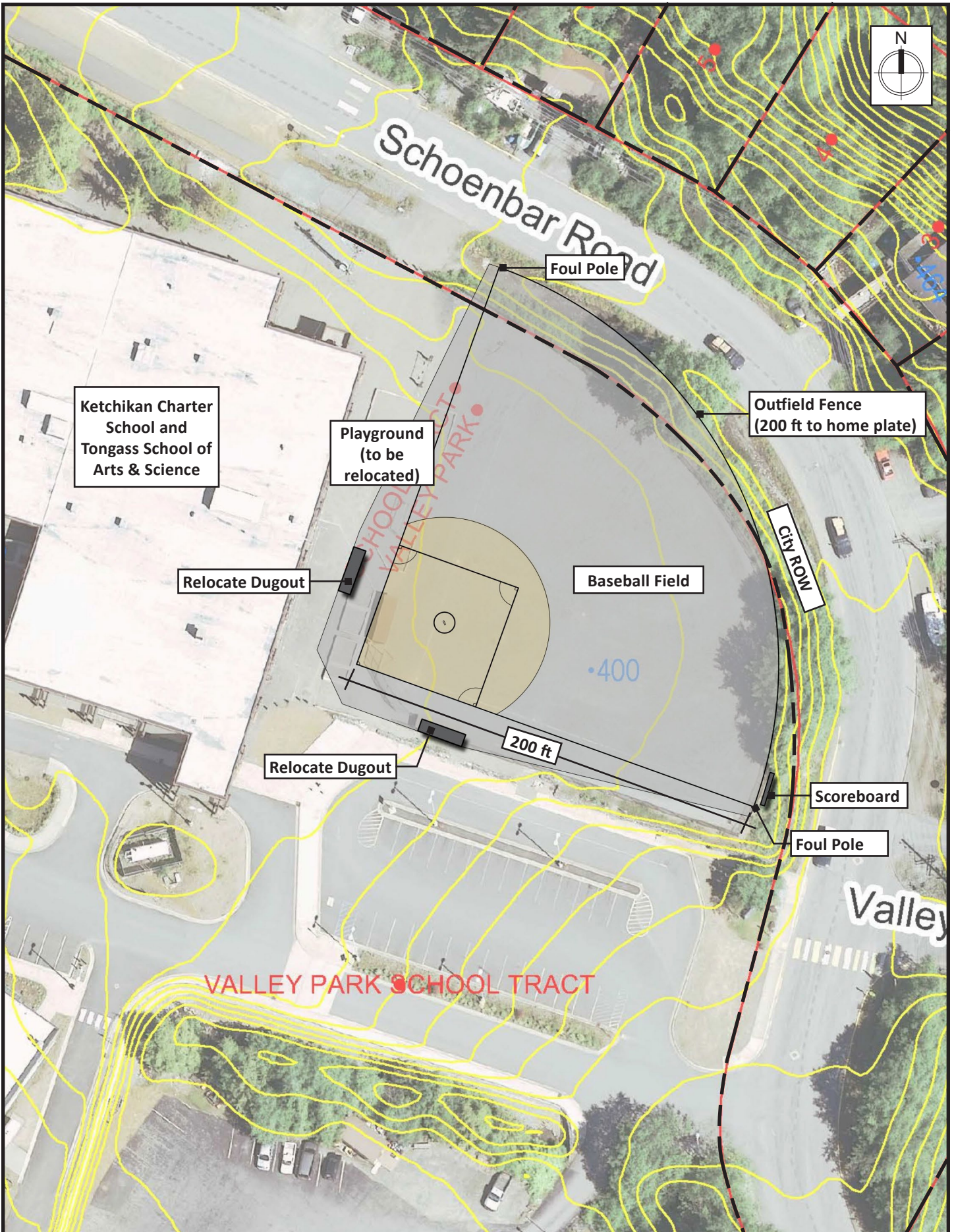
CONCEPT

Houghtaling Field is second on the public priority list for improvements, behind that of Norman Walker Field and Drencey Dudley Field. Currently, facilities at Houghtaling Field serve adequately for the uses. The field serves as a baseball field for T-Ball and Coach Pitch and serves as a soccer field for Micro Soccer, Second to Third, and Four to Five leagues. The main challenge at Houghtaling Field is the lack of access to the field, access across the field when games are in session, and parking.

The improvements include developing an access road and parking area that will accommodate 30 vehicles and an accessible trail from the southeastern access point to the restrooms. Additional portable seating will be provided on the northern side of the field for soccer, as well as at current locations near the baseball field.

The existing restroom will remain, as will the dugouts. User groups expressed interest in having covered seating and a centralized restroom at Houghtaling Field. Moving the restroom is not feasible due to a lack of utilities at the site, and developing access across the field is anticipated to resolve restroom access. The proposed parking area provides clear sightlines to the fields and can be used in place of covered seating. At this time, including a covered seating area at Houghtaling Field is not a priority within the duration of this study.

The play area with the existing swings could be further developed to include additional play equipment and seating; however, this is within the KGBSD jurisdictional area and will need to be coordinated or dictated by their capital desires.



VALLEY PARK FIELD

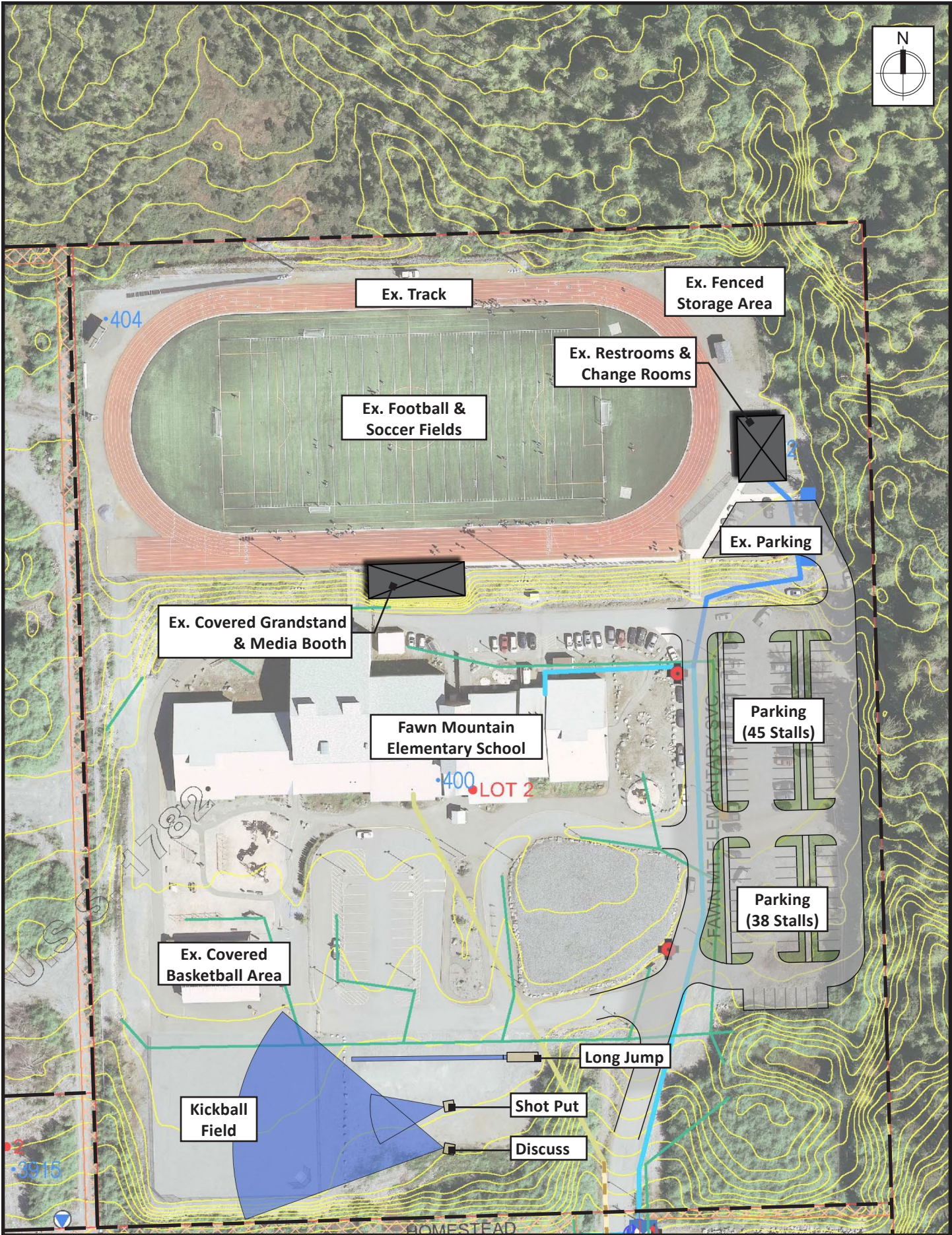
CONCEPT

Valley Park Field is number three on the public priority list for improvements. Valley Park Field will remain dedicated to Little League Baseball and for day-use by the Ketchikan Charter School and Tongass School of Arts & Science. The public would like to see the field be expanded to accommodate Little League games, which requires an outfield fence to 200 feet from home plate and to remain as sand-surfacing. The field will be shifted to the south and to the west to accommodate the expanded field. It is required that a 15-ft access route be maintained between the field and the Ketchikan Charter School and Tongass School of Arts & Science.

Expanding the field to the north will push the field into the existing City right-of-way, and coordination with the City will be required. Schoenbar Road will not be impacted; however, a small wall may be needed along the north portion of the outfield.

The existing dugouts will need to be relocated, and it is the desire of the public that a scoreboard is installed. Currently, a seasonal restroom is provided during the baseball season, and at this time, it is not a priority to provide a permanent restroom. The portable restroom will need to be located along an accessible route, or an accessible route needs to be supplied to the existing location along the north elevation of the school. Concessions are not a priority at Valley Park Field.

The existing playground that is located west of the existing field will need to be removed or relocated. Currently, the playground is creating maintenance issues for the field and is scheduled for replacement in the near future. Coordination with the KGBSD will be performed during the planning of any field improvements.



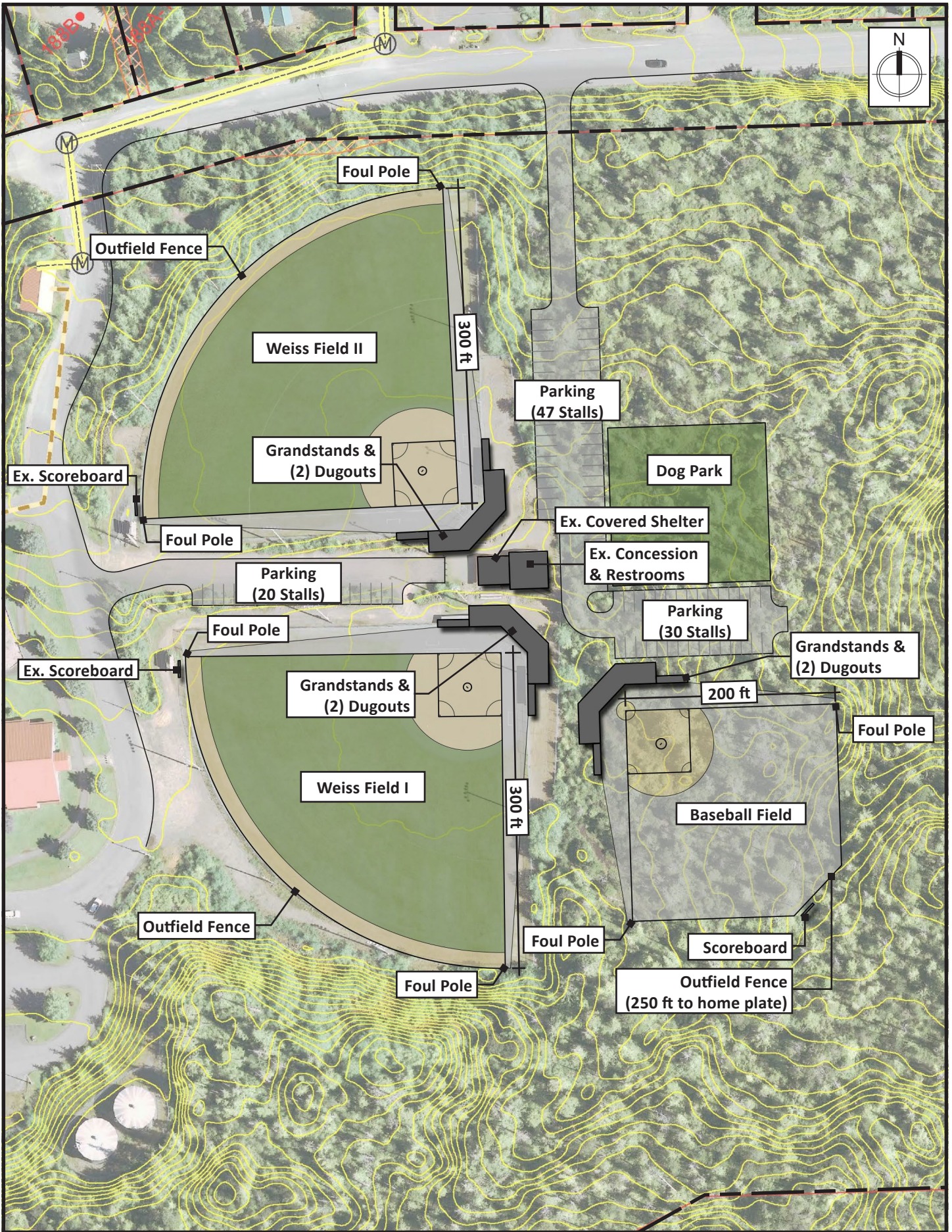
ESTHER SHEA TRACK & FIELD

CONCEPT

Improvements to Esther Shea Track and Field, within the priorities of the KGB, include installing a permanent sound system and improving the lower parking area. The community is generally happy with the facilities at Esther Shea Track and Field, other than some minor maintenance issues.

It is felt that parking needs to be improved and expanded at the existing gravel parking area below the field. The KGB wishes to expand this area and develop a paved parking lot. The parking lot can be implemented in phases to meet demand. The initial phase can expand parking to accommodate 45 vehicles with future phases to accommodate an additional 38 vehicles. Paving and striping will help designate parking stalls and increase capacity.

The KGBSD would like to combine the field events and relocate them away from the sports field to alleviate safety concerns. Currently, these field events are played on the artificial turf field and in other locations on-site, separate from the other field games. It has been heard through public outreach that there is conflict between uses and that there is no unified area for field events. Field events include shot put, long jump, and discus. The community expressed interest in relocating the field events to the gravel fill area where the kickball field is located south of the Fawn Mountain Elementary School. Surfacing will be a sand base allowing lines to be painted and a formal long jump pit. Temporary seating can be provided when events are being hosted. High jump will continue to be hosted in the gymnasium. Field events are primarily a KGBSD issue and any changes will need to be coordinated between the KGBSD and the KGB.



WEISS FIELD

CONCEPT

Weiss Field is the lowest priority for improvements, as its primary user base is adult league softball. The KGB and public both felt the focus should be on youth facilities. The desire is not to expand the existing softball fields, but to keep and improve the natural grass fields. If use increases, artificial turf may be a better long-term solution. Improvements that have been identified for Weiss Field are alleviating issues with dog users using the fields, improving ADA accessibility, developing a dedicated parking area, and providing covered seating.

One main issue that has been brought up through public facilitation is the use of sports fields as dog parks. Dog use within the sporting facilities is primarily a management issue. Developing a dog park at Weiss Field may alleviate issues with residents of the area using the softball fields as dog parks and maintain the fields as sports-use only.

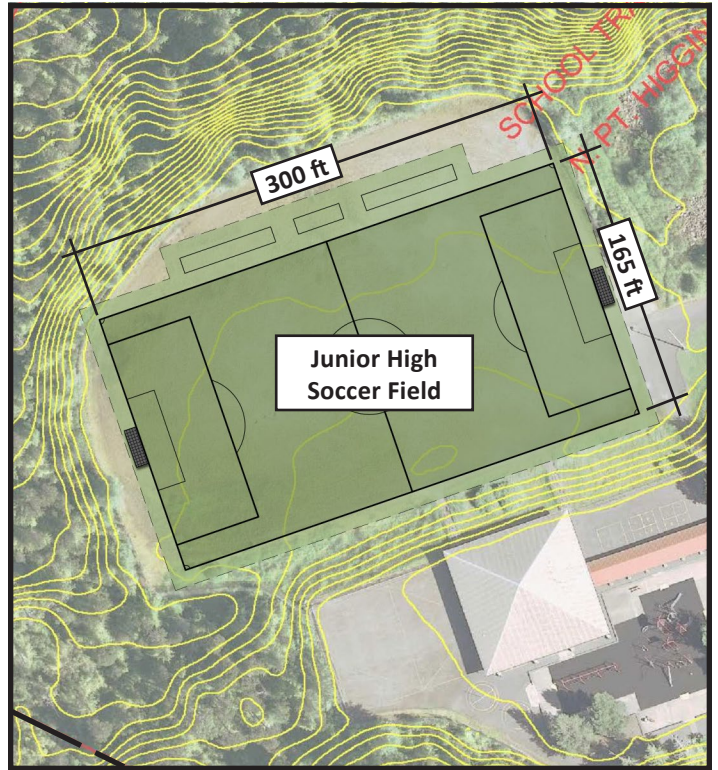
ADA accessibility upgrades are a priority for Weiss Field. Currently, the seating and restrooms do not adhere to standards and need to be improved. The fields are relatively flat, and accessibility improvements should not prove to be a challenge. Covered seating will be installed at both fields to conform with upgraded accessibility.

An outstanding issue at Weiss Field is the current parking area along the access road. In the short term, the access road can be widened to 24 ft with an additional 20 ft that will accommodate 90-degree parking for 20 vehicles. In the long-term, as facilities are expanded at Weiss Field, additional parking can be developed on the east side of the field to accommodate up to 77 vehicles.

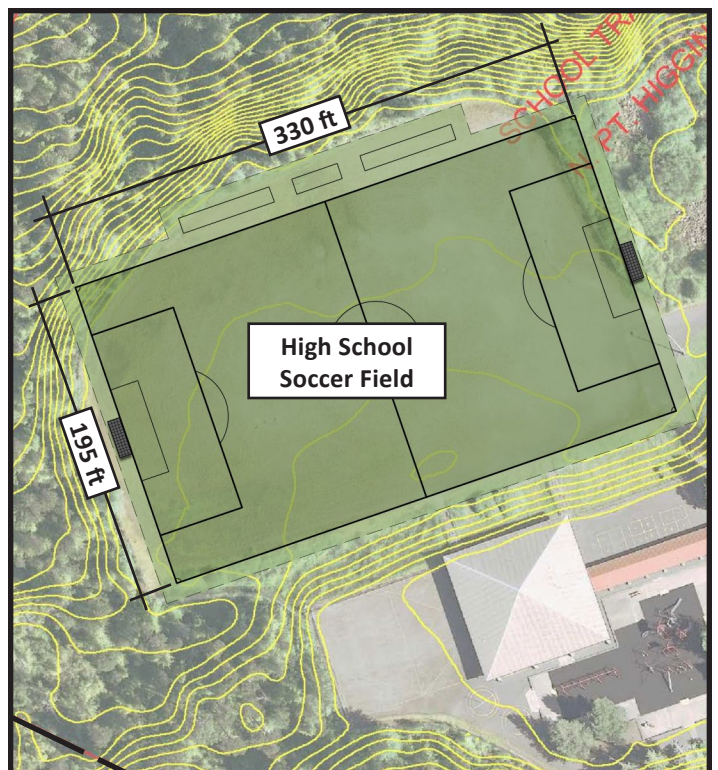
Long-term improvements at Weiss Field, beyond the timeframe of this study, include the addition of a sand-surfaced Little League field and a new soccer field installed at the existing gravel field northwest of Point Higgins Elementary School. The area has adequate space for a Junior High Soccer Field and could accommodate a High School sized soccer field. The field will be installed as sand-based; however, it could be expanded to artificial turf and also be used by the Point Higgins Elementary School.

Weiss Field provides ample opportunities to mitigate congestion issues with fields closer to Ketchikan. Looking to the future, a multi-field sports complex can be established here. There are opportunities to expand seating areas, parking, the concession and restroom buildings, and provide additional facilities if necessary.

SOCCER FIELD - CONCEPT 1



SOCCER FIELD - CONCEPT 2



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

LOCAL FUNDING OPTIONS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

A capital improvement program (CIP), or capital investment plan, is a plan for capital expenditures of a government to be incurred each year over a fixed period of future years. While policy guidelines vary, capital projects are generally expenditures for infrastructure, buildings and facilities, equipment, and land that are generally expensive (over a certain dollar amount), non-recurring, and have a useful life expectancy of more than one year. Large projects like park acquisition, trail construction, and other recreation projects that require borrowing of funds can often be included in a town's CIP. Local government capital funds may be used as a match to apply for federal or state grants.

RECREATION SALES TAX

The KGB collects a ½ cent sales tax for Recreation Capital Projects Fund. For Fiscal Year (FY) 19, total revenue from this tax is estimated to generate approximately \$1.8 million, a reported 5.8% increase over the FY18 budget. Planned FY19 spending on major capital projects from this funding source includes \$500,000 for a new public works maintenance building and \$225,000 for new filters at the Gateway Aquatic Center. The FY19 ending fund balance for the Recreation CIP Fund is \$2.2 million, with \$1 million reserved for major maintenance at the Gateway Recreation and Aquatic Center. Thus, the remaining available balance is \$1.2 million.

BONDS

Local governments can finance large capital recreation projects by seeking approval from citizens to approve debt financing through a bond referendum or vote. Bonds are most useful for long-term debt for large capital projects. Recreation projects that benefit the community in Ketchikan have been funded before. In 1994 Ketchikan voters approved a \$7.5 million General Obligation Bond for constructing and equipping an indoor recreation center. In 2009, voters approved another general obligation bond not to exceed \$23.5 million for constructing and equipping a new aquatic center. The bond for the aquatic center was passed with the understanding it would be paid for by the local recreation sales tax.

GRANT FUNDING OPTIONS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Administration

Department of Urban Housing and Development (HUD). Alaska Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development Division of Community and Regional Affairs.

Funding type and range

Single-purpose project grants up to \$850,000

Eligibility

For public facilities and planning activities. Non-profits may apply as co-applicants.

Timing

In a typical year, applications are distributed to municipalities in late fall, and awards are made the following spring.

The CDBG is “a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs.” The amount for CDBG funding for a particular area is determined by HUD using a number of factors, including population growth and poverty level. Federal regulations require at least 51 percent of the population that benefits from funded projects or activities be low and moderate income.

Within Alaska, the CDBG provides funding annually to all Alaska communities, aside from Anchorage, for community development, which includes public facilities, and planning to address “issues detrimental to the health and safety of local residents and to reduce the costs of essential community services.” Additionally, the funding may be used to fund Special Economic Development activities. Such activities must result in job creation for low and moderate income people.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT PROGRAM

Administration

Department of Interior, National Park Service (NPS)

Funding type and range

Grants that require a 50% match. Grant amounts may vary by grant cycle. In 2018 the minimum grant award was \$25,000 (project at least \$50,000), and the maximum was \$250,000 (project at least \$500,000).

Eligibility

State, regional, or local governments with the legal authority to provide park and recreation services on public lands.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a 50-50 matching and reimbursable program. Eligible project types are identified and prioritized in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Over 300 LWCF grants have been awarded in Alaska, including projects for developing or improving local parks, playgrounds, and sports fields. Both Dudley Field and Esther Shea Field are projects that have received LWCF grants and are lands dedicated for perpetuity to outdoor recreation use per the requirements of the Fund.

A community can generate the match through a number of ways, including cash or documented in-kind labor, goods and services, volunteer time, or donations.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE GRANT AND FUNDING OPTIONS

The following funding opportunities for community organizations, non-profits, and other non-governmental entities could be accessed through partnerships between the Borough and other interested parties.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GRANT PROGRAM

The Baseball Tomorrow Fund is a grant through the Major League Baseball (MLB) and the Major League Baseball Players Associations. MLB Grants are only available for single-use dedicated fields and cannot be used for fields that serve multiple uses. The program aims to expand access for youth participation in baseball and softball. Major League Youth and community organizations, as well as schools, are eligible for funding. Eligible projects include field construction, maintenance, and renovations. Average grant awards total \$40,000, though there is no set maximum award.

U.S. SOCCER FOUNDATION GRANTS

The U.S. Soccer Foundation awards Safe Places to Play field grants to schools, colleges, non-profit organizations, and local governments for soccer field development and renovations. Funds are awarded for up to \$15,000 for irrigation, \$30,000 for sports court maintenance, and \$50,000 for lighting. Additionally, Astroturf grants are available for up to 15% of the project cost for the installation of a synthetic field. This is a matching program; at the time of application, 50% of project funding must be secured.

USA FOOTBALL GRANTS

USA Football partners with FieldTurf and Musco Lighting to provide grants for \$50,000 for field turf and \$20,000 for lighting. Eligible applicants include municipalities, school districts, and tax-exempt youth leagues. However, most grants are awarded in areas with NFL football leagues.

LOCAL FUNDING SOURCES

Local businesses and community service organizations have long supported recreation in Ketchikan. Recent local funding includes the Rotary Club, who provided partial funding for the media booth at Esther Shea Track and Field. Wells Fargo also assisted by funding the scoreboard at Esther Shea Track and Field. Local community service groups, businesses, and users groups have also previously helped by providing sweat equity, equipment, and material donations for the installation of new facilities. As the fields get upgraded, outreach to local businesses and groups can assist in the funding and construction of new facilities, typically in return for promotional opportunities.

APPENDICES

Field Usage from 2017-2019

- Drencey Dudley Field
- Norman Walker Field
- Weiss Field
- Esther Shea Track & Field
- Houghtaling Field
- Valley Park Field

Months of Activity by Association

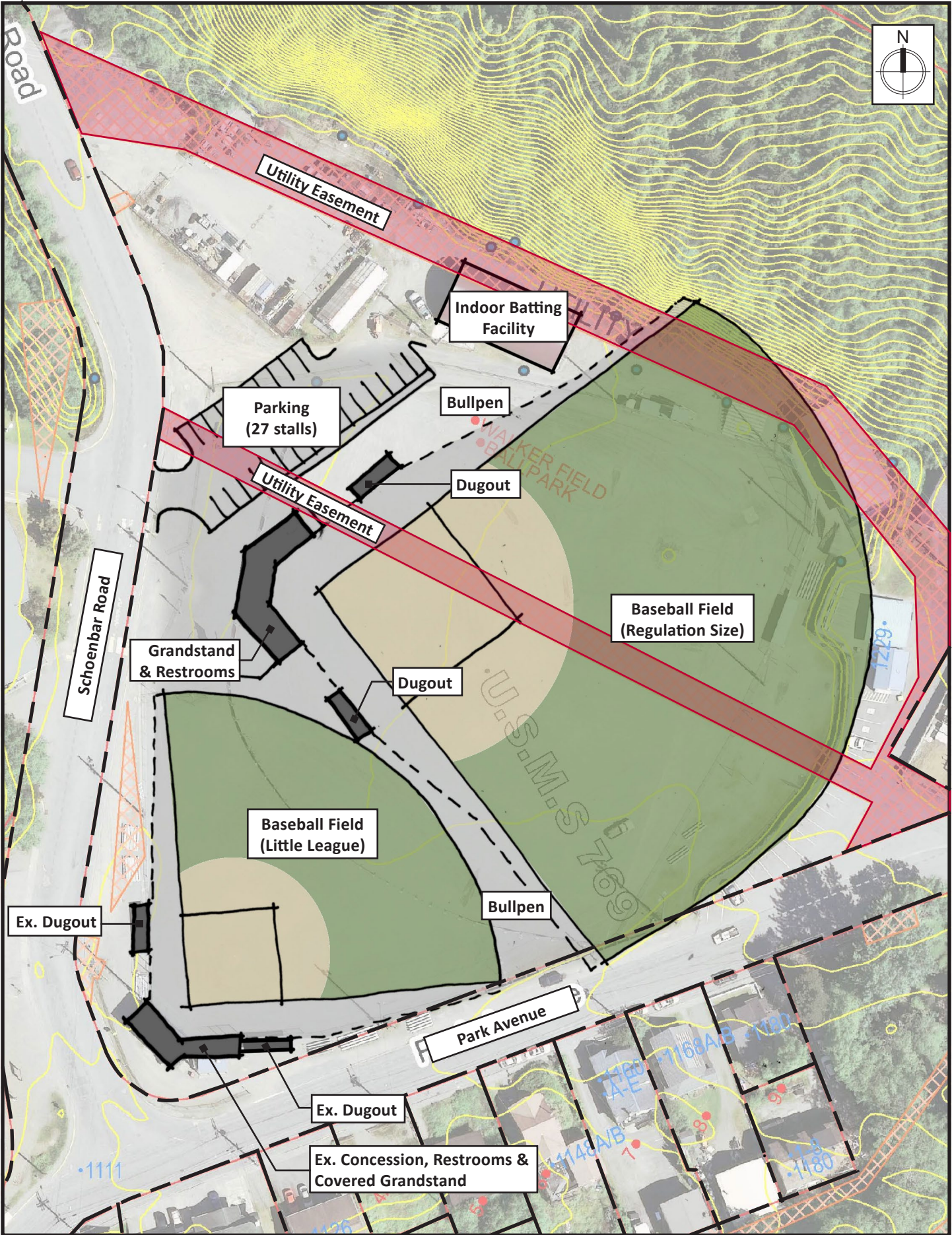
Days of Activity by Association

Preferred Field Times by Association

Dimond Park Field House Drawings

Public Meeting #1 — Sign-in Sheets

Public Meeting #2 — Sign-in Sheets



NORMAN WALKER FIELD - ALTERNATIVE CONCEPT

This concept follows what has been heard as a preference by the Assembly from previous discussions that relate with improvements to Norman Walker Field. However, through the public outreach process, it has been determined that the public prefers to dedicate Norman Walker Field to a single-use baseball field that accommodates American Legion and High School Baseball (refer to page 35-36). This concept has been retained based on direction from the KGB. A detailed description of proposed improvements is outlined below.

The field alignment follows the original reconfigured Norman Walker Field design provided by R&M Engineering. The baseball field is sized to accommodate American Legion and High School Baseball and is rotated to face the east with an outfield fence to 300 feet from home plate. This alignment requires that the original grandstands, concession, and restrooms be removed. The existing Little League field, along with the existing grandstands, concession, and restrooms at the lower field, will remain as is. The parking is reconfigured relative to the site plan provided by R&M Engineering. Overall there is space for (27) vehicles in the parking area and there is no need for vehicles to back onto Schoenbar Road when leaving.

This field alignment extends beyond the property line into Park Avenue and will require extensive grading and retaining to the north of the baseball field. The existing utility easements will need to be addressed if expansion occurs. A water easement runs through the center of the field and contains an aging ductile iron main that has failed in other locations in the past. It is suggested that the field remain as sand-surfacing until this water main is replaced, upon which an artificial turf surfacing can be installed. The other easement is for overhead electrical transmission lines that run from the Ketchikan Power Plant and Substation to the rest of the community.

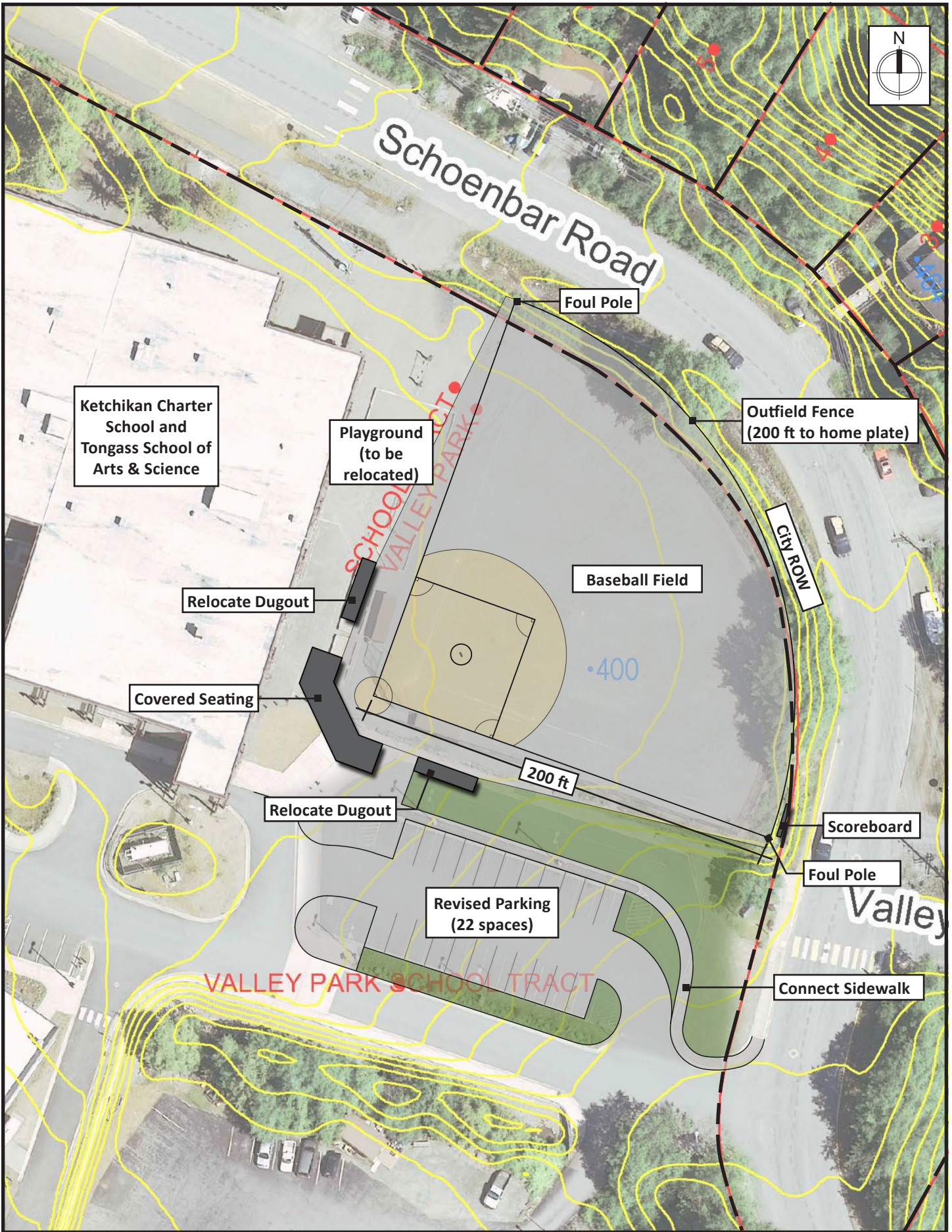
The grandstands will be relocated to the west side of the baseball field and the concessions will be fully removed, leaving one concession stand for the site. Restrooms will be installed below the grandstands as with the existing grandstands at the small field. There is still some concern about baseballs entering the power substation; however, installing foul ball netting will reduce issues with baseballs entering the roadway.

The scoreboards will be relocated to work with each field as needed. Lighting will need to be relocated and, based on public feedback, upgraded. The fields will be replaced with artificial turf in the outfield.

The existing Little League field will stay as is, with the exception of artificial turf, and will retain the existing grandstand, media booth, concession, and restrooms.

While this concept provides the space for two baseball fields, there are significant costs for the demolition and construction of new facilities and earthworks. Safety issues have not been resolved in this concept and parking will be limited.

It is anticipated that another Little League field will be developed at an alternate location. Locations that are feasible to contain a Little League field are Valley Park Field (see Valley Park Field Concept), Weiss Field (see Weiss Field Concept), and Drenco Dudley Field (see Drenco Dudley Field Concept). Facilities at Valley Park Field will not have a concession, grandstand, or year-round restroom facilities. Facilities at Weiss Field currently have a concession, bleachers, and restrooms; however, with expansion opportunities, it may be feasible to upgrade facilities at Weiss Field to offer grandstand seating, a larger concession and restrooms, and a locker room.



VALLEY PARK FIELD - ALTERNATIVE CONCEPT

Expanding Valley Park Field to accommodate Little League baseball conflicts with the existing City right-of-way. This concept proposes a major relocation of the field south into the existing drop-off route and west towards the school. In order to accommodate the field relocation, the parking area will need to be reconfigured. This concept does provide space for covered seating and does not disturb Schoenbar Road and the existing drainage ditch. A full summary of improvements are expanded upon below.

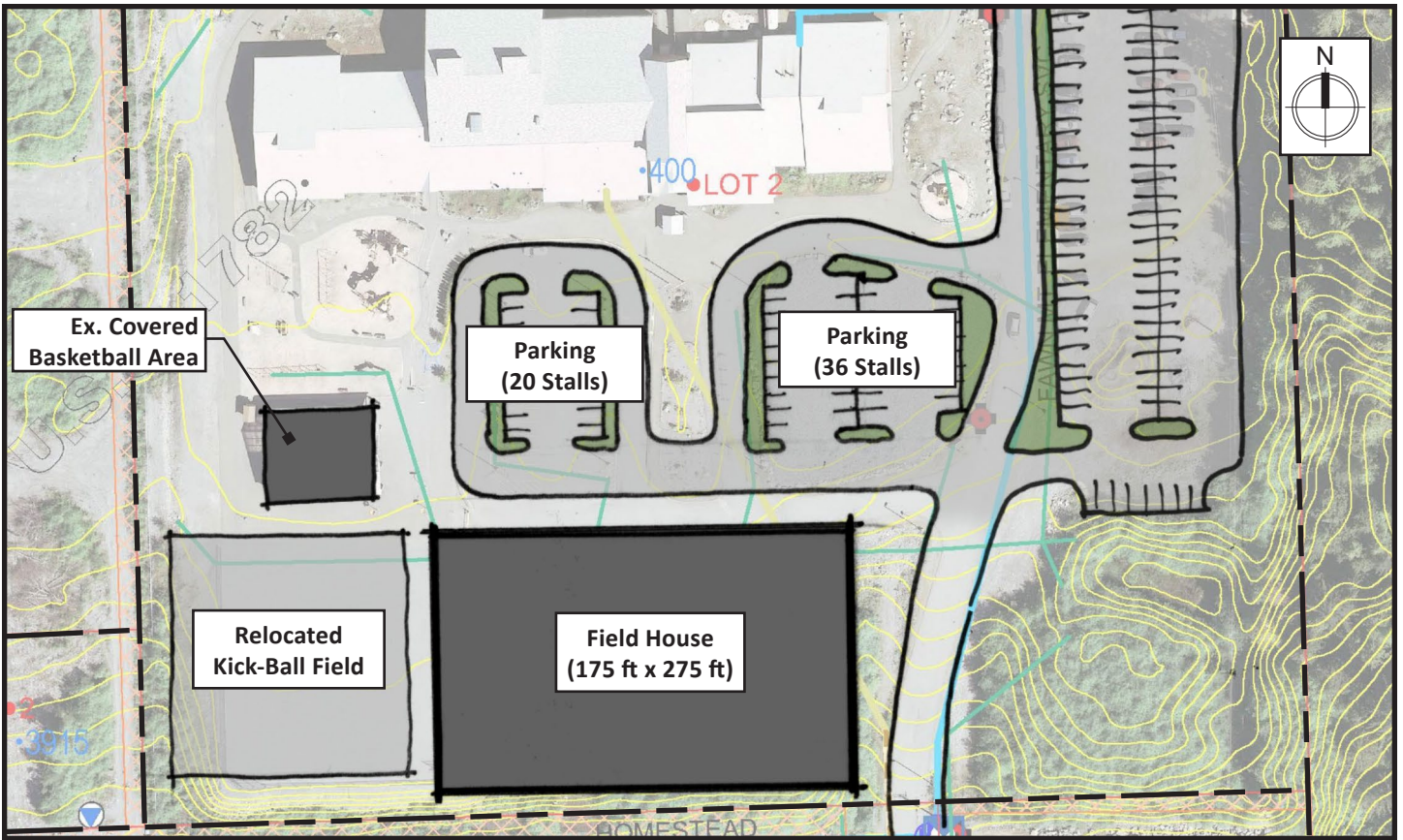
Valley Park Field will remain dedicated for Little League Baseball and for day-use by the Ketchikan Charter School and Tongass School of Arts & Science. The public would like to see the field be expanded to accommodate Little League games, which requires an outfield fence to 200 feet from home plate, and to remain as sand-surfacing. The field will be shifted to the south and to the west to accommodate the expanded field. It is required that a 15-ft access route be maintained between the field and the Ketchikan Charter School and Tongass School of Arts & Science.

Relocating Valley Park Field south will require reconfiguration of the parking lot and removal of the drop-off lane. Removing the drop-off lane was identified by the KGB as not being an in issue. The new parking lot will accommodate 22 vehicles. Expanding the field to the north will slightly push the field into the existing City right-of-way and coordination with the City will be required. Schoenbar Road or the existing drainage swale will not be impacted; however, a small wall may be needed along the north portion of the outfield.

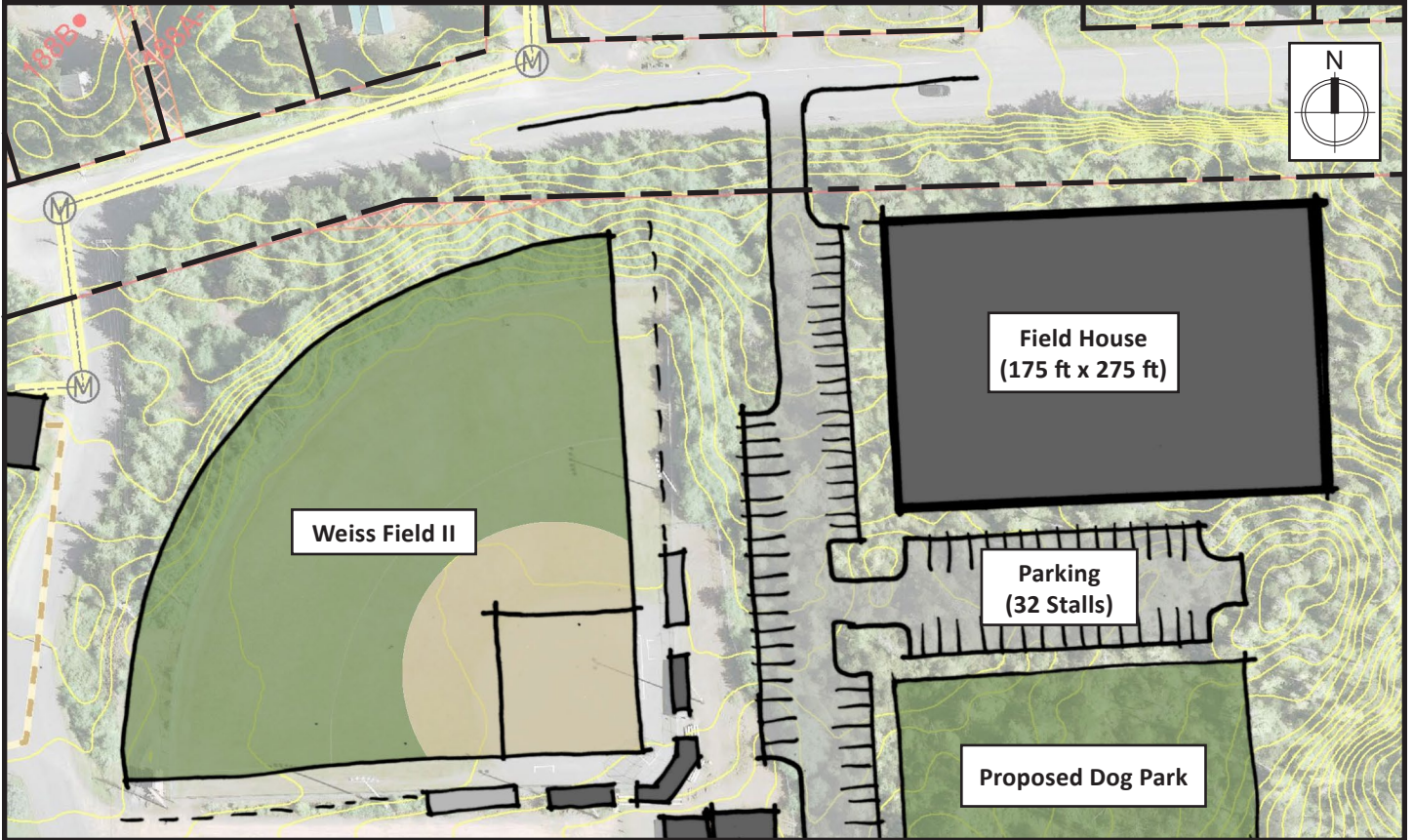
Moving the field and reconfiguring the parking area will provide room for a covered seating area to be developed behind home plate that will accommodate a higher quantity of people and offer shelter for spectators during games.

The existing dugouts will need to be relocated with the new field location and it is the desire of the public that a scoreboard be installed at the field. It is not anticipated that lighting will be needed during field use. Currently, a seasonal restroom is provided during the baseball season and at this time it is not a priority to provide a permanent restroom. The portable restroom will need to be located along an accessible route or an accessible route needs to be supplied to the existing location along the north elevation of the school. Concessions will not be provided at this field.

The existing playground that is located west of the existing field will need to be removed or relocated. Currently, the playground is creating maintenance issues for the field and is scheduled for replacement in the near future. Coordination with the KGBSD will be performed during the planning of any field improvements.



CONCEPT 1 - ESTHER SHEA TRACK & FIELD



CONCEPT 2 - WEISS FIELD

FIELD HOUSE - ALTERNATIVE CONCEPT

Results from the community survey strongly supported the construction of a field house; however, the KGB provided direction to move forward with other improvements prioritized by the public. The concepts for a field house have been retained as potential development options past the timeline of this study. It is important to note that this report does not examine costs to operate a field house. These costs include administrative and operations staffing, annual utility costs, and maintenance requirements, to name a few.

The proposed field house is based off of the Juneau Dimond Park field house with an overall dimension of 175 ft x 275 ft. It will contain a 90-ft x 180-ft artificial turf field that can be used for soccer and indoor baseball, as well as individual batting cages. If desired, a running track can be included on the mezzanine floor. The facility will also include restrooms and administrative space. Plans for the Juneau Dimond Park field house can be found on pages 57-58 in the appendix.

Alternative field house locations were considered adjacent existing field facilities at Weiss Field and Esther Shea Track and Field, but other Borough-owned land may be suitable for its use as well. The project team reviewed both Weiss Field and Esther Shea Track and Field for suitability, as well as the existing Ketchikan Dog Park and a summary of each location is provided below.

CONCEPT 1 - ESTHER SHEA TRACK & FIELD

The first concept for a field house location is at Esther Shea Track and Field. The field house is proposed to be located south of Fawn Mountain Elementary School near the location of the existing kick-ball field. In order for this location to be feasible, the kick-ball field will need to be relocated a short distance to the east. An additional 56 parking spaces will accommodate increased use at the site. This site is developed and level, which will ultimately reduce construction costs.

CONCEPT 2 - WEISS FIELD

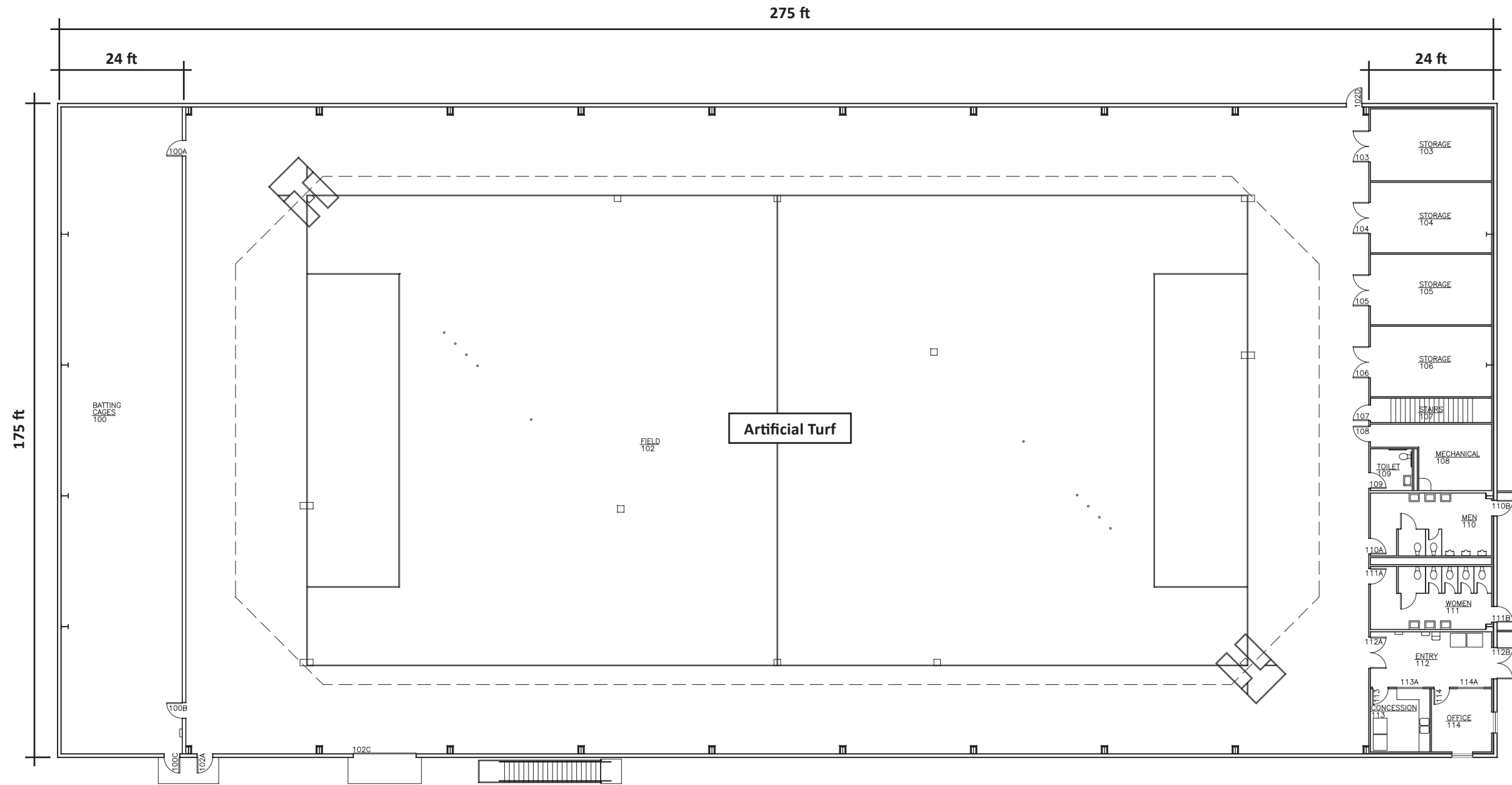
A second location for consideration is at Weiss Field, with an opportunity to develop this area into a multi-sport complex. A field house can be built here with the addition of a Little League field and provide opportunity for multiple sports to take place at one time with little conflict. An additional parking lot can be provided to the south of the field house and provide an extra 32 spaces. Construction costs are expected to be higher due to the existing organic soils and need to develop a stable building pad.

CONCEPT 3 - ALTERNATIVE LOCATION

An alternative location the team analyzed, separate of the existing field locations, was at the Ketchikan Dog Park off of Revilla Road. There is ample room to provide parking, expand facilities, and to upgrade the dog park. At this time, the location is not suitable for a field house as there are no utility poles for electricity or telecommunications. If nearby development were to occur on Borough lands, this location may become feasible; however, is not realistic for the foreseeable future.

DIMOND PARK FIELD HOUSE DRAWINGS

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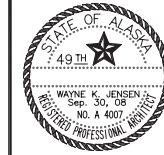
1 FIELD HOUSE PLAN

SCALE: 0' 5' 10' 20'



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Dimond Park Indoor Sports Association
**DIMOND PARK
FIELD HOUSE**
Juneau, Alaska

REVISIONS

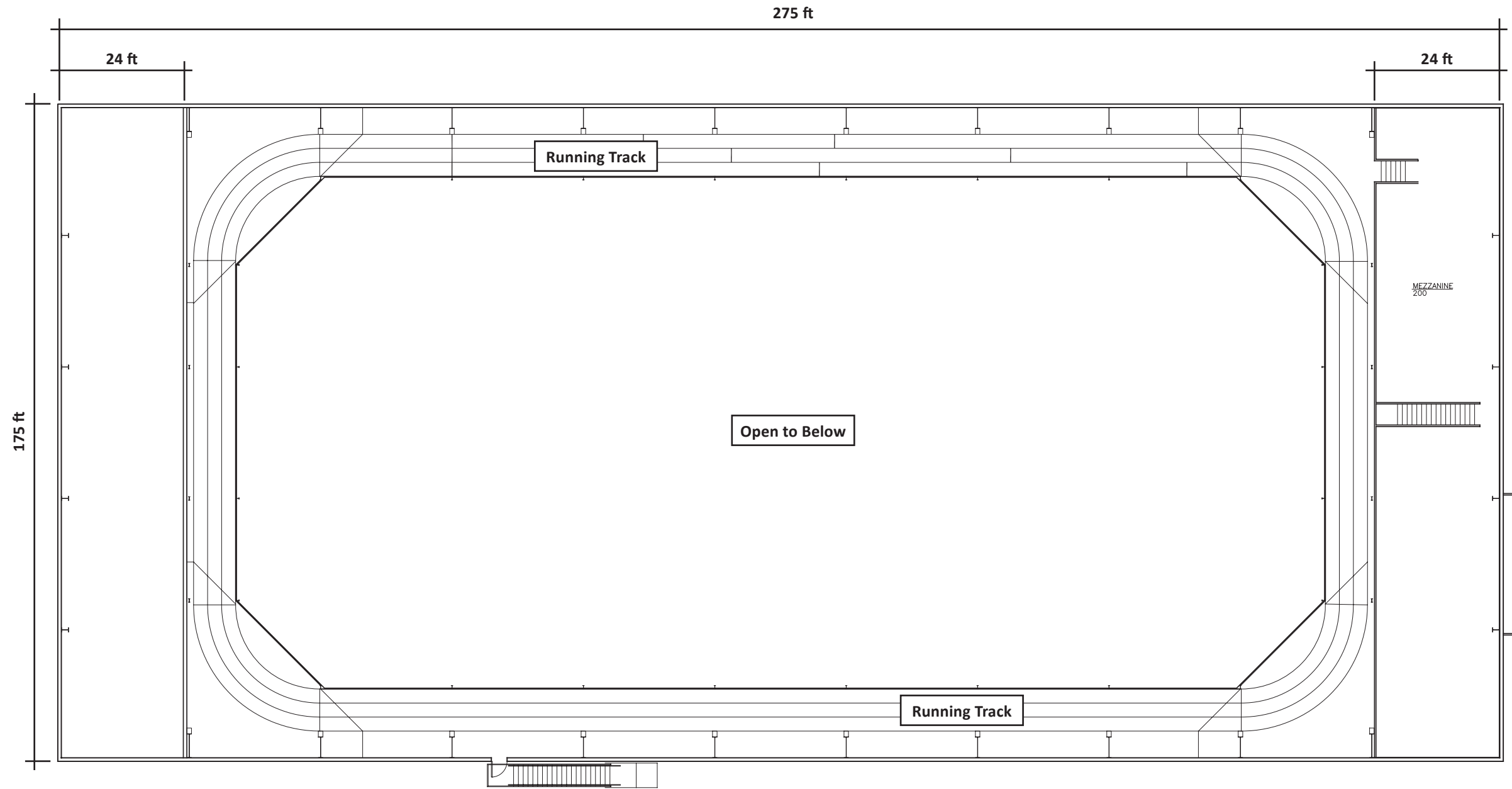
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SHEET TITLE
FIELD HOUSE PLAN

DATE: JUNE 1, 2007
FILE: 061

A201

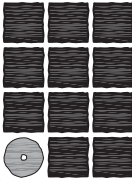
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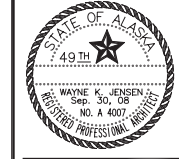


1 FIELD HOUSE MEZZANINE PLAN

SCALE: 0' 5' 10' 20'




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Dimond Park Indoor Sports Association
**DIMOND PARK
 FIELD HOUSE**
 Juneau, Alaska

REVISIONS
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SHEET TITLE
 FIELD HOUSE
 MEZZANINE PLAN

DATE: JUNE 1, 2007
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A202

FIELD USAGE FROM 2017-2019

Drency Dudley Field - 2017 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Highschool Softball Skills Clinic											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Minors Majors Senior Clinics											
Ketchikan Softball Club											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League All Ages Soccer Camp											

Drency Dudley Field - 2018 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Highschool Softball Tournament											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Minors Majors Senior Coach Pitch											
Ketchikan Softball Club											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League All Ages Soccer Camp											

Drency Dudley Field - 2019 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Highschool Softball Skills Clinic											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Minors Majors Senior Clinics											
Ketchikan Softball Club											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League All Ages Soccer Camp											

Norman Walker Field - 2017 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Highschool Baseball Tournaments											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Majors Majors - State Majors - District 2 Senior Clinics Little League All-Star Tourn.											
American Legion Baseball											
Ketchikan Softball Club											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League All Ages Tournament											
Ketchikan Youth Football League All Ages Camp											
Shoenbar Field Day											

Norman Walker Field - 2018 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Highschool Baseball Tournaments											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Majors - Tournament Senior Clinics Little League All-Star Tourn.											
American Legion Baseball											
Ketchikan Softball Club											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League All Ages Tournament											
Ketchikan Youth Football League All Ages Camp											
Shoenbar Field Day											

Norman Walker Field - 2019 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Highschool Baseball Tournaments											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Majors Senior Clinics Little League All-Star Tourn.											
American Legion Baseball								Schedule is more extensive than they necessarily input in our scheduling software.			
Ketchikan Softball Club							Rejected by Borough in favor of setup at Dudley Field. Tournament cancelled 2019.				
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League All Ages Tournament											
Ketchikan Youth Football League All Ages											
Shoenbar Field Day											
First City Storm							Prospective team. Assume field usage will be same period as Ketchikan Softball Club.				

Weiss Field - 2017 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Softball Association											

Weiss Field - 2018 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Softball Association											

Weiss Field - 2019 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Softball Association											

Esther Shea Fawn Mountain Field - 2017 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Highschool Soccer											
Boys Soccer											
Girls Soccer											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League											
All Ages											
Tournament											
Soccer Camp											
Rainbird Soccer Tournament											
Evison Soccer Camp											
Tongass Timbers Soccer											
Homeschool Soccer											
Cruise Line Soccer											
Ketchikan Highschool Football											
Ketchikan Youth Football											
All Ages											
Camp											
Co-Ed Flag Football											
Drop-in Football											
Ketchikan Highschool Track & Field											
School Activity Day											
USCG Fit Tests											
Ketchikan Little League Softball											
Majors											

Esther Shea Fawn Mountain Field - 2018 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Highschool Soccer Boys Soccer Girls Soccer											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League All Ages Tournaments Soccer Camp											
Rainbird Soccer Tournament											
Evison Soccer Camp											
Tongass Timbers Soccer											
Homeschool Soccer											
Cruise Line Soccer											
Parks & Rec Soccer Tournament											
Ketchikan Highschool Football											
Ketchikan Youth Football All Ages Camp											
Co-Ed Flag Football											
Ketchikan Highschool Track & Field											
School Activity Day											
USCG Sports Day											
Kid's Sports Clinic											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Majors											

Esther Shea Fawn Mountain Field - 2019 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Highschool Soccer Boys Soccer Girls Soccer											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League All Ages Soccer Camp											
Rainbird Soccer Tournament											
Evison Soccer Camp											
Tongass Timbers Soccer											
Homeschool Soccer											
Cruise Line Soccer											
Ketchikan Highschool Football											
Ketchikan Youth Football All Ages Camp											
Co-Ed Flag Football											
Ketchikan Highschool Track & Field											
School Activity Day											
USCG Fit Tests											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Majors											

Baseball or softball only use incidentally, to prep for communities with turf fields

Houghtaling Field - 2017 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Houghtaling Elementary Field Day											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Coach Pitch T-Ball											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League Micro Second to Third Four to Five											

Houghtaling Field - 2018 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Houghtaling Elementary Field Day											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Coach Pitch T-Ball											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League Micro Second to Third Four to Five											

Houghtaling Field - 2019 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Houghtaling Elementary Field Day											
Ketchikan Little League Softball Coach Pitch T-Ball											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League Four to Five											

Valley Park Field - 2017 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Little League Softball											
Minors											
Majors State Practice											

Valley Park Field - 2018 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Little League Softball											
Minors											
Ketchikan Softball Club											

Valley Park Field - 2019 Calendar

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ketchikan Little League Softball											
Minors											

MONTHS OF ACTIVITY BY ASSOCIATION

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Baseball/Softball											
Ketchikan Softball Association											
Ketchikan Softball Club											
Ketchikan High School Softball											
Ketchikan Little League											
Ketchikan High School Baseball											
First City Storm											
American Legion Baseball											
Soccer											
Ketchikan High School Girls											
Ketchikan High School Boys											
Parks & Recreation Soccer League											
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League											
Soccer Men's Drop In											
Tongass Timber Soccer Club											
Football											
Ketchikan High School Football											
Ketchikan Youth Football League											
Alaska Try Sports LLC											
Track & Field											

DAYS OF ACTIVITY BY ASSOCIATION

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Baseball/Softball							
Ketchikan Softball Association							
Ketchikan Softball Club							
Ketchikan High School Softball							
Ketchikan Little League							
Ketchikan High School Baseball							
First City Storm							
American Legion Baseball							
Soccer							
Ketchikan High School Girls							
Ketchikan High School Boys							
Parks & Recreation Soccer League							
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League							
Soccer Men's Drop In							
Tongass Timber Soccer Club							
Football							
Ketchikan High School Football							
Ketchikan Youth Football League							
Alaska Try Sports LLC							
Track & Field							

PREFERRED FIELD TIMES BY ASSOCIATION

	Early Morning	Mid Morning	Early Afternoon	Late Afternoon	Early Evening	Late Evening
Baseball/Softball						
Ketchikan Softball Association						
Ketchikan Softball Club						
Ketchikan High School Softball						
Ketchikan Little League						
Ketchikan High School Baseball						
First City Storm						
American Legion Baseball						
Soccer						
Ketchikan High School Girls						
Ketchikan High School Boys						
Parks & Recreation Soccer League						
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League						
Soccer Men's Drop In						
Tongass Timber Soccer Club						
Football						
Ketchikan High School Football						
Ketchikan Youth Football League						
Alaska Try Sports LLC						
Track & Field						

Athletic Fields Use & Development Study



PUBLIC PROCESS

public meeting #1

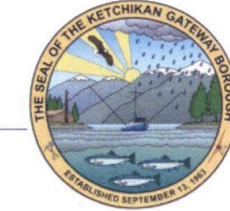
Meeting Date & Time

Sign In Sheet

Name	Organization or Company (if representing an entity)	Email
Joe May	KSA	mayes@kpu.net
Andy Bestson	Ketchikan High School Baseball	andybestson@gmail.com
Amy Briggs	KLL	amylbriggs@gmail.com
Zachery Trudeau	FME	zatrudeau@gmail.com
KATH ADSON	KLL	KLARS9@YAHOO.COM
Seth BRAKKE	PARENT	seth email/brakke@gmail.com
Hans Hubbard	KSA	Hans.Hubbard10@gmail.com
Ryan Harris	Little League Baseball	ryanharris@kpsma1.com
FEGGIE REINHARDT	KETCHIKAN LITTLE LEAGUE	REG REINHARDT@gmail.com
Brian Gilson	Ketchikan Softball Club	gilsonb@icloud.com
nikomi Pahang	*Ketchikan Softball Club*	nikomspahang@icloud.com
Wendell Pahang	Ketchikan High School Softball / KSA Softball Club / LL	
Dave Kiffir	Self	
Bill Bolling	citizen	bill@gatewaycityrealty.com
John Milner	Ketchikan Legion baseball	redmilner@gmail.com
Rhonda Bolling	Little League / softball / citizen	rhonda@kpu.net
Don Wilke	KSA	

Athletic Fields Use & Development Study

PUBLIC PROCESS



Meeting Date & Time

Sign In Sheet

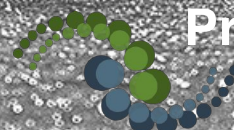
Name	Organization or Company (if representing an entity)	Email
George Tipton	KTN Softball	ghtipton@kpunet.net
Don Walker	KSA	
Tim Vapir Sr	KLL	timvapir@hotmail.com
Andy Bettison	Kayhi Baseball	andybettison@gmail.com
Sean V	KGB	SeanV@KGBAK.US
Ryan Harris	Little League	ryanharris@hotmail.com
Wendy Miller	KGB Parks & Recreation	
REGIS REINHARDT	LITTLE LEAGUE	REGISREINHARDT@GMAIL.COM
Kalea Chapman	KGB Parks & Rec & Kayhi Softball	kaleac@kgbak.us
KEN LEWIS	CAPTAIN KGB	
Brian Olson	Ketchikan Softball Club	g.olson@icloud.com
Touja Fourn	KTN Softball Club	toujaboy@gmail.com
Amly Briggs	KLL	amlyb@kgbak.us

Results from Ketchikan Gateway Borough Athletic Fields Community Survey

November 2019



DRAFT



Prepared by
Rain Coast Data

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Cover photo by the Ketchikan Daily News

Ketchikan Athletic Field Use Survey Community Methodology

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough (KGB) Public Works Department maintains and operates the Borough's outdoor recreation and sports facilities. They provide services that include facilities maintenance, scheduling field time, preparing the fields for gameplay, and performing capital improvements throughout. Currently the KGB offers six separate outdoor fields that support a variety of outdoor sports programs. The fields managed by the KGB include Drenco Dudley Field, Norman Walker Field, Weiss Field, Esther Shea Fawn Mountain Field, Houghtaling Field, and Valley Park Field. Corvus Design, Rain Coast Data, and PDC Engineers were hired to perform a use analysis and to make recommendations for the development of local outdoor facilities. In order to better understand the specific needs and concerns of those Ketchikan residents that use the fields, a public survey was developed to capture public input.

Rain Coast Data designed the survey instrument on behalf of Corvus Design with input from the KGB. The survey questions also drew upon information provided during several community meetings. On October 22nd, 2019 the project team met with a series of athletic directors representing the various user groups of the borough fields, and that evening hosted a public meeting to meet with community members who have a vested interest in Ketchikan athletic fields.

The survey invited Ketchikan residents to respond to 22 questions and 39 sub-questions in order to better understand community athletic field preferences, priorities, scheduling conflicts, obstacles, and benefits. A prize, an annual membership to the Gateway Recreation/Gateway Aquatic Center or a free Pool Rental at the Gateway Aquatic Center, was provided as a survey incentive. The web-based survey was administered electronically from October 25th through November 13th.

A total 246 Ketchikan residents responded to the survey, representing 542 current users of Ketchikan's athletic fields. There are 1,567 current users of the athletic fields. This means 34% of community members using the fields were represented in this process, for a survey confidence level of 95% with a margin of error of 3%.

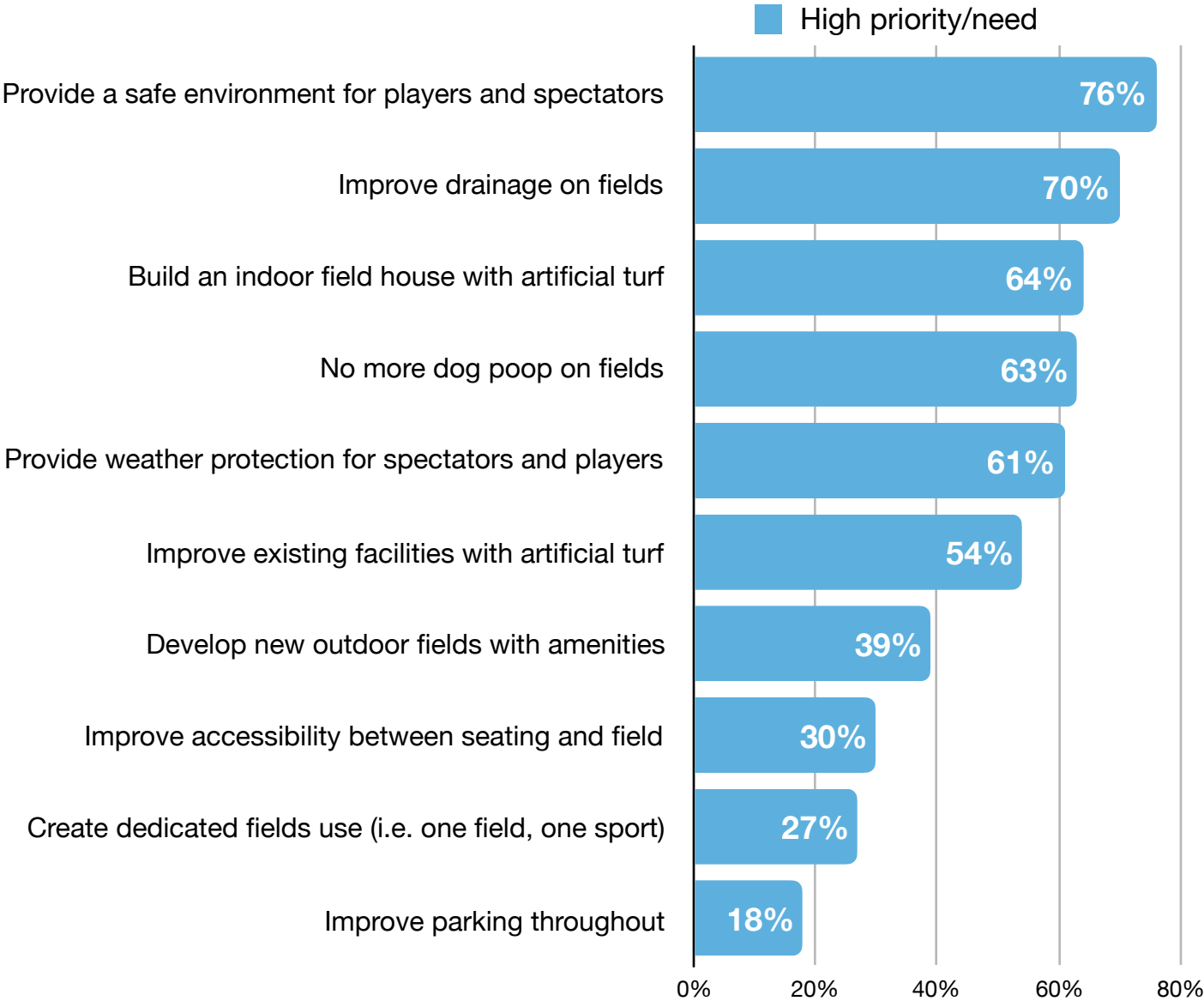
The following pages summarize survey findings.

Ranking Field Improvements

Based on the feedback received during the athletic director and public meetings, a list of potential field improvements were developed and respondents were asked to prioritize these proposed improvements.

Improving safety and **drainage** were ranked at the highest priority areas of focus, followed by **developing a field house**, and the **eradication of dog feces** from the athletic fields.

How would you prioritize the following field related improvements in Ketchikan?



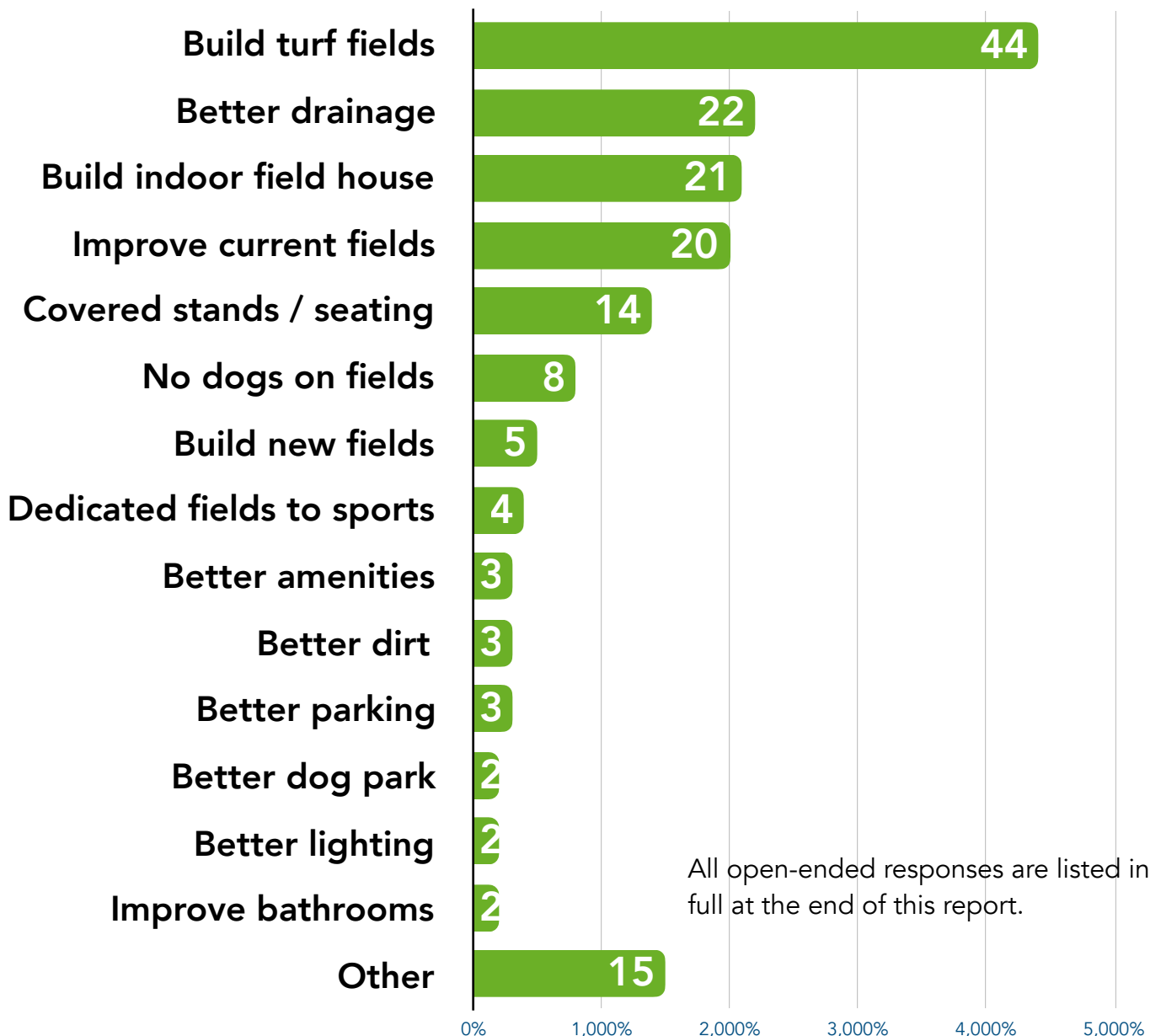
A detailed report of the responses to this question is below:

How would you prioritize the following field related improvements in Ketchikan?					
	High priority/ need	Medium priority/ need	Lower priority/ need	Not a priority at this time	Unsure
Provide a safe environment for players and spectators	76%	17%	5%	2%	0%
Improve drainage on fields	70%	24%	4%	2%	1%
Build an indoor field house with artificial turf that could be used year-round for multi user groups (like Juneau has)	64%	21%	8%	6%	1%
No more dog poop on fields	63%	19%	13%	4%	1%
Provide weather protection for spectators and players	61%	31%	8%	1%	1%
Improve existing facilities with artificial turf	54%	25%	12%	8%	2%
Develop new outdoor fields with amenities	39%	33%	17%	9%	2%
Improve accessibility between seating, amenities, and field	30%	42%	21%	6%	1%
Create dedicated fields use (i.e. one field, one sport)	27%	31%	26%	12%	3%
Improve parking throughout	18%	41%	31%	10%	0%

Top Change to Fields

In an open-ended question, respondents were asked if they could only make one change to the athletic fields in Ketchikan, what would it be? A total of 168 respondents participated in this question. The top answer was to **add turf** to more of Ketchikan's fields, with 44 comments related to this, followed by **better drainage**, and building a **field house**.

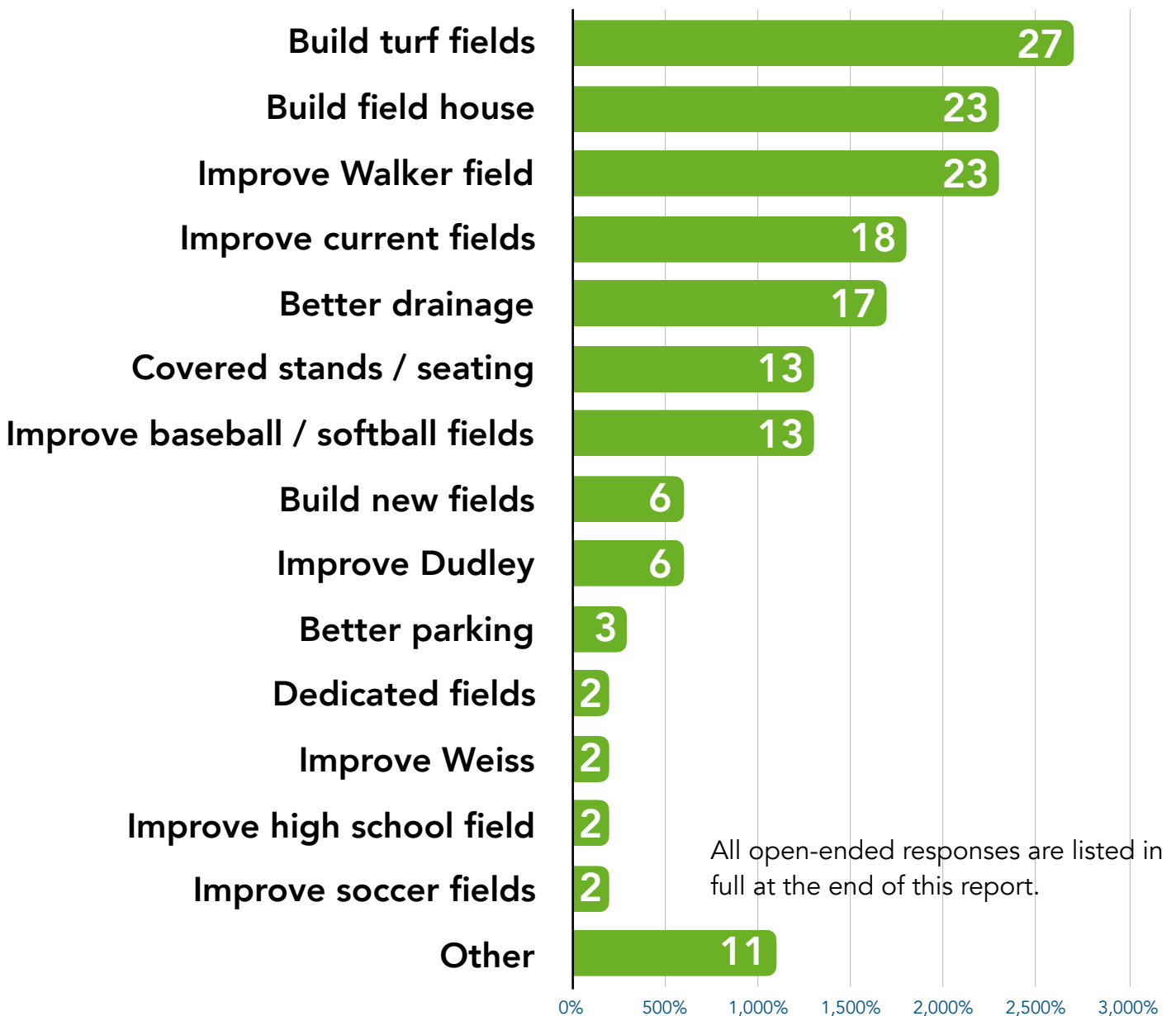
If you had to make only one change to the Borough's sport fields, what would it be?



Capital Budget Field Priority

In a follow up open-ended question, respondents were then asked what the top capital improvement priority related to athletic fields should be in the KGB budget. The top priority remained **adding turf** to existing fields, followed by development of a **field house**, and **improving Walker** field, specifically.

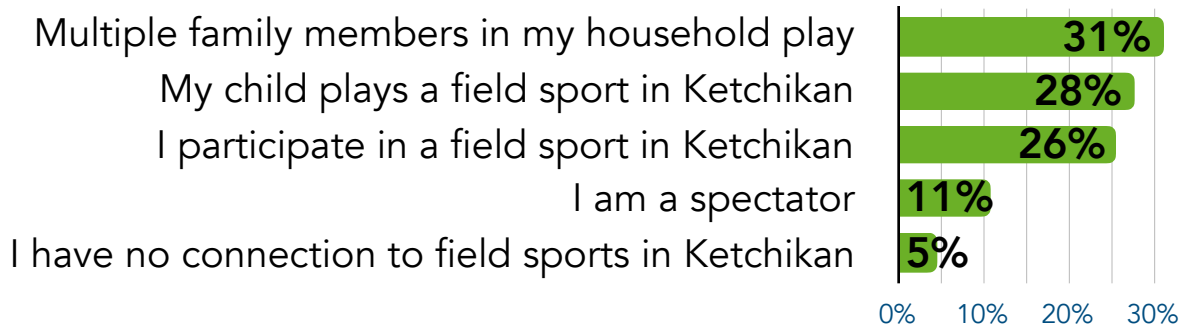
What should be the Borough's #1 Sports Field priority for capital improvement?



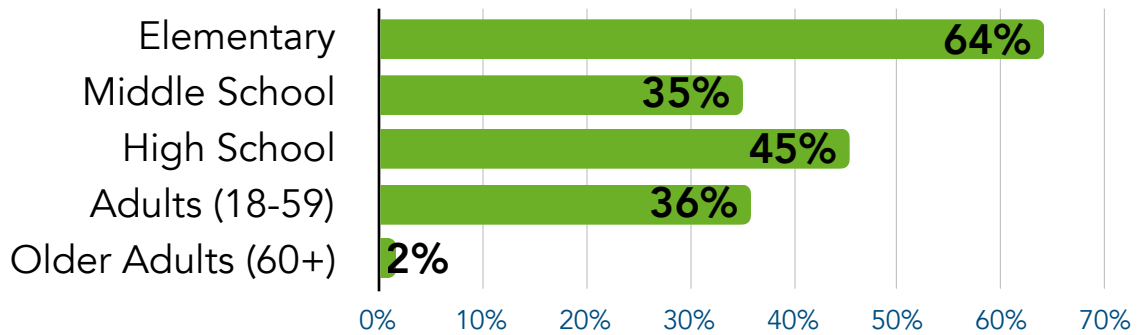
Survey Participants

Nearly a third of respondents said that multiple family members play field sports in Ketchikan. Two-thirds responded that they have an elementary student engaged in field sports.

Which best describes you?

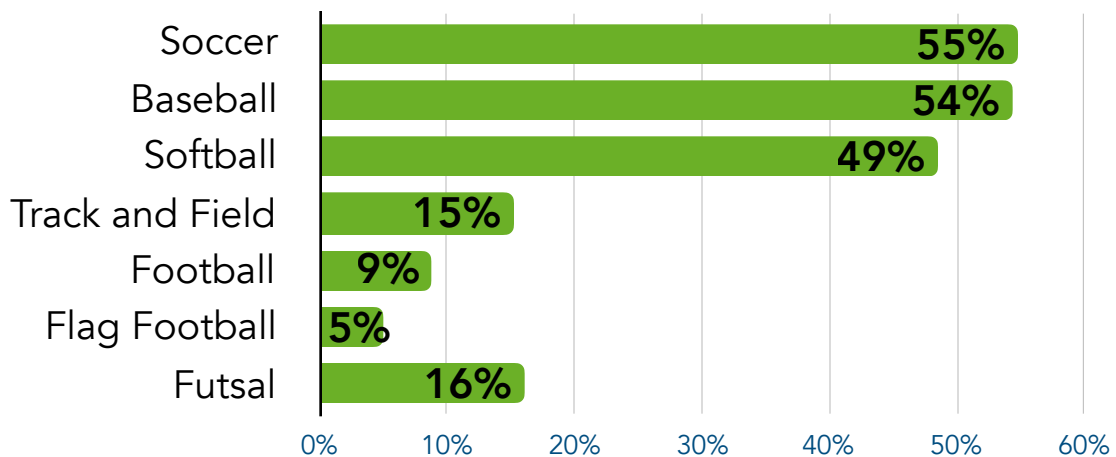


Which age groups in your family play a field sport in Ketchikan (mark all that apply)



Just a third of respondents were representing a single field sport in their survey. Most said that their families participated in multiple fields sports in Ketchikan. Soccer, baseball, and softball were the most common responses. Soccer is the fastest growing field sport in Ketchikan, while football is losing participants.

Which sports do you or your family play? (mark all that apply)



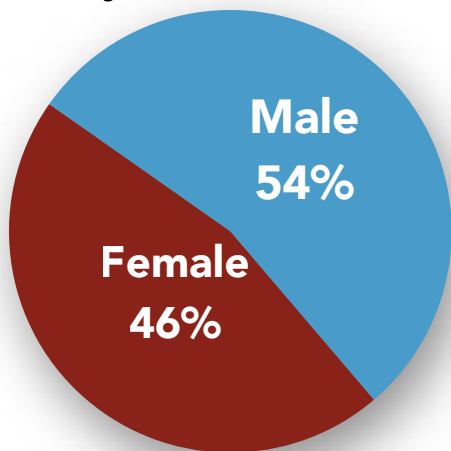
Survey Participants

On average, those responding to the survey have 2.2 household members currently using the borough fields, just over half of which are male. Respondents said their combined field use is 122 days per year per household.

How many members of your family are currently playing a field sport in Ketchikan?

542 current players represented by survey

Of the above response, how many are female?

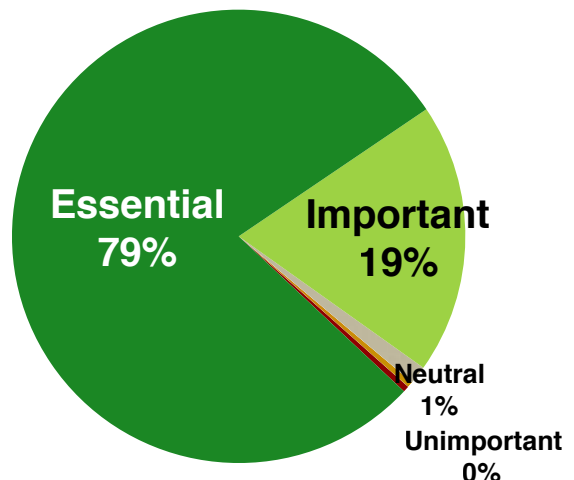


How many days per year do you, or your family members play a Ketchikan field sport?

122 Average per family
22,509 Total days on fields last year by survey respondent households

How valuable are Ketchikan's field sports to you and/or your family?

Ketchikan is passionate about their field sports. 79% say participation in field sports is "essential" defined as a critical element to their quality of life. An additional 19% called Ketchikan field sports important. Less than two percent called field sports "neutral" "not important" or "very unimportant." Football players were the most passionate, with 90% of football respondents calling it "essential".



The **cost** of Ketchikan's field sports

Ketchikan participants in fields sports reported spending more than \$1,000 per person on field sport fees, equipment, and travel, and nearly \$2,300 annually per family. According to a survey of coaches and sports administrators, the average participation fee is \$193.

For those family members involved in a local field sport, how much money per person on average did you spend on this sport in 2018 (includes travel, player fees, equipment, etc.)

\$1,020 Average per person

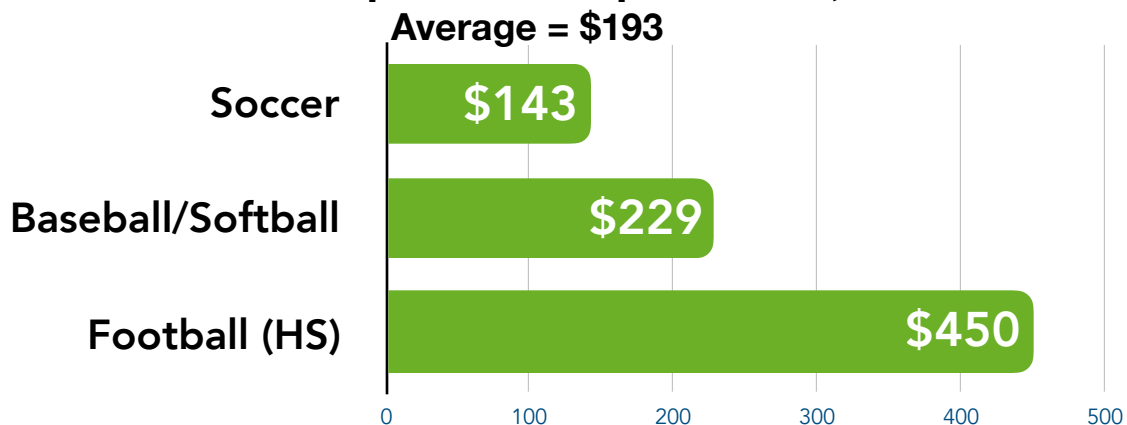
\$2,281 Average per family

\$236,799 Total spending last year
by survey respondents



The average participation fee in 2019 was \$193. Participation in football cost the most.

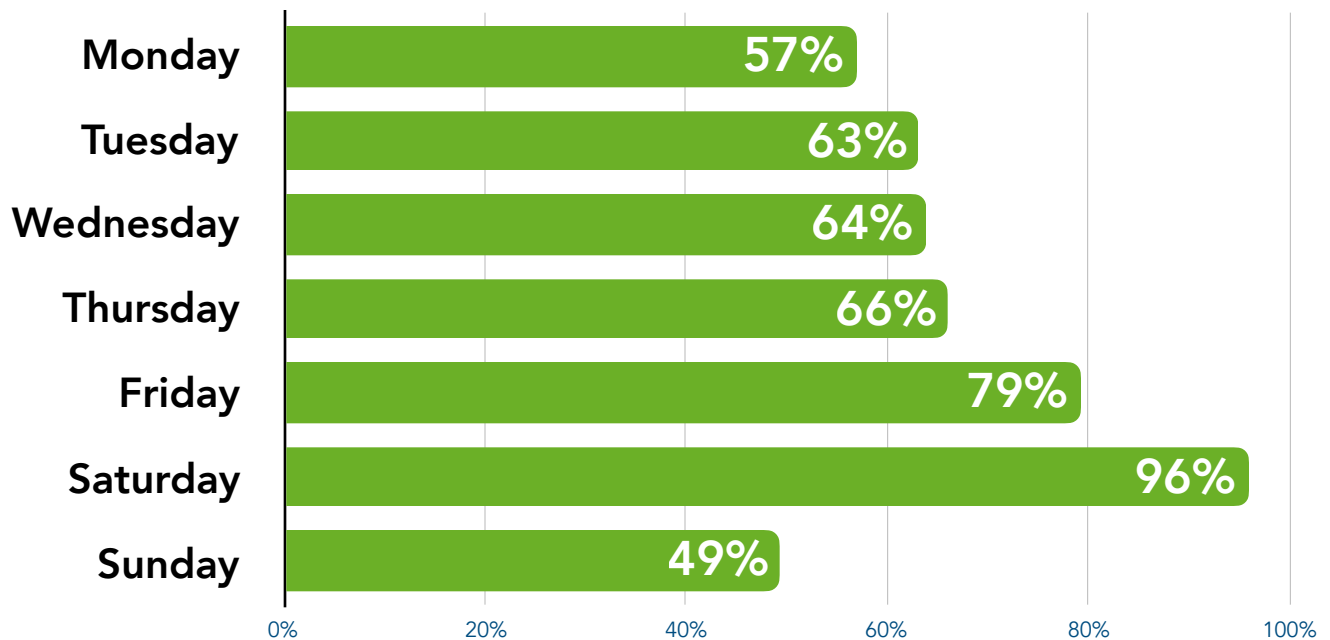
Ketchikan Field Sports Participation Fee, 2019



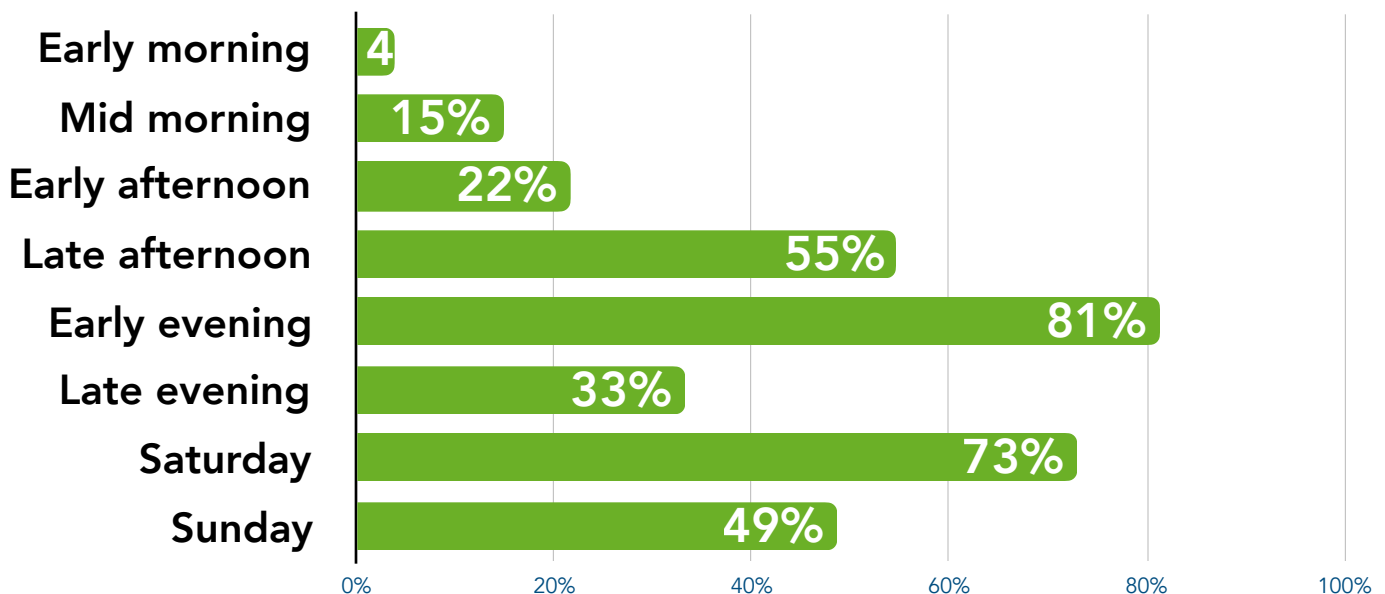
Scheduling Preferences

The most popular preferred field times in Ketchikan include Saturdays, and after work on weekdays, especially Friday.

Which days of the week do you, or your child, prefer to use the field?



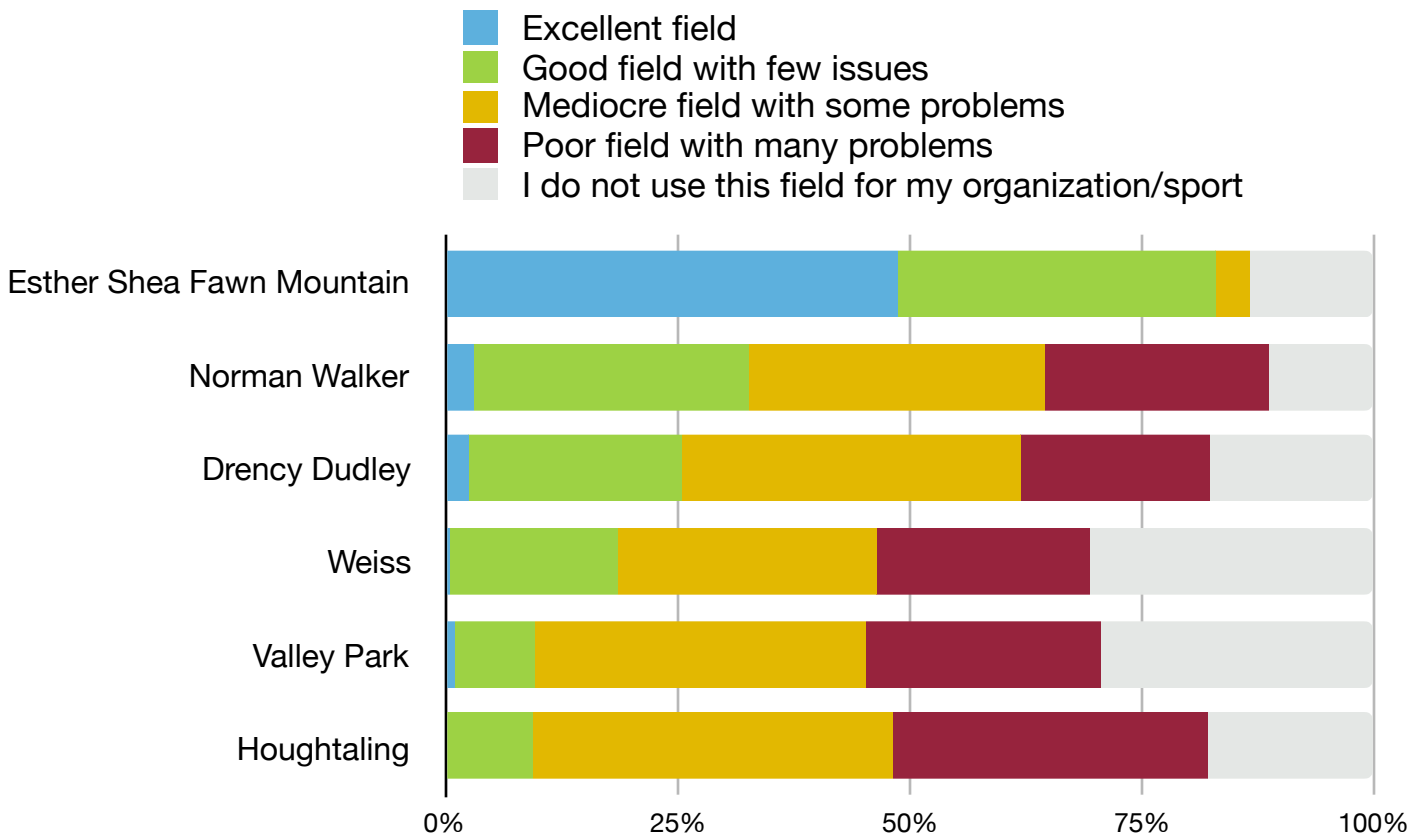
What time of the day is your preferred field use time?



Field Quality Assessment

Respondent were asked to rate each of the athletic fields in Ketchikan. Esther Shea was rated the highest, with 88% calling it an excellent or good field. It is the only field that currently has an artificial turf. Houghtaling was ranked the lowest quality, with 73% calling it a mediocre or poor field. Norman Walker is the most used field. Respondents provided 678 specific reasons for why they rated each field how they did. Those full responses can be read in full at the end of this report.

How do you feel about the fields?

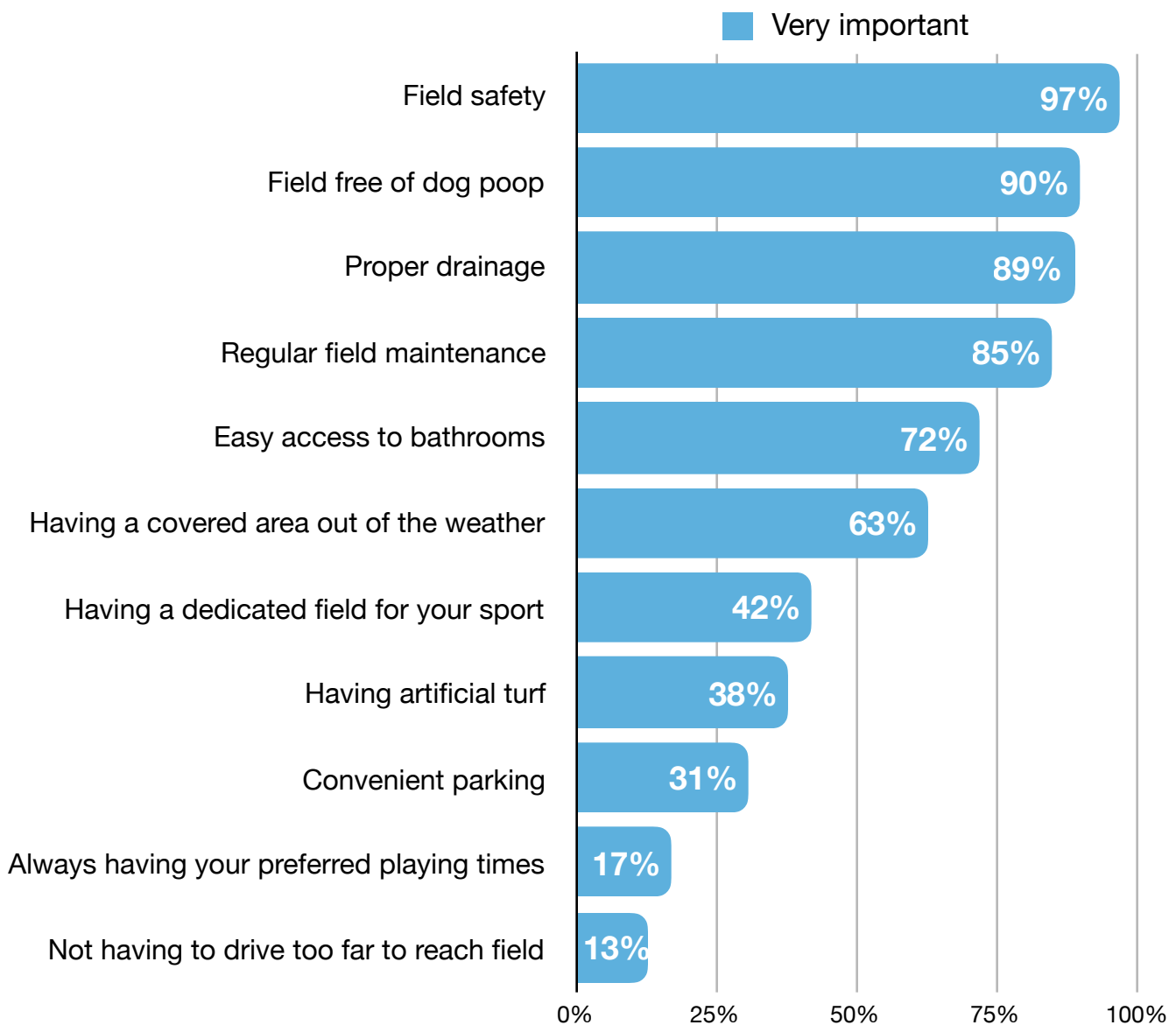


How do you feel about the fields?					
Field	Excellent field	Good field with few issues	Mediocre field with some problems	Poor field with many problems	I do not use this field
Esther Shea Fawn Mountain	49%	34%	4%	0%	13%
Norman Walker	3%	30%	32%	24%	11%
Drencey Dudley	3%	23%	36%	20%	18%
Weiss	1%	18%	28%	23%	31%
Valley Park	1%	9%	36%	25%	29%
Houghtaling	0%	10%	39%	34%	18%

Important Field Elements

Respondents were asked which aspects of athletic fields, among 11 elements, are most important to them. Respondents said that **field safety** is most important, followed by a **field free of dog feces**, and **proper drainage**. Ranked as the least important considerations included not having to drive too far to reach the field, and preferred playing times.

As a player, coach, or parent of a player, what is important to you when it comes to playing field sports?



A detailed report of the responses to this question is below:

As a player, coach, or parent of a player, what is important to you when it comes to playing field sports?

Field Element	Very important	Somewhat important	Neutral	Somewhat unimportant	Very unimportant
Field safety	97%	2%	1%	0%	0%
Field free of dog poop	90%	5%	4%	1%	0%
Proper drainage	89%	11%	1%	0%	0%
Regular field maintenance	85%	14%	1%	1%	0%
Easy access to bathrooms	72%	23%	5%	0%	0%
Having a covered area out of the weather	63%	29%	7%	1%	0%
Having a dedicated field for your sport	42%	30%	21%	4%	3%
Having artificial turf	38%	37%	21%	3%	2%
Convenient parking	31%	46%	22%	1%	1%
Always having your preferred playing times	17%	43%	35%	5%	1%
Not having to drive too far to reach field	13%	24%	43%	9%	12%

Respondents provided 159 additional open ended responses regarding these fields, which are listed at the end of this document.

Sports Satisfaction Elements

Respondents were asked about their satisfaction related to nine management related elements of Ketchikan’s athletic fields. Respondents are **most satisfied about the ease of sports registration**, and **least satisfied with field quality**. Only eight percent say that they are “very satisfied” with field quality, while 45% said that they are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with field quality. This was followed by length of season, which only 10% of respondents find “very satisfying”. Softball players were most likely to report dissatisfaction with field quality and season length.

Please rate your satisfaction with the following elements of your (or your child's) field sport:



A detailed report of the responses to this question is below:

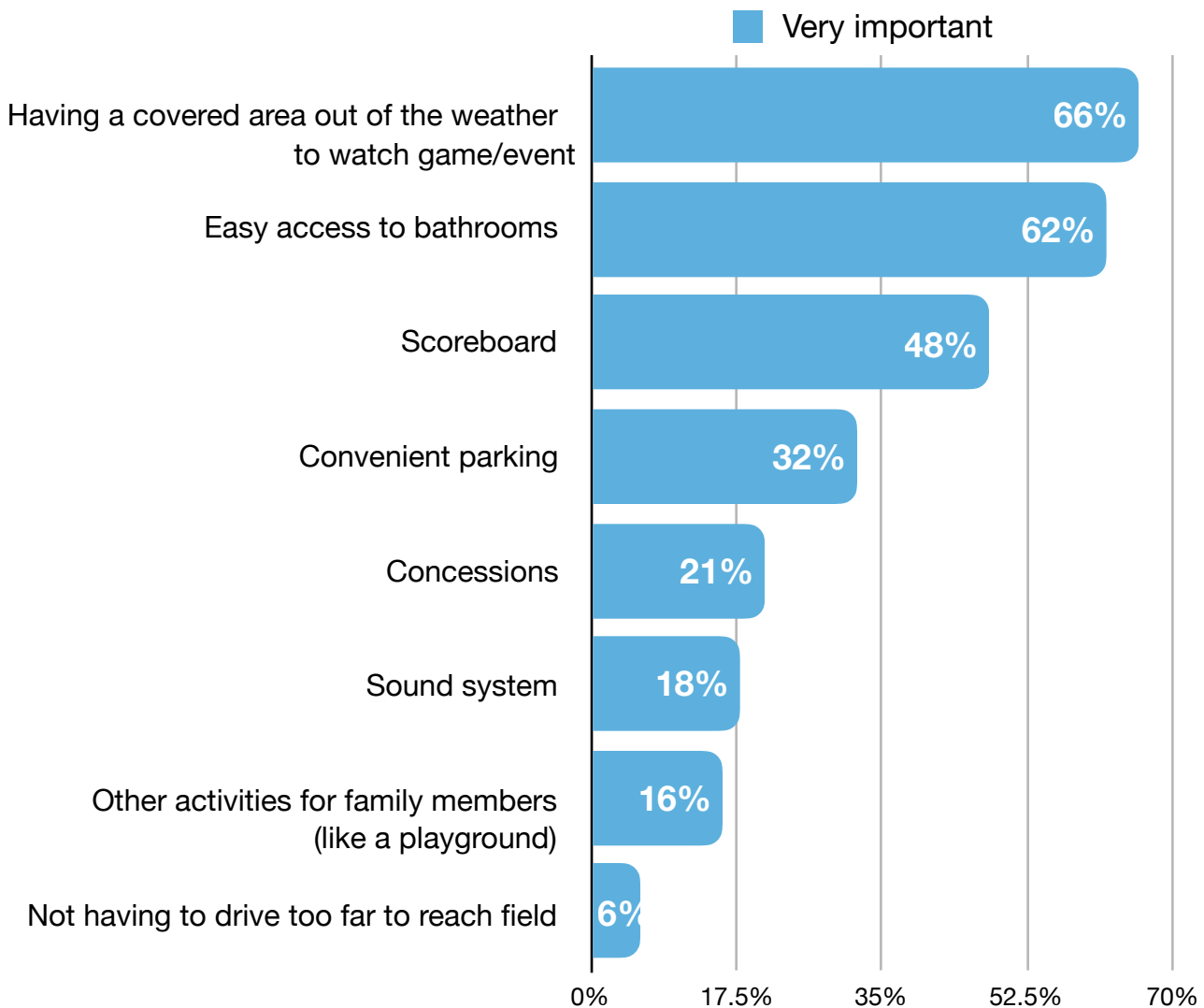
Please rate your satisfaction with the following elements of your (or your child's) field sport:

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neutral	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Ease of registration	47%	37%	14%	2%	0%
Participant experience	34%	48%	12%	6%	0%
Community support	32%	35%	21%	7%	4%
Program fees	30%	38%	27%	4%	1%
Convenient practice times	20%	49%	22%	8%	1%
Right amount of games	17%	41%	18%	20%	3%
Right amount of practices	15%	40%	22%	18%	5%
Length of season	10%	40%	21%	24%	4%
Quality of field	8%	28%	19%	32%	13%

Spectator Satisfaction Elements

Respondents were also asked about their spectator experience, and which field elements can improve that experience. **Two-thirds (66%) of spectators said that having a covered area to view the game is “very important”** while another 28% called it important. Easy access to bathrooms was ranked as the second most important spectator element. **Spectators are generally not concerned about having to drive to watch games.** Two-thirds rated driving time as “neutral” “somewhat unimportant” or “very unimportant.”

As a spectator, what is important to you when it comes to watching field sports?



A detailed report of the responses to this question is below:

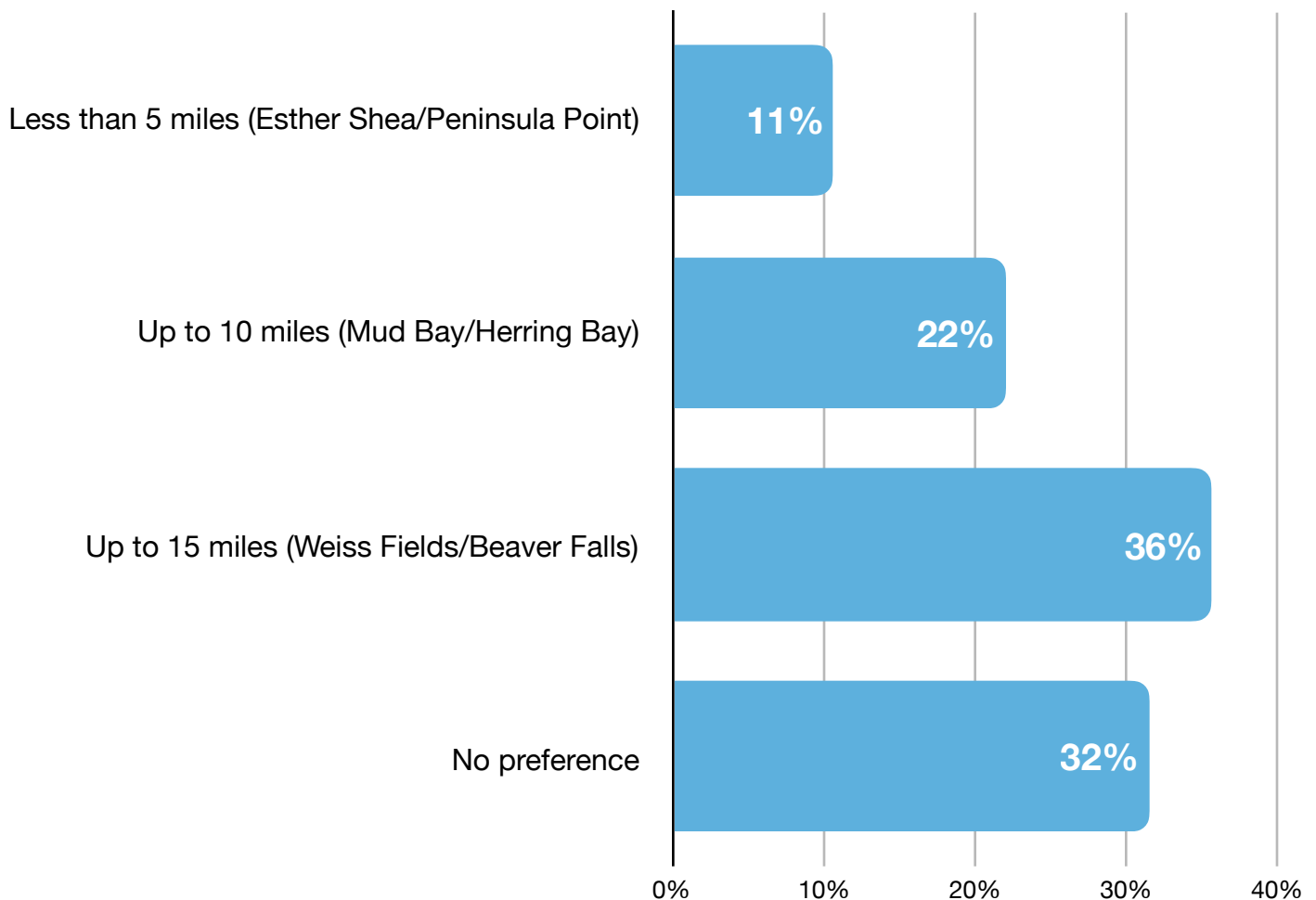
As a spectator, what is important to you when it comes to watching field sports?

Field Element	Very important	Somewhat important	Neutral	Somewhat unimportant	Very unimportant
Having a covered area out of the weather to watch game/event	66%	28%	5%	1%	1%
Easy access to bathrooms	62%	30%	7%	1%	1%
Scoreboard	48%	39%	9%	3%	3%
Convenient parking	32%	42%	20%	5%	1%
Concessions	21%	47%	21%	4%	7%
Sound system	18%	44%	24%	8%	6%
Other activities for family members (like a playground)	16%	39%	32%	10%	4%
Not having to drive too far to reach field	6%	29%	39%	11%	14%

New Field Location

Respondents were asked how far they are willing to drive to reach a new sports facility. The majority of the respondents (68%) said they are willing to drive up to 15 miles, or that they have no preference regarding driving distance. Softball and baseball players were most likely to say they would drive further.

If new sports facilities were developed, how far would you be willing to travel from Downtown to access these?



Open-Ended Responses

Ketchikan athletic field users were asked to respond to a number of open-ended questions. Their full responses are below:

Comments about specific fields

Weiss

- Be nice to have covered areas next to each fields to watch games.
- Because nothing has been done to the field ever
- Can be unsafe due to injury potential. Dog poop, holes. Great field, with grass and large space though.
- Could be a great field if reworked and then maintained
- Covered seating
- Dirt
- Dirt turns to mud
- Dog crap and drainage
- dog poop, poor drainage
- Dog crap, poor drainage
- Dog dug holes, dog poop. Foul balls. Lack of covered viewing.
- Dog feces and poor quality of grass. The only user group is adult league softball, and they seem to be able to make it work.
- Dog issues i.e. poop and holes
- Dog park, flooding, soggy mess
- Dog poop
- Dog poop
- Dog poop
- Dog poop in fields and holes
- Dog poop on fields which create a health issue.
- Dog poop on this field is horrible, Needs covered seating
- Dog poop, field not level, overall unsafe field conditions,
- Dog poop!!!
- Dogs need to be banned from using the fields. It is disgusting that it is even allowable to have dog poop where people slide and roll in. It is also a health hazard!
- Don't use but feel it isn't utilized enough
- Drainage
- Drainage is poor and outfield is muskeg
- Drainage issues
- Drainage issues and dirt.
- Drainage, alders behind fences, dog dodo, bags of dog dodo in alders outside of fences, dog dug holes in outfield

- Field has dog poop and holes all over in the outfield.
- Field is not level, lots of dog and geese poop
- Floods and grass needs to be replaced with turff
- good Field forgot which one this was for a second
- Grass
- Grass field isn't maintained very well. Holes everywhere.
- Grass is horrible
- Gravel, barhrooms
- great fields, should be used more for youth sports, bathrooms and concession are great, parking is good, play area at the school is a nice bonus
- Great for co-ed games
- Has been opened up as a dog park and is full of dog poop and holes that have been dug by dogs.
- Haven't been out there in years
- Having two fields for baseball and softball
- Holes and dog crap all over the place
- I appreciate the hard work put into this field
- I've played coed softball on that field has piles of dog poo and when the geese migrate that is where they hang out and poo as well. Thick muskeg that is slippery as well. Horrible "field".
- In general a good field, but needs improvements to lights, drainage, holes from dogs and needs to be a no leash law area
- Inconvenient
- It sucks that there is no covering for the top field. And honestly when it rains the "grass lands" get dangerously slippery and being an outfielder your socks/shoes just soak up all the water. Lastly there is always big piles of poop on the fields which is also sucky. But the infield area is always nice and the bases don't get all wonky or fly off after sliding into them which is a plush, and lastly is the lines are made new every weekend but the plastic bar that's put into the ground is extremely sketchy and slippery and you step on that in your cleats and it turns into a slip and slide
- It's unfortunate it isn't used more
- It's a gravel field
- It's a muddy mess but decent to play on when the weather is okay.
- It's alright
- Just gross. Poor drainage- goose and dog poop. Now stands, etc.
- Lack of parking
- Location, flooding
- Lots of animal feces
- Lower Weiss Field has a very steep slope field is not level.
- Mainanance is lacking. Outfield is uneven. Convert large area below school to mirror FMES
- Make it poop free.
- Many hole from dogs that make it very unsafe for players.
- Moss

- Mud
- Muddy. Poor seating.
- Mushy. And way too much dog and goose poop.
- Needs little improvement spectator covers
- Needs more seating
- Needs to be reseeded
- Needs to not be dog accessible.
- Needs updating
- Needs work
- No animals!! Allow us to lock the gates, especially during our season.
- No drainage super soggy
- No kids area without crossing street and people need to be punished for not picking up dog poop.
- No maintenance on it. Divets and soggy
- No maintenance, used as dog pooping grounds, poor ground condition, not legal size for any youth group use
- No seating
- Not a dog park, not used enough
- not level, many pot holes
- Not maintained grass
- Not safe
- Not sure what the location is
- old
- Outfield has several holes, grass needs aerating, large mounds behind first base on top field and third base on the bottom field
- Outfield is horrible
- outfield needs attention
- Outfield needs to have grass properly maintained. Better drainage of field.
- Overrun by dog owners and not cleaning up after themselves. No upkeep to the grass
- Please fix outfield
- Poor drainage, constantly dog poop which is a BIG health hazard to players and no covered areas next to the fields for people to be out of the rain.
- Poor drainage, field surface is dangerous
- Poor drainage, uneven surface
- Puddles, holes, grass doesn't drain, too slippery, dugouts are uneven and always wet/windy, lower field batters box is a hole, too many inconsistencies in field surface
- Quality
- Rock
- Run down grass and not maintained
- same as above
- Seating for viewing and unevenness. Concern for the safety of the kids. We need more grassy fields.
- Shouldn't be a dog park

- Since this field has been opened up to dogs especially during the summer dog owners give softball players a lot of grief for having practices and using the field when they want to walk their dogs. It gets exhausting.
- Softball uses it. Far out of town location.
- Starts off decent, but deteriorated with weather. Potholes of water accumulate rain and it becomes a mud pit.
- Swampy
- Swampy field, distance from town
- Terrible out field, holes everywhere that are hard to see.
- The dog poop is disgusting and ridiculous.
- The field has poor drainage and ends up with huge, deep puddles of water in the outfield. Ducks swim in it.
- The grass area is uneven, slippery and dangerous
- The no leash law on the fields at wise was the worst decision the Borough Assembly could have made. The health and safety issues it has caused create a huge liability to the Borough.
- There are many holes in the outfields. The infield need work. There is always dog poop people never pick up.
- These fields should not be used for dogs.
- They are all good fields, could use more coveted seating
- This field has too much dog feces.
- too far away
- Uneven,, used as dog poop park. Slow pitch field only.
- Used for dogs. Dirt field. Poor maintenance. Water on field
- We don't use it but wouldn't mind
- We love Weiss field
- Weather
- Weiss fields don't drain properly and not maintained enough such as cutting the grass.

Houghataling

- Accessibility
- All gravel and no covered seating area
- Bathroom facilities, parking shelters for players, drainage and wind blockage
- Bathrooms and accessibility
- Because the bleachers are uncovered and we live in a rainforest. Parking sucks.
- Better field quality
- Better parking and access to field. Playground covered for safety of kids during baseball games
- Bleachers
- could be a great field, needs lighting, bathrooms, spectator seating, the land is there and ready, just needs to be set up better
- Could be better with grass
- Decent
- Descent field for teeball, covered seating minimal

- Dirt
- Dirt field for younger kids
- dirt fields, poor drainage, no safe parking spots next to field, no food
- Dirt/gravel field for soccer is not acceptable. Injuries are inevitable at every game. Soccer ball does not travel the same on gravel.
- Do to the rain and the gravel the run off leaves deep divots
- Doesn't drain
- Don't use
- Don't use
- Don't use it too small
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage issues
- Drainage issues and hard hard field
- Drainage issues. Dug out have issues due to people using for inappropriate reasons. Drugs sex ect
- Drainage problem and uneven surface
- Drainage, bathrooms, access.
- Drainage, seating on one side but not on the other. No covered area for some of the parents and kids.
- Dugouts, drainage and place for adults to sit dry.
- Field conditions, rocky, no parking or seating
- Field should be expanded and improved to be used as multiple small baseball/t-ball fields, and overflow for football and soccer. No covered seating.
- Fine until it rains and it becomes a mud pit.
- Flooding, gravel, no viewer area
- Floods
- gravel / sand surface / grated epidermis / dermis
- Gravel field, insufficient seating rain coverage
- Gravel field.
- Gravel, bathrooms never open
- Haven't used it in years
- Horrible parent section, bad drainage
- Horrible on game days
- I appreciate the hard work put into this field
- I don't like the rocks
- I don't use it.
- I guess it's decent for tball. Just not the greatest.
- Inconvenient
- it's adequate for who uses it, but needs more places to get out of rain
- It's a dirt field. Nobody wants to play on dirt.
- It's a gravel field
- Lack of bathrooms, not level, no cover Poor parking

- Lack of parking
- Little to no seating
- Messy and uneven but good for younger soccer leagues
- More like a dirt lot
- Mud
- My soccer players have a hard time running on this field. The gravel is usually too thick, it is like running on a beach, unsafe for soccer. There is no where for spectators to sit. The drainage is awful. There are no lights so by the time our 4-12th grade kids play time is limited when the sun starts to set at 5:00pm
- my son plays on Houghtling, needs seating, field is gravel - no covered seating
- Need lights. drainage. enclosed. bigger bathrooms. Spectators seating.
- Needs access and parking improvements.
- Needs bathrooms and better rain cover for the kids and better access for disabled and elderly.
- Needs better parking
- Needs covered seating
- Needs expanded to small
- Needs updating
- needs upgrades
- Needs work
- Never set up when needed
- No ADA access, parking, restroom on lower side, safety fencing or proper surfacing
- No covered areas
- No covered spectator area, not easily handicap or disability accessible, poor parking situation.
- No lights
- No lights
- No lights or parking
- No lights. More injuries on dirt field.
- no parking
- No parking
- No parking, not enough bathrooms, field is too small, not enough security
- No seating, floods when it rains
- Not a fan of the dirt. A kid's field shouldn't be rocky.
- not big enough
- Not high enough fencing & no seating for watching
- Not maintained no viewing
- Not set up to be much use for anything. No rain cover or good seating
- old
- Old field, needs more up keep, and more bleachers/Benches
- Old field, not tended to, no lighting
- Only suitable for t ball use. Little maintenance. Poor ground conditions.
- Only used in summer

- Parking and covered facilities seriously lacking
- Parking is in short supply, and access is not very good.
- Parking, big holes, no cover, bathrooms inaccessible during games
- Poor accessibility, bad design, nowhere to park, very little seating
- poor design, poor parking, no handicap spots, very little seating
- Poor drainage. Lots of wasted space
- Poor drainage. No covered place for spectators. No turf.
- Poor parking for elderly
- Poor parking spaces
- Poor quality field
- Quality
- Rain creates large troughs where people can be injured
- Restroom location. Dirt field.
- Restrooms at both sides of field.
- Restrooms/parking
- Rivers running through sand fields and no adequate seating
- Rock
- Rocks
- Rocks, dirt
- Rocky not a lot of parking no dry area
- Rocky. Poor seating. Poor lighting.
- Safety between fields
- same as above
- Seating is limited
- Shouldn't have any sports on this field, leave it to the school for their activities.
- Slope
- Sloped field side to side, horrible drainage, inadequate material
- Small- all dirt- not ideal for soccer
- Small, limited seating for spectators
- Small, t ball only.
- Small, the drainage isn't great so it floods and many places for parents to sit
- Sufficient fir little but needs ground problems addressed
- The gravel is a rough playing surface, but it is usually clean and fine for the little kids.
- They are all good fields, could use more coveted seating
- This is just a dirt field and dirt is soft there was not even two dugouts until the USCG donated one last year
- Too many holes & water drainage drag marks
- Turf itIndoor
- Turns into a mud pit.
- uneven ground and no water drainage, parking is tricky. Added dug outs are a good addition.
- used in past years. Could use lighting
- Very bad condition

- Way to small
- We don't use this field anymore (my kids are too old), but I remember it as having terrible drainage issues, and there is no covered dugout for the players in the end of the field towards Kayhi.
- Weather space seating

Drency Dudley

- Bathroom
- Bathroom location. Dirt field
- Better covered area
- Better field quality
- Better than Norman walker
- Bottom of fences behind home plates, catch basin behind lower field home plate
- continued drainage issues, needs netting between backstop and cover over stands, restroom need updating
- Could be great but needs artificial turf and more covered areas
- Covered area is silly
- Covered seating is a plus
- Decent field and facility
- Decent field wish it was turf for the high school players
- Dirt
- Dirt and shells and rock throughout, poor drainage, no warmup area, dugouts in bad shape specifically the benches are splintered and in rough shape
- dirt field, poor drainage, dog mess everywhere,
- Drainage
- Drainage and bathroom on lower field
- Drainage issues
- Drainage issues
- Drainage issues. Could be better with maintenance. inadequate concessions facilities for the amount of users. No indoor option for hitting practice as at walker
- Drainage, dirt fences
- Drainage, litter,
- Dudley Field has potential to become a beautiful facility.
- Dudley needs minor improvements
- Every time you slide you get hurt! It's made with shell! Not proper drainage so the bases flood causing players not to see them or get hurt! So many problems with this already expensive field! Wasn't done right in the first place!
- Fences need to be painted or changed, concessions stand needs upgrading. The new improvements have been awesome
- Field swaps
- Fields needs to be completely redone
- Fine when it's graded until the rain turns it into a wet mess with puddles.
- Fix drainage. Add turf for soccer. Add track.

- Flooding
- Flooding, Not solid pitching, dangerous for girls to play on
- Girls soft ball games, need grass
- Good
- good location, parking
- Good location. Needs updating.
- Gravel - are you kidding?
- gravel / sand surface / grated epidermis / dermis
- Gravel field
- Gravel field, insufficient seating and rain coverage
- Gravel surface is painful to fall on, doesn't drain well, doesn't stay smooth (so puddles develop easily)
- Great field, spectator seating now
- Has great potential too with upgrades
- Has had many improvements, the whole area footprint is underutilized on valuable centralized school property. Ketchikan needs a turf surface for softball/little league sized field.
- Honestly it's pretty good now that there is covering. But it's still not as good as Walkers cover. But a good start.
- horrible dirt, not the right size, stands don't cover when raining sideways, not enough space for bullpen and batting cages
- Horrible soft, poor traction, flooding field
- I appreciate the hard work put into this field
- In the winter months, it would be amazing if we could use this as a dog park, turn the lights on from 6-8 just so there is space to bring your dog in the dark!
- It's a gravel field
- It's fine
- just needs some sprucing up, maybe turf field
- Lighting is great. Gravel field is awful for soccer, its an ankle hazard, the ball bounces incorrectly so we cannot fairly play games at this field and have it be even since Fawn Mtn turf provides the best turf for soccer.
- Literally a gravel field. Poor - no drainage. Fences are removed after season and do not allow for players to continue to work on their skills
- Lots of holes to sink into
- Lots of improvements have been made, but need foul poles, foul nets, scoreboard on lower, better seating on lower, enclosed cover on upper, amongst other small repairs
- Love the score board- as a volunteer, love that it can be used by a handheld device
- More injuries on dirt field.
- Mud
- Need so much improvement
- Needs a better draining system so the field won't puddle up
- Needs aeration, Chronic surface issues, plays well when drug daily.
- Needs continue improvement

- Needs drainage
- Needs more covered seating in lower area
- Needs turf. Expand and upgrade batting cages
- Needs updating
- Needs work
- needs sides on covered stands, fields are not configured correctly, foul ball posts needed, field is soft in some areas and needs to be turf, parking sucks
- New upgrades are a plus
- newly upgraded, needs a few more things done to it
- Nice field, field has minimal issues, smaller spaces
- Nice new facilities
- No cover areas for parents to sit
- No covered areas dirt not turf
- No maintenance
- No turf, hard terrain, flooding, new stands were not designed with weather in mind.
- Not enough bathrooms, field needs expansion, grand stand has no siding, no cover for bleachers on lower field, lower Dudley right field so much deeper than left field, lower dudley has no score board, concessions too far from lower dudley, too much erosion on lower dudley, lower dudley field is like a sand box, no safety nets, metal drain grate behind home plate at lower dudley, security lighting, no foul poles.
- Not single use with permanent fences little small needs expanded and lot of little improvements
- Not the best layout and there needs to be restrooms closer to the lower field
- OK overall, needs second scoreboard.
- Old
- old
- Old field, has been making upgrades
- Overall good
- Overall this field has gotten a lot better. The lower field needs a bathrooms, it's own scoreboard, and field of play surface improvements.
- Poor drainage, poor material on field
- Poor drainage. Needs a modern drainage system. Needs artificial grass.
- Poor field media
- Poor quality field, poor soil. Terrible for competitive games.
- Poor surface material
- Pretty good field and getting better. Great new stands with ADA access on big side. Needs better lighting and lower field needs scoreboard and better seating. Mounds are a pain to move for different ages.
- Puddles easily
- Quality
- Rain creates large troughs where people can be injured. Playing surface has a tendency to be inconsistent
- Rock

- Rocky, muddy.
- same as above
- Sand with clam shells in it.
- Score board needs update & need sound system for announcements
- Seating around it sucks. Covered area is really nice. Parking is also a pain.
- seating needs better coverage, location of concession and bathrooms could be better, a nice field to have close to the high school
- Sheltered seating- sides
- Should be a dedicated softball field
- Sloped field end to end, horrible drainage, inadequate material, poor scheduling
- surface can be too wet or like cement
- thankful to have the upgrades but not practical
- The lower field has no covered spectator area
- The lower field is smaller and there is no score board or covered seating
- The new stands are great
- They are all good fields, could use more covered seating
- This field needs attention! Our softball girls deserve to have a good field. We need a proper drainage system, a sound system, and artificial turf.
- This field was just updated but it still doesn't have enough parking, a place for batting practice or stadium type seating. Compared to the amenities that the boys get it seems that the girls field is lacking. And why do we even have a separation? All sports should have access to the same quality field.
- Turf please!!!
- Unevenness
- Updated scoreboard. Scoreboard for both fields. Field realignment to properly fit two ballfields for baseball and softball. Field pinned for 60ft, 70ft and 90ft base paths. Restrooms needed. Better concession stand
- Use it but it needs work we like it cause it's ours but wish we could fix it more
- Very nice for all kinds of sports nice
- We don't play softball but the futsal court has no seating for spectators.
- Weather
- What a waste of money that last resurfacing was! Gravel is worse than before!! And the covered bleachers face open to the weather. They don't do a darn bit of good.
- Would like to see set up for single use softball field and playing on turf would be great

Valley Park

- A waste of a field.
- Add turf for peewee soccer. Add lighting.
- adequate field for small kids, covered play area next door, could use bathroom facilities
- After it's graded it's fine, but rain really affects the playability.
- Bad outfield drainage and poor fence line
- Bathroom location, no covered stands, overall poor field and dugout conditions
- Better field quality

- Black rubber on play ground is a mess
- Covered seating area needed
- Decent
- Dirt
- Dirt field for younger kids
- Don't use
- Drainage
- Drainage, litter
- Drive by
- el field, insufficient seating rain coverage
- Field
- Field is very small, field not level, no seating, no score board, metal drainage out in left field
- Field too small, but good parking
- Fielded pinned for 60ft and 70ft base paths. Upgraded dugouts. Covered playground to protect kids playing there during ball games.
- filed conditions is little rocks, needs to be bigger for other age groups, score board and seating
- Gravel
- gravel / sand surface / grated epidermis / dermis
- Gravel field. Overgrown back fence
- Haven't used in years
- Haven't used it in years
- I appreciate the hard work put into this field
- I don't play here anymore. But the field was covered in killer holes.
- It's not great but fine for the little guys.
- It's a gravel field
- Kids dig holes in it. Large rocks can be scattered throughout, maybe from kids?
- Lack of bathroom, no covered seating uneven field, drainage
- Layout
- Limited use/size
- Lots of dog poop, foul balls end up inside fenced enclosure under the school (so they are hard to retrieve), dugouts are falling apart, seating for spectators is uncomfortable
- Lots of issues. No bathroom, no foul nets, not adequate seating, field is not level, etc.
- Mud
- Muddy. Poor seating. Poor lighting.
- N.a.
- Na
- Na
- Needs a bathroom and scoreboards
- Needs covered seating
- Needs covered seats for spectators.
- Needs more seating and repair dugouts
- Needs total over haul

- Needs updating
- needs upgrades
- Needs work
- Needs work
- Nice field, field has minimal issues to my knowledge
- nice field for the little use it gets
- No
- No bathrooms, no seating for spectators
- No cover, holes
- No covered area
- No lights, poor field media
- No restrooms
- No seating
- no seating for fans, no bathrooms except for porta potty
- No seating for parents & fencing not high enough around the field.
- no seating, no restrooms
- not big enough
- Not ever in great condition
- Not really a field it's a playground
- Not suited for older age sports
- old
- Old and poor shape
- Old! Slants down hill in the outfield! Dugouts rotten & unsafe
- Outdated, no bathrooms or lighting
- Pools in a lot of places. Little to no seating dugouts are in disrepair no consistent bathroom
- Poor drainage. Needs turf or grass like Weiss
- Poor quality field, poor soil
- Poor viewing not maintained
- Pretty up to date
- Puddling problems with rain around bases
- Quality
- Really nothing more than a practice field, not suitable for games in my opinion
- Restrooms needed. Better drainage. Fences moved back making field more useable for baseball and softball. More bleachers for fans.
- Rock
- Safety with foul line and play ground no spectator seating
- School yard style could be improved
- Seating for viewing
- Seating is limited
- Should be expanded and enclosed. No bathrooms or covered seating. Could be slightly enlarged to be overflow little baseball/softball field.
- Size, dirt
- Slanted, viewing space

- Slopped And not quality field
- Small
- Small and flooding
- Small and poorly maintained
- Small field and slopes quite a bit but fairly good for littles. Left field playground needs protection from fly balls.
- Small. Poor drainage. No bathrooms.
- They are all good fields, could use more covered seating
- This field is just too small to do much with, and also has no bathrooms.
- This would be a great area for soccer practice if there was turf & a higher fence!
- To small for baseball
- To small, no rain shelter or bathrooms, bad drainage
- Too close to the road for softball. Only suitable for younger ages due to shortness of field and measurements. Limited seating. No bathroom.
- Too small
- Too small and all dirt
- Too small.
- Too small
- Tuff would be nice
- Uneven
- Uneven, too short of fences, poor spectator area
- Used in past years. needs a lot of work
- Very few facilities
- Very popular and very neat
- We don't use this field
- Weather seating
- Worn out dugouts. No restroom. Dirt field.

Norman Walker

- After grading it is great until the rain and wind make it uneven and full of large pools of water.
- Again fences are a huge issue.
- Again this field is awful for soccer. The ball bounces awful and the rain creates cracks in the field where the water flows which creates tripping hazards. The lighting is great!
- Always gets the most care
- Always kept up
- back to back fields make for smaller playing fields , gravel is not ideal for baseball or soccer
- Bad drainage and not level
- Baseball is the only sport in Ketchikan without a dedicated competitive field/playing environment. Baseball has consistently been made to wait and deal with substandard facilities especially when compared to other state of the art facilities in Ketchikan.
- Baseball only!
- Best location. Needs lots of player and fan improvements.

- Better turf
- both sides of the field and facilities are in poor condition and need to be replaced
- Can not utilize both fields if kayhi or leigon are in town playing, fields flood, spectators space is rotting, homeless use it as a shelter/bathroom.
- Classic field and right now with what is available in Ketchikan the preferred field for baseball and softball
- Currently use. Hard to use when field is short for Kayhi and other side isn't usable when fences are pushed back for Kayhi and Legion
- Decent
- Dirt
- Dirt and rocks.. no warm up area..outdated facilities
- Dirt field. Boooooo!
- dirt fields, dog mess all over inside/outside
- Dirt fields. Used by too many user groups. Fences in the field of play. Danger from fence partitions. Dirt field.
- Dirt not turf
- Don't use for softball but would be better if it was turf
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage issues, Little Walker short stop area field hazard due to football goal post impression in field, grandstand in poor condition (human waste, graffiti, etc.), score booth window moss and dirt obstructing view of field, dog poop on field, backdrop behind back stop needs replacing
- Drainage, litter, dog feces
- Drainage. Turf for soccer.
- Drainage. Turf would be nice
- Facilities are run down and horrible. The field is too small and not permanent.
- Field
- Field expansion.
- Field has more ground outlayer of children than I can imagine! I cringe when I see a young athlete coming sliding into home plate with a head of steam. I've seen pants destroyed in one inning of baseball
- Field is ok, facilities and good
- Field is too small for both sides.
- Field ok, spectator seating, aged facility
- Field pinned for 60ft, 70ft and 90ft base paths.
- Flooding
- Gets too muddy to play on
- Good field
- Good field but soccer and non existent football program
- Good field overall with good maintenance. Has indoor structure nearby. Adequate facilities for both players and fans. Should be dedicated to baseball and softball as originally intended. Too much necessity to move heavy and cumbersome fences for different ages.

- Good field, needs turf
- good location, parking
- Grandstands need help. The boardwalk is super slippery. It's also frustrating when the fields are multi use and get changed and then you never see that sport using them. It would be nice if you would practice baseball/softball longer
- Gravel
- Gravel - are you kidding?
- gravel / sand surface / grated epidermis / dermis
- Gravel field
- Gravel field, run down stands lighting
- Gravel field. Minor stands are showing age
- Great field that has served the community for a long time but too small for 2 fields (with Little League, Jr/Sr. League, Kayhi, and American Legion Ball all having to share) and having to reset it all the time makes it difficult on everyone. Glitchy scoreboard on little side. Very old facilities. Needs security/surveillance cameras.
- Great location, needs major repair in stands
- Has a few pooling issues
- Having to move the fences to accommodate everyone
- I appreciate the hard work put into this field
- If no more kyfl then leave out the goalposts
- It is a Joke
- it snot big enough, should be turf adn should be for baseball and softball
- It's a gravel field
- It's alright
- It's fine
- It's well-maintained for what we've come to expect in Ketchikan
- Lack of parking for viewing and clearance by Schoenbar road
- Lack of parking, drainage, gross bathroom
- Love walker wish we still got to use it for softball
- Main field seems good
- make available for fall baseball. foot ball had fawn mountain get rid of the end goals on walker so can be used for baseball
- More injuries on dirt field.
- Mud
- Muddy
- Multi use restricting full capability.
- Multi-purpose field should be dedicated to baseball. Soccer/football can utilize other fields. Used as a dog park all year long. Portable fences/pipes/sandbags are safety hazard for athletes. Only one regulation sized field at a time. High School baseball gets approximately 3 practices a year on the size of their playing surface. Lighting design should be improved. Ketchikan needs a turf baseball field, and deserves the financial commitment that other sports have received.

- My son plays in the smaller end of Walker Field. The stands there are too small, the scoreboard doesn't work all the time, and the gravel field doesn't drain well. It also gets uneven quickly, especially in the infield.
- Need to extend to full size.
- Needs artificial grass.
- Needs drainage
- Needs major updating
- needs some housekeeping, grandstands need redone, boardwalk is slippery
- Needs some upgrades
- Needs updating
- needs upgrades
- Needs work
- Nice field, field has minimal issues to my knowledge
- Not designed for soccer
- Not enough covered area on majors side. The drainage makes it very hard to play, the rocks/ gravel causes injury to players. The score boards malfunction ALL THE TIME! Field isn't available at all time for Major League Baseball.....
- Not permanent field, surface like cement at times
- not regulation size, not turfed, spectator seating isn't desirable, nice concession area on big side
- Often times people have urinated in the stands which is unpleasant.
- Ok but gets drenched in puddles, sleet etc
- Ok field, out dated
- OK overall
- Old
- old
- Our baseball kids deserve better. Rough, uneven, muddy.
- Parking
- Parking is sometimes difficult
- Perfect
- Poor drainage
- poor drainage, inadequate material, poor scheduling
- poor drainage, restrooms and score shack need updating
- Poor drainage. Needs turf. Convert to soccer field. Cover the futsal court.
- Poor field media
- Poor layout and misuse of allotted space. Would love to see a turf baseball field I also wish is was dedicated to only baseball
- Poor quality field, poor soil. Terrible for competitive games.
- Puddling problems with rain around bases, need better seating options/safer parking for vehicles attending
- Quality
- Rain creates large troughs where people can be injured
- Repair covered seating areas fix small issues in concession stands

- restrooms
- Reverse the fields so backstops meet in the middle, make it strictly baseball
- Rock
- Same as Dudley
- Should be turf for high school games
- Single use baseball field large enough for two full size field
- Some drainage issues.
- Somewhat ok. Still playing on gravel!
- Structures are very old. Field and surrounding area floods with rain.
- The field Maintenance is over the top they have covering on both sides of the field. And the concession stand is also well managed
- The score boards on the majors side are in dire need of upgrade
- They are all good fields, could use more coveted seating
- This field feels like too many uses crammed into a tight space. In trying to balance so many uses, it ends up being a poor facility for all.
- This is a joke its 2019 really?
- To small in configuration now for two full size base ball fields
- Too close to main road
- Turf it
- Turf please
- Unevenness and parking
- Upgraded grandstands for both sides of field. Permanent fences with distance for two baseball fields meeting high school and Little League requirements. Better lighting for sports played at night and meeting Little League standards. Easier ADA access from playing field to Restrooms
- Used mainly for high school
- Very old facility. Fencing is dangerous, drainage is terrible, etc.
- We don't use this field.
- We need improved concession stands
- Weather space
- Well used but needs grass or turf
- Won't drain well, needs to be aerated earlier than has been done lately.
- Would be nice to have turf and update grandstand

Esther Shea Fawn Mountain

- Always kept up and it's turf
- Amazing field and improvements continue
- Baseball and softball need a complex this nice. They have brought more championships back to this town more than any other sports
- Beautiful
- Beautiful facility / Needs the proper equipment and maint. to keep it that way.
- Beautiful field
- Beautiful field but lack covered areas

- Beautiful! We need a baseball/softball field like this! If you had a turf field for softball or baseball we could host more tournaments & have more income for the town & wouldn't have to travel making cost for little league less
- Best facility in Ketchikan
- Best facility we have.
- Best field
- Best field but far out the road
- Best field in town
- Best field in town although it has draining issues and is not covered
- Biggest issues are drainage and exposure (it gets the worst of the wind). Overall, though, a great facility for which I'm very thankful.
- Concession stand
- Could use a concession stand.
- Covered area is silly
- Dedicated Concession stand
- Drainage issue, minimal turf maintenance
- Drainage issues
- Excellent covered seating, bathrooms, scoreboard, plenty of parking. The only reason I didn't rate it as Excellent is that the astroturf has gotten compacted down and is very slick when wet. Field needs to be "fluffed up" ..
- Excellent dedicated sports facility
- Excellent field space, access and facilities.
- excellent size, good parking, covered bleachers
- Exceptional field. Love the covered bleachers
- Field and facilities are great
- field looks like the rubber pellets are all bunched up
- Fix drainage and maintenance
- Fix drainage. Make a dome. Add ice machine for accidents. More parking. Heated Concessions.
- Floods
- Good
- Good all around field.
- good material, horrible maintenance, poor drainage
- Good seating and other things to do while watching
- Grass
- Great
- Great field
- Great field
- Great field
- Great field but needs more covered bleachers
- great field if you play football or soccer
- Great field with little problems
- Great field- just the only one

- Great field, can be modified to support more than 1 game.
- Great field, could use more seating...
- Great field, needs more rain coverage
- great field, parking, seating, great lighting, ---Im impressed!!!
- Great field. So thankful for this field. Would love to have a field like this for baseball and softball.
- Great field. Back stops or nets behind field goal uprights would be nice
- Great field. Nice seats.
- Great field/track, spectator seating now
- Great turf field love it...
- has turf, lighted, track, fenced
- Heard there was a problem with drainage this fall
- Huge drainage issues causing standing water and puddles around the field. Turf has not been maintained and it's actually a serious injury hazard. I have personally seen broken ankles and ACL tears
- I appreciate the hard work put into this field
- I don't see anything wrong with this field
- I think it's a really good field, I just think the soccer goals should be changed to circular goal posts instead of square goal posts. Also i think the bathrooms could be improved a bit
- if you build it they will come Soccer on the rise???
- Is this being the newest field it seems to be the one getting the most attention
- It's beautiful fenced in turf!
- It's good. Seating, safety for players is good.
- Its a beautiful field updated
- its an excellent team. Now with an actual sitting area. But every sport wants to use that field. Soccer (girl and boy) and track and field. Have to share the field during the same season. That's 3 high school teams using one field. Which is kinda ridiculous.
- Jumping Pit
- Lack of real covered seating
- Love
- Love it
- Love the turf
- Love this but doesn't drain right
- Lovely
- Make it either football or soccer, but not both
- Modern
- More covered seating
- More drainage
- Needs a covered spectator area, we live in a rainforest! Concessions or vending machines for long days out there would be great
- Needs better covered area
- Needs better parking
- Needs coverage for weather

- Needs covered place for spectators.
- Needs the proper grooming equipment for field / markings
- Never been to
- New
- New seating is nice. Side or heater would've nice
- Newest field
- Newest field with little problems
- Nice
- Nice field but can only be used for certain sports. The turf is great. Seating should be covered in some areas
- Nice field for sports.
- Nice for soccer
- Nice turf has not been properly maintained, dragged, so now just a carpet, which completely defeats the purpose of artificial grass. Could also use a fence under the new stands. Stands for cover are great, as are bathrooms. Needs signs to keep food and drinks off to maintain quality. Permanent goals for soccer/football are a major hazard and are at no other schools that I have seen. Needs to be changed
- No problems
- Not big enough for multi sports only soccer and football can use it.
- Not enough enforcement with user groups with picking up after games. Lot of trash on field/ around field.
- Nothing.
- Parking
- Perfect if you play soccer or football... They don't let any other sports on it.
- Poor drainage
- Puddles easily
- Quality
- Rated this excellent but it's so over booked and the seating isn't great
- Really good since bleachers
- Really nice
- Really nice field.
- State of the art soccer/football/track.
- Still new so ya good field
- The astro turf holds in the water very cold
- The astroturf needs TLC, for maintaining quality. Need better visiting seating
- The best. Wish we had more turf fields
- the covered area is wonderful for getting out of weather, astro turf is excellent for our rainy weather
- The older kids season starts late and is very short. I'm assuming due to field availability.
- The track has holes
- The turf is lumpy it seems. Like the little pellets are either moved to areas or it just needs more.
- The turf makes this facility great.

- They are all good fields, could use more coveted seating
- This field needs the drainage issue and proper maintenance ASAP. I would hate to see more kids injured due to the inadequate maintenance.
- This is an actual field kids can safely play on
- This is by far the best field with the artificial turf for soccer! Unfortunately we have to share it with track & football. The availability is so filled up we have to spread out our seasons which this year lead into slippery frost. It would be ideal to have a second soccer specific field, preferably enclosed so we do not have to cancel due to weather!
- This is the first time we used this field. It is really nice since when I was a kid all we had was the dirt and those are not fun
- This is the ideal Field to play on. The kids get hurt less when they fall and we don't have to dig gravel out of scrapes from falls. It does accumulate a lot of water that makes the ball play very differently when it is very rainy. The sides of the field accumulate differently and there are some very very wet spots that make for uneven playing.
- This is the only field in Ketchikan with premium field, seating, restrooms etc. It is a top of the line field with the sort of turf those of us at Walker and Dudley fields have only dreamed of. It is a dedicated space for soccer and football who then don't face the user group conflicts softball and baseball do.
- Too many conflicting sports
- Too much demand among user groups.
- Track and turf field are good materials. Restrooms and covered stands are nice.
- Turf
- Turf
- Turf is deteriorating, flattened, holes, plus dangerous goalposts
- Viewers are left open to elements. Catches winds hard
- We had heavy rains and it flooded the field
- We need another like this one but with better drainage and less wind
- Weather

General comment

- All fields are fine as is
- All fields in ktn are extremely important due to not many extra curricular activities for the youth specifically in this town and important to keep them active. Do not appreciate people using fields for their pets as they dedicate everywhere and don't clean it up. Would be nice to have areas for pets as well in off activity hours especially Weiss fields.
- Excited to see some needed work and development on fields
- Having a turf field that could be used for multiple sports like they have in Sitka would be beneficial in Ketchikan.
- Honestly there has been a lot of progress with the fields. I remember when softball would be at the end of the season. And soccer would just be starting. And there wasn't enough fields so all the games got thrown places. And practice for soccer the field was changed every time. And now we all have fields to play on. But I think fawn mountain gets the most use with

football, soccer, track and field, and even softball has used that field to practice going to Sitka.

- I appreciate the efforts of Borough employees to improve the fields and listen to user concerns. I really hope we do everything to maintain the Fawn Mountain turf and not put all of our resources and focus on getting new turf for baseball, which I also support.
- I appreciate the people who do work on the field and it's frustrating out north with the Weiss fields being a dog park because people don't pick up after their dogs
- I believe if we had better fields for soccer, not having to use a dirt field, we'd have a better turn out for participation. An indoor field would be amazing. It would prevent cancellations due to weather.
- I cannot believe the fields have not improved since I played on them baseball/football/soccer back in 1983-1987 why do sitka, and north pole have a nice new field and our kids are stuck playing in the dirt/mud unacceptable in a town of this size-- esp with the tourism \$\$ that comes in ea year
- I don't think any sport should expect to have sole use of a field, even though it can be difficult to schedule multiple sports. Esther Shea is in high demand because it is the best field in Ketchikan. If the other fields - like Dudley and Walker - were in better shape, teams would be more willing to use those for practices and soccer games that don't require full-field length.
- I would like to see the city/borough invest fields to specific sports and covered or enclosed fields.
- Indoor facility like Juneau has for training and league play
- It's important to help our fields for the youth and adult, is everyone needs to continue to be active
- Need another multiple use turf field
- Need to consider building indoor complex like Juneau for year around play
- Please upgrade our facilities!
- Softball and baseball are due for a turf field they can play and practice on year round
- Spend the money now it will never be cheaper.
- Sports have been a part of my life since I was a kid, and now that I'm a parent my kids lives too. It's great that we are able to have as many different organizations use the fields that Ketchikan has to offer. Covering and/or excluding Fawn Mt field would be nice so organizations could utilize it during the winter time.
- Thank you to those gathering and compiling data in effort to bring potential improvements to our field use community.
- Thank you!
- The fields could use better maintenance and better dirt. They fields are often used by people who don't clean up after themselves or dogs which is very frustrating
- The fields don't get used because they are crap.
- The old tennis court that we use for outdoor futsal would be used WAY more if it was enclosed space. TTSC was unable to have their tournament due to rain making the surface to slick for safety. Lights & proper futsal surface would be AMAZING.

- The only turf field in town is the primarily used for Soccer. It would be nice if Baseball/ Softball also had a turf field to use. Even if they had to share. It's hard on the kids and their uniforms being in the dirt.
- We are very appreciative of this effort to make improvements. When we all work together, the whole community benefits. Thank you for hard work on this
- We need additional soccer field options outdoor & indoor
- We need better field maintenance
- We need covered seating at all fields. This is se. we don't cancel for weather unless it would be considered a hurricane elsewhere. Current field conditions don't allow for parents to easily view from cars or in covered bleachers at all fields n
- We need more use of land space and more covered facilities for the kids to practice. Our kids need a big indoor facility.
- Weather is terrible for these kids. They can't compete with kiddos from the south. Healthy options are so important. Safe places for sports I just think this is so important
- Would be great to get an indoor soccer/Futsal facility, much like Juneau and Homer have. There could also be an indoor track.

If you had to make only one change to the Borough's sport fields, what would it be?

- A better dog park
- A covered field.
- Add a turf field in town.
- Add additional track/soccer turf field above Houghtaling or out at Point Higgins
- Add an artificial turf field.
- Add an indoor field to be used year-round
- Add an indoor turf facility or build another field similar to Esther Shea in town.
- Add another multiple use field
- Add turf
- Add turf to Norman Walker and HS fields.
- An indoor facility
- An additional indoor turf field for all user groups.
- Another artificial field
- Another field so kids don't play so late
- Artificial turf
- Artificial turf
- Artificial turf
- Artificial turf
- Artificial turf for Dudley
- Artificial turf on Houghtaling field. Lights?
- Artificial turf would be ideal. As most fields have drainage issues. As Ketchikan has about 13' of rain each year.
- Artificial turf, new draining system, maintained better, better covered area at Dudley
- Artificial turf!
- Artificial turf!
- Artificial turf..... we need a field like Sitka has.....let's make it happen
- At least one enclosed field
- Availability for all soccer leagues to have a good season start time and length of season (that includes practices!)
- Basic improvements and up keep
- Bathrooms
- Better coverage and amenities for spectators
- Better covered stands. So we don't get so wet.
- Better dirt at Kayhi
- Better dirt or grass or turf to softball fields
- Better drainage
- Better drainage
- Better drainage

- Better drainage and coverage parent seating
- Better drainage and safer fields
- Better drainage and surface material
- Better lights
- Better maintenance of existing fields
- Better Parking
- Better parking and covered bleachers.
- Better quality dirt
- Better rain coverage
- Better turf quality
- Better weather protection
- better, thoughtful scheduling by Borough
- Build a Hockey Rink- quit building up and expanding infrastructure for sports that will end up excluding a majority of their participants once they meet a certain age (I.E. High school soccer/baseball/softball).
- Build a new facility that accommodates softball and baseball that is turf and has an indoor facility that all sports can use
- Build a new indoor facility to allow for multi sport, year round activities.
- Build an indoor facility
- Build them like fawn mountain
- Building or upgrading to a turf baseball/softball field. (Preferably upgrading walker).
- Cover fawn mountain field
- Covered area from wind/Rai
- Covered areas
- Covered facilities at all fields for both players and spectators
- Covered seating
- Covered seating
- Covered seating at all locations
- Covered Seating!!
- Covered Stands
- Dedicated Baseball Turf field at Walker
- Dedicated fields for each sport
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage!
- Drainage/turf at ballfields
- Draining
- Either turf or cover
- Equally for girls and boys
- Expand, turf, and dedicate Walker Field to baseball.
- Extend Walker to a full size baseball field.

- Fencing, allow users with off-leash dogs when not used for sports. No, I don't like dog poop, but there are many owners with dogs and few places to exercise them. Making NPH fields an off leash area was an improvement. Find a way to enforce the need to enforce poop pick up.
- Fields that drain better, for less cancelations
- Fix the drainage/proper turf maintenance at Fawn Mtn.
- Fix Walker so it's situated properly so it doesn't have to be reset all the time for the various teams. #2 Indoor Facility!
- Fix Walker so you didn't have to move fences and 2 games can always happen for baseball/softball
- For the softball fields: Add artificial turf and/or make sure they are drained properly
- Grass
- Healthier food choices at the concessions.
- Heated areas for parents
- I don't know
- I think getting cameras and charging the folks who don't pick up their dogs poop on Weiss. I don't see a problem with using the field but picking up is essential.
- id say turf dudly,
- Improve drainage so players can play in safer conditions and hopefully have fewer cancelled practices and games due to weather and rain on the field.
- Improve Norman walker. ESP drainage
- Improve surface and drainage at Walker
- Improve valley park
- Improve Walker Field
- Improved bathrooms
- Improvement in drainage
- Indoor
- Indoor facility
- Indoor facility
- Indoor facility
- Indoor field
- Indoor field house.
- Indoor please
- Indoor soccer facility would bring lots of visitors for games and provide access for our growing competition teams
- Indoor Soccer Field for Soccer Use Only Located up by Cape Fox large parking lot or it would be PERFECT to have it located at the open land right next to Walmart!!!! It is accessible by bus & conveniently located next to Walmart for when supplies or equipment is forgotten at home. That land has been for sale for a LONG time. They could add a COVERED playground for kids to use while siblings play. My niece played in such a facility in Montana & had an indoor space for bouncy houses. It would truly be convenient! Please consider that space for Ketchikan Indoor Soccer for KYSL, TTSC & Kayhi Girls/Boys and in the hopeful near future a Schoenbar Middle School Team! Thank you!!!! Also soon Sitka Rec Soccer will be traveling to Ketchikan to play as well.

- Indoor sports complex
- It seems that the boys sports get all the money and amenities. All field should be held to the same standard and should be open to all sexes
- Lighting during the winter months. Organized ins for adults would be amazing. Also an indoor field. The dark winters are hard to get through especially with the weather
- Maintain the drainage
- Make a multi-use turf field that was big enough for a good amount to use
- Make an indoor one
- Make Dudley field the best artificial turf and best drainage in the state!
- Make Fieldhouse like Juneau
- Make it indoor
- Make them appropriate for the sport- dirt for baseball- not for soccer
- Make them safe!
- Make them turf
- More covered areas
- More covered seating
- More maintenance (grading fields, fixing dugouts, keeping dogs out)
- More maintenance of Shea artificial grass
- more resources to baseball programs in the off season
- More support from the borough
- more turf and hold user groups accountable
- Move it out of downtown and create a baseball field that is not embarrassing
- New softball/baseball fields that can be used year-round
- No dog poop on the fields.
- No dogs allowed
- no dogs allowed on or around fields--- thats disgusting poop everywhere -smells, unsanitary, health hazard I have 2 dogs but I clean up after them and don't allow them on or around the playing fields
- No dogs allowed.
- No dogs!!
- No more dirt
- No more Dog's on the fields.
- No pets allowed
- Not sure at this time
- Nothing. The fields are fine. Artificial turf is a ridiculous suggestion as well as dedicated fields and other unnecessary things like sound systems and indoor field house
- one change... I lived in Juneau and worked at the indoor field house when it first opened and let me tell you that was a game changer. We held just about all outdoor activity practices in there when weather was poor and it provided a lot of new opportunities for programs to grow and expand.
- One sport field
- Parking
- Probably the location so we could make the fields and track bigger for bigger events

- Proper drainage in all fields
- Quality so kids and adults have a places to participate in positive healthy activities
- Re do them all! Except for dawn mountain
- Reorganization of Norman walker to allow for more play time And year round base baseball/ softball play
- Rip up and redo Weiss fields
- Safe fields for players
- Safe playable field that has drainage, restrooms and is available.
- Safety
- Safety, bathrooms and weather protection
- Score boards
- Shelter from weather
- Signage and parking
- Soccer teams need more play and practice time on turf.
- Sports dedicated fields.
- Supply a turf baseball field. Strictly for baseball. Soccer has a field football has a field and now baseball needs a field.
- To have more of them
- Turf
- Turf
- Turf
- Turf
- Turf both Norman Walker fields and reconfigure so fences don't have to be moved.
- Turf Dudley. Two fields. Fast-pitch softball
- Turf instead of gravel
- Turf on dedicated fields
- Turf on Walker for baseball only.
- Turf or better drainage
- Turf regulation size baseball field
- Turf w/good drainage
- Update Norman Walker
- Updated turf
- Upgrade Walker Field to artificial turf and better conditions similar to Sitka's field.

What should be the Borough's #1 Sports Field priority for capital improvement?

- A field like Sitka that both baseball and softball can use built at walker
- A field/facility baseball and softball could share. Indoor facility all sports could use.
- Access
- Add another field with astroturf
- Add another turf field so that more games can take place on turf.
- Add turf
- Add turf
- Adult softball
- An indoor training facility
- Another artificial field
- Another field
- Another field to play in
- Another turfed field or enclosed field
- Artificial turf
- Artificial turf field we need a good field that can handle the rain we get here..... we get more rain than our neighbors to the north
- Artificial turf for high school age baseball/softball to catch up with football, soccer, track.
- Baseball
- Baseball
- Baseball
- Baseball
- Baseball
- Baseball and softball
- Bathrooms
- Better maintenance of existing fields
- Better playing field surfaces.
- Better rain coverage
- Better seating and Safer parking
- Build a hockey rink. You have more adult usage of the Douglas island facility in Juneau (leagues and teams) then we do for all adult sports leagues in Ketchikan combined. Unfortunately most adults don't have time for summer sports (soccer/softball). It is a priority to get more diverse winter activities in this community.
- Build new facility
- Co-Ed field out north
- Concession stands
- Cover/enclosed field
- Covered areas for spectators
- Covered bleachers

- Covered field
- Covered seating
- Covered Seating
- Covered seating
- Covered seating on houghtling and lower Dudley
- Covered spectator areas
- Covered Stands
- Dedicate one field to a sport.
- dedicated fields
- Determine if a new field is needed based on current user needs and dedicate field space for each sport so that the overlapping sports seasons don't have to be limited in their use during their season. Maybe football needs their own field?
- Diesel use, not sports. Leave sports costs to users.
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage and covered
- Drainage and turf maintenance at Fawn Mtn. No more field goal and soccer goal combo.
- Drainage for fields
- Drainage of fields
- Drainage system
- Drainage!
- Drainage/turf at ballfields
- Draining the field at fawn mountain
- Dudley
- Dudley
- Dudley Field!!!!!!!!!!
- Dudley Field. As this user group is growing. And is a great central location.
- Either turf or cover
- Equally for girls and boys
- Extending Walker
- Fawn Mountain needs covered stands. Open access to bathrooms at ALL ball fields during ALL games.
- Field allowing activity during Ketchikan weather
- Field safety
- Field safety and maintenance.
- Find a covered play area for year round access.
- Fix Weiss covered seating
- Grass!!
- Having areas for spectators/players to be protected from weather
- High school

- High school field
- Houghtaling has a lot of potential & extremely convenient location.
- I believe creating an indoor facility capable of holding multiple programs and athletics as well as making sure current fields are up to legal size and safety regulations should be the highest priority while most efficient.
- I don't know
- I would like them to flip Walker so it is turf and has 2 appropriate size fields all the time.
- I'm unsure
- I'd say turf is better but I think we need an indoor sports complex. Our weather is so bad I think it would attract more participants and our players will do better being able to practice longer into the winter or all winter long.
- If artificial turf can't happen for a while then a better draining system
- If something can be done to improve all vs building one new one (no matter how fancy or big) that would be best for all levels community wide. We already have plenty of flatland already exists, that could use improvements
- Improve drainage
- Improve drainage at Fawn Mtn
- Improve soccer fields
- Improvements on as many fields as possible - not just one. Each field has drainage issues and most are uncovered. Attendance is down because there isn't a dry place to watch unless you are a boy playing at Norman Walker.
- Indoor year round facility
- Indoor
- Indoor facility
- Indoor facility
- Indoor facility
- Indoor facility
- Indoor facility
- Indoor facility.
- Indoor Field
- Indoor field
- Indoor Field House
- Indoor field house.
- Indoor opportunities
- Indoor sports arenas
- Maintaining the field
- Make Field-house like Juneau
- Make them appropriate for the sport- dirt for baseball- not for soccer
- Making it safe and clean for players
- More field space with turf.
- Move/improve baseball field
- New Baseball field

- new clean (poop free) safe surface-- keep the injuries to a min and keep our kids safe when playing contact sports
- New indoor sports field like Juneau
- Norman Walker
- Norman walker
- Norman Walker
- Norman walker
- Norman Walker Field improvements
- Norman Walker or two fields added at Wiess
- Norman walker. Dudley.
- Parking
- Parking
- Parking.
- Player safety
- Playing surface and stands at Norman walker
- Proper drainage in all fields
- Safe fields for players
- Safety
- Safety
- safety and accessibility for all
- Safety and compliance upgrades to ALL fields before turf!
- Shelter from weather
- Shoenbar
- Soccer
- Soccer
- Softball
- Softball field
- Softball/baseball
- Softball/Baseball
- The field by Schoenbar- Walker?
- turf
- Turf
- Turf
- Turf baseball field.
- Turf dudley
- Turf dudley
- Turf field
- Turf field
- Turf instead of gravel
- Turf on walker
- Turf on Walker for baseball only.
- Turf or indoor facility
- Turf regulation size baseball field

- Turf replacement on all fields.
- Turf softball and baseball fields
- Turf the other outdoor fields or build an indoor facility for all user groups.
- Turf, indoor year around use facility
- Turf!
- Turfed baseball/softball field
- Unsure
- Valley prk
- Walker
- Walker
- Walker
- Walker field
- Walker field
- Walker Field
- Walker Field
- Walker Field with turf
- Walker field-
- Walker.
- Weiss
- Weiss
- A better dog park
- A covered field.

Ketchikan Gateway Borough - Capital Improvement Plan for Athletic Field Upgrades

January 7, 2020

Projects	Cost	Budget	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Priority #1: Bond Proposal							
Norman Walker Field							
Field expansion/surfacing/drainage	\$660,500	Rec CIP Bond		660,500			
Surface field with artificial turf	\$730,000	Rec CIP Bond		730,000			
Accessibility upgrades	\$35,000	Rec CIP Bond		35,000			
Demolish dugouts	\$15,000	Rec CIP Bond		15,000			
Install new scoreboard	\$55,000	Rec CIP Bond		55,000			
Install permanent fencing	\$185,100	Rec CIP Bond		185,100			
Install new lighting	\$725,000	Rec CIP Bond		725,000			
Construct new grandstands	\$600,000	Rec CIP Bond		600,000			
Demolish grandstands & concession	\$18,000	Rec CIP Bond			18,000		
Subtotal	\$3,023,600		0	3,005,600	18,000	0	0
Design	\$302,360						
Construction Management	\$151,180						
TOTAL	\$3,477,140						

Drency Dudley Field (Upper)							
Field expansion/surfacing/drainage	\$180,000	Rec CIP Bond	180,000				
Surface field with artificial turf	\$500,000	Rec CIP Bond	500,000				
Install permanent fencing	\$85,000	Rec CIP Bond	85,000				
Install foul poles	\$5,000	Rec CIP Bond	5,000				
Install new lighting	\$725,000	Rec CIP Bond	725,000				
Accessibility upgrades from lower field	\$65,000	Rec CIP Bond		65,000			
Subtotal	\$1,560,000		1,495,000	65,000	0	0	0
Design	\$156,000						
Construction Management	\$78,000						
TOTAL	\$1,794,000						

Drency Dudley Field (Lower)							
Lower Field Slope Stabilization & Spectator Ex	\$400,000	Rec CIP Bond			400,000		
Lower Field Grandstand Cover	\$250,000	Rec CIP Bond				250,000	
Subtotal	\$650,000						
Design	\$65,000						
Construction Management	\$32,500						
TOTAL	\$747,500						

Houghtaling Field							
Accessible trail	\$200,000	Rec CIP Bond			200,000		
Parking & access road	\$350,000	Rec CIP Bond			350,000		
Subtotal	\$550,000		0	0	550,000	0	0
Design	\$55,000						
Construction Management	\$27,500						
TOTAL	\$632,500						

Grand Total Bond Proposition Projects \$6,651,140

REC CIP PROGRAMMING AND FUTURE WORK

Projects	Cost	Fund Source (CIP) Budget	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Priority #2: Rec CIP Projects for Annual Budgeting												
Norman Walker Field												
Parking	\$86,850	Rec CIP					\$86,850					
Greenspace	\$220,000	Rec CIP						\$220,000				
New Playground or Dog Park	\$150,000	Rec CIP							\$150,000			
Drency Dudley Field												
Lower Restrooms	\$250,000	Rec CIP/LWCF Grant (awarded	\$250,000									
Batting cages	\$9,000	Rec CIP		\$9,000								
Media Booth Sound System	\$5,000	KGBSD or user groups	\$5,000									
Grandstand Enclosure	\$45,000	Rec CIP	\$45,000									
Install scoreboard (Lower)	\$65,000	Rec CIP	65000									
Install foul poles	\$5,000	Rec CIP	5000									
Upgrade or Build New Concessions	\$500,000	Rec CIP Bond (Future)						\$500,000				
Valley Park Field												
Expand & relocate field	\$150,000	Rec CIP Bond (Future)						\$150,000				
Relocate dugouts	\$18,000	Rec CIP Bond (Future)						\$18,000				
Install scoreboard	\$55,000	Rec CIP		\$55,000								
New Restroom											\$250,000	
Houghtaling Field												
Restroom Water Fountain	\$15,000	Rec CIP	\$15,000									
Weiss Field												
Light Replacement w/ LED	\$450,000	Rec CIP or Bond (Future)				\$450,000	\$450,000					
Accessibility upgrades	\$60,000	Rec CIP		\$60,000								
Drainage Improvements	\$200,000	Rec CIP				\$200,000	\$200,000					
Restroom/concessions improvement	\$150,000	Rec CIP					\$150,000					
Parking along Access Road	\$255,000	Rec CIP or Bond (Future)					\$255,000					
Dog Park	\$150,000	Rec CIP or Bond (Future)						\$200,000				
Covered seating	\$200,000	Rec CIP Bond (Future)									\$200,000	\$200,000
East parking lot	\$600,000	Rec CIP Bond (Future)										\$600,000
Improve Pt. Higgins Lower Field for	\$600,000	DEED/Rec CIP Bond (Future)										\$600,000
Esther Shea Track & Field												
Expand kick-ball field for field event	\$125,000	DEED/Rec CIP Bond (Future)						\$125,000				
East parking lot - grade to limits	\$50,000	Rec CIP/KGBSD		\$50,000								
Media Booth Sound System	\$5,000	KGBSD or user groups	\$5,000									
East parking lot - pave	\$632,500	DEED/Rec CIP Bond (Future)										\$632,500
Field House												
Field House Site Acquisition & Development	\$4,000,000	Rec CIP Bond (Future)									\$4,000,000	
Field House Construction	\$5,000,000	Rec CIP Bond (Future)									\$5,000,000	

Assembly Policy Session

3. d.

Meeting Date: 01/17/2020

Submitted Alex Peura

Submitted By: Kacie Paxton

For:

Department: Public Works

Approved for Deanna Thomas, Asst Manager

Submittal: Ruben Duran, Manager

Information

POLICY OBJECTIVE

Fields Plan - 30 minutes

CURRENT SYSTEM/PROPOSED SYSTEM

Following the work session discussion, staff recommends the following motion be adopted:

"I move to adopt the *Ketchikan Gateway Borough Field Usage & Development Study* and include the capital priorities in the FY 2021-2025 CIP."

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

Attached for the Assembly's consideration is the *Ketchikan Gateway Borough Field Usage & Development Study* ("2019 Field Study") and the *Capital Improvement Plan for Athletic Field Upgrades* ("5-year CIP") presented by Chris Mertl with Corvus Design, Inc. In September, 2019, the Borough entered into a contract with Corvus Design to identify the community's capital priorities at the Borough's sports fields through a robust public process. Corvus Design held two public meetings with, respectively, some 55 and 35 attendants; received direct feedback and surveys from representatives of the local sports organizations; and distributed an online survey with 246 responses from the public.

Projects intended for inclusion in a Rec CIP Bond totaling \$6.65 million consist of:

- Norman Walker Field Improvements (Cost: \$3,477,140): Elimination of the small side of Norman Walker Field and expansion of the field to meet American Legion and Kayhi requirements with fixed fencing and artificial turf. Restrooms and concessions will remain in their current location, with the southern restrooms and concessions to be demolished. Work includes drainage improvements throughout, including rerouting a creek that currently runs beneath the grandstands, compacted sand surfacing, lighting replacement with modern metal poles, grandstand replacement, and accessibility improvements to provide an ADA compliant route from the grandstands/restroom/concessions to the field.
- Upper Drencey Dudley Field Improvements (Cost: \$1,794,000) and Lower Drencey Dudley Field

- Improvements (Cost: \$747,500): Expansion of the upper field to provide a Kayhi softball compliant field with fixed fencing. Grandstands will remain in their current configuration with the addition of selective siding installation. Work includes infilling the drainage ditch along the west perimeter of the field, improving drainage conditions throughout, compacted sand surfacing, and artificial turf surfacing. Work on lower Dudley includes slope stabilization and spectator seating area expansion, with a grandstand cover. Overall work will include replacing the fields lights throughout, accessibility and concessions upgrades to the Mead Building or identification of an alternate restroom/concessions location that will better meet the user's needs, and installation of a new scoreboard for the lower field.
- Houghtaling Field Improvements (Cost: \$632,500): Construction of an accessible route throughout the field, including constructing a parking area north of the field accessed via Thatcher Way, and installing a sidewalk in the ditch along the north perimeter of the field.

Projects intended for performance through the Rec CIP annual budgeting process over the next five years include:

- Norman Walker Field Site Improvements: Parking and greenspace in space remaining following elimination of the south field.
- Dudley Field: Lower restrooms construction, with awarded LWCF funds, scoreboard installation for the lower field, batting cage installation at the lower tennis court, and placement of siding to enclose a portion of the new grandstands.
- Valley Park: Scoreboard installation.
- Weiss Field: Accessibility, drainage and parking upgrades. Lighting replacement may be necessary during this period, as they are exhibiting signs of their age.
- Esther Shea: Leveling the ground south of the access road to the Esther Shea Field.

Extensive improvements above and beyond these projects were also identified, but are outside the funds available at this time and the 5-year timeframe for the CIP. A prospective CIP beyond those years is attached, but may be subject to change as future conditions warrant.

Background:

The last Borough process to establish a fields CIP took place in 2012, just after the installation of turf at Esther Shea Fawn Mountain Track & Field. That study established a suite of projects performed within the last seven years: accessibility, restroom, grandstands, media booth, and grandstand covering construction at Esther Shea; Dudley Field accessibility, regrading, drainage improvements, grandstand replacement, covered grandstands, and resurfacing; Houghtaling Field regrading and resurfacing; and Norman Walker Field meter base and light control panel replacement. In the intervening years, community members have expressed the desire for Norman Walker Field to be expanded and turfed to support the Kayhi and American Legion baseball programs and for Dudley Field to be improved to a similar level for the Kayhi and Ketchikan Softball Club softball programs, giving those sports comparable facilities to those present for soccer and football at Esther Shea Fawn Mountain Field.

During the policy session of 2016, staff sought direction to pursue an American Legion size field.

Given three options - to realign Norman Walker Field for a full-size American Legion and compliant Little League field; expand a field at Weiss; or build a third, cloverleaf field at Weiss - the Assembly designated the Norman Walker concept as the preferred alternative. Per the results of the 2019 Field Study, the public generally felt that it would work better to eliminate the small side of the field, expand the larger side, and provide parking in the leftover space.

Proposed Sequencing:

The sequencing outlined in the 5-Year CIP envisions performing the Dudley Field Expansion project first, followed by the Norman Walker Field improvements, as it allows the small side of Walker Field to be the overflow softball field should the Dudley Expansion go over schedule. The additional design time will also be valuable in determining the proper manner to address a longstanding drainage issue at Norman Walker Field. The Houghtaling work could be scheduled either before or after these projects, but requires less coordination since it could take place without disrupting the field participants.

Operational Results:

The recommended elimination of a sand field and creation of new turf fields will reduce the required field prep time. Staff spends a total of 4 hours per game day dragging Walker Field and Dudley Field, which will be reduced to 2 hours per game day to drag the infield for the turf areas and all of lower Dudley. This will improve staff's ability to clean and maintain the grounds, and also allow earlier field usage start times. Fixed fencing also removes an annual maintenance item, and eliminates having to allocate substantial forces to moving fencing around at Walker Field to support American Legion or Kayhi Baseball games.

Risks:

The proposed projects do have a few risks:

- Walker Field Water Main: The raw water main serving the entire City of Ketchikan runs directly through the center of Walker Field. The City d/b/a KPU Water Division intends to perform competency testing this year. The construction conditions within the field are understood to be better than those in Schoenbar Road, where this main has ruptured numerous times over the last decade. Nonetheless, a turf field would be expensive to repair in the event of a water main failure.
- Elimination of a baseball field: The elimination of Norman Walker small does remove a baseball field from the Borough's inventory. A resurgent softball minors program could lead to scheduling complications.
- Elimination of two full-size, multi-use fields: By permanently fixing the fence distances at Norman Walker and Upper Dudley, Esther Shea will become the sole remaining full-size soccer and football field. Football has been in decline recently, and soccer users responded that a field of the size available at Dudley or Houghtaling could accommodate their use. However, a resurgent football program or expansion of the soccer season could necessitate construction of a new field or expansion at an alternate location not currently in the Borough's inventory (e.g. lower Point Higgins).

Fiscal Impact

Attachments

[2019 Field Study](#)

[Capital Improvement Program](#)

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH

Assembly Policy Session

January 17, 2020

Assembly Chambers, White Cliff Building

Call to Order—Pledge of Allegiance—Roll Call

The special policy meeting of the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly was called to order at 9:00 a.m., on Friday, January 17, 2020, by Mayor Dial in Assembly Chambers.

PRESENT: BAILEY, LANDIS, OTOS, PICKRELL PIERCE, WESTERGARD, WONG

ABSENT: NONE

Staff present included:

Manager Duran, Attorney Brown, Assistant Manager Thomas, Finance Director Gubatayao, Planning Director Harney, Assessor Thompson, Public Works Director Peura, Animal Protection Director Blackwood, Transit Director Reeve, Transit Grant Administrator Jackson, Recreation Supervisor Miller, North Tongass Fire Chief Kiffer, South Tongass Fire Chief Rydeen, Procurement Officer Briggs, HR Administrator Hallmann, Deputy Clerk Fox, Records Manager Amylon, and Clerk Paxton

Mayor Dial provided an overview of the policy session and explained that the format would be an informal work session¹ during which policy direction could be provided to staff. He said the Assembly could move out of work session into regular session if formal motions were desired.

Citizen Comments - *Comments on any topic other than scheduled public hearings.*

There were no citizen comments provided.

Policy Issues for Consideration by the Borough Assembly - *The policy session discussions are conducted in work session format. Work sessions are informal discussions held for purposes of exchanging and gathering information, and formal rules of order are relaxed.*

Initial Work Session to Establish Assumptions and Guidelines for Preparing the FY 2021 Borough Budget, including Long-Range Fiscal Planning - 60 minutes

The work session began at 9:03 a.m.

Finance Director Gubatayao provided a presentation on the FY 2021 Borough budget assumptions and presented an interactive spreadsheet depicting the various Borough funds, revenues, and expenditures. The initial FY 2021 assumptions were as follows, with the General Fund revenues and expenditures depicted in the spreadsheets at the end of this set of minutes¹:

FY 2021 Budget Overview:

- Strong financial position in most budget areas;
- No property tax increase proposed;
- Cruise ship passenger counts and visitor counts have increased;

¹ *KGBC 2.10.090(d) Work sessions are informal discussion sessions held for purposes of exchanging and gathering information, and formal rules of order are relaxed. Work sessions are not required to be recorded, and minutes are not required to be kept. No votes may be taken and no decisions may be made in work session. The topics to be addressed in a work session shall be included in the published agenda.*

Recreation Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Fund:

- **Funded by .5 cent sales tax; interest earnings; DEED bond debt reimbursement;**
- **Can support \$6.6 million bond for fields projects as proposed in field study if approved by voters.**

School Bond CIP Fund:

- Moratorium on DEED bond debt reimbursement program expected to continue;
- \$8 million in capital expenditures expected in next few years;
- Bond issue expected in order to conduct repairs for Point Higgins School.

Local Education Fund:

- Certificates of Participation coming up and may be able to refinance July 1, 2020; no vote required.

Airport PFC Fund:

- Airport PFC Fund based on \$4.50 per passenger collected;
- Terminal area study being conducted to identify projects; issue revenue bond for projects; no vote required.

CPV Fund:

- Projected 10 percent revenue increase over FY 2020;
- Total expenses projected at \$441,000 for FY 2020;
- Proposed budget at \$450,000 for FY 2021;
- Projecting surplus of \$340,000 at end of FY 2021;
- Ward Cove Dock project anticipated to require additional Transit and North Tongass Fire and EMS services to be funded through the CPV fund, fund expected to be able to support the changes for FY 2021.

Borough services related to Ward Cove Dock Project:

- Staff working with owners regarding anticipated Transit and Fire/EMS services;
- First cruise ship visit in Ward Cove not yet known.

General Fund:

- FY 2021 estimates are reasonable, yet conservative, includes increase of single unit sales tax cap, remote sales tax, PILT funding;
- Remote sales tax - to begin code amendment; keep exemptions, working with software to incorporate municipal differences; may have to provide refunds or rebate;
- Finance Department - placeholder for additional staff person, projected for FY 2022 to address additional revenue activities; remote sales tax; audit services;
- Public Works proposes to replace three seasonal workers with one full time employee for an added cost of \$30,000;
- Transit seeking long-term Transit Plan;
- FY 2021 budget includes proposed capital projects as recommended in CIP plan;
- Proposing two percent increase in total grant funding;
- General Fund balance has increased to around \$12 million, which equates to close to one year of expenses.

Mayor Dial commended the Assembly and staff for raising the single unit sales tax cap and redirecting funds into the Local Education Fund (LEF). He noted the surplus in the CPV fund, the opportunity to refinance debt, the capacity to bond for recreational improvements with no increases in tax rates, and the revenue was up by 5.1 percent. He stated a future goal could be to allocate a surplus in the General Fund (GF) to the LEF.

The meeting recessed at 10:09 a.m. and reconvened at 10:14 a.m.

The Assembly came out of work session and reconvened in regular session at 12:15 p.m.

M/S: WESTERGARD, WONG to direct staff to develop an RFP for a Transit Development Plan

Upon roll call the vote on the MOTION was:

YES: BAILEY, LANDIS, PICKRELL, OTOS, PIERCE, WESTERGARD, WONG

MOTION DECLARED MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

The meeting recessed at 12:17 p.m. and reconvened at 12:28 p.m.

Fields Plan

The Assembly entered work session at 12:28 p.m.

Morgan Barry, Deputy Public Works Director, provided a summary of the Borough's contract and process for a fields study and development of a five-year capital improvement (CIP) program for fields. He provided an update on the completed work to fields following the 2012 Fields Plan including improvements to Dudley Field and regrading Houghtaling Field. He provided the recommended CIP Plan for field upgrades, incorporated at the end of this set of minutes.ⁱⁱⁱ

Christopher Mertle, Corvus Design, provided a presentation on the fields study and CIP program:

- Started project September 2019 to review outdoor athletic fields including Walker Field, Dudley Fields, Houghtaling Field, Valley Park Field, Esther Shea Fawn Mountain Field, and Weiss Fields;
- Community Input - process included facilitated sessions with community members and survey; two public meetings held with 30 community participants;
- Developed draft Field Usage and Development Study based on public input;
- Community Survey yielded 250 surveys; compared Ketchikan to national standards; Ketchikan is unique in number of multi-use fields requiring additional effort and maintenance; baseball and softball use is static, with soccer increasing and football decreasing; Survey results included: artificial turf fields and increased drainage (top two requests); improving existing facilities; Walker Field highest priority, Dudley Field second priority; safety improvements; prohibit dogs; reduce maintenance; dedicate fields to single use with necessary support; economic development benefit for ability to host tournaments; address parking needs; scoreboards at all fields with exception of Houghtaling;
- Norman Walker Field proposal includes high school and adult baseball; removal of little league field; artificial turf, new lighting, green space, parking, ADA improvements;
- Dudley Field proposal includes artificial turf on upper field; Increasing field size with two full-size fields - one regulation softball, one combined baseball/softball; add restroom; add scoreboard; add fencing;
- Houghtaling Field proposal includes drainage, parking, accessibility; access road and parking; drain improvements;
- Valley Park Field proposal includes extension of fenceline through agreement with City to reach full size little league field; dugouts, spectator seating; replace playground; expand field; restrooms may be longterm improvement;
- Esther Shea Fawn Mountain Field proposal includes parking reorganization and upgrade; reconfiguring football goal posts;
- Weiss Fields proposal includes addressing dogs usage and feces on fields; drainage issues; accessibility improvements; parking improvements; potential location for a separate dog park;
- Point Higgins Soccer Field proposal would address improvements for junior high use;
- Fieldhouse proposal discusses a potential location at Weiss Fields or at Fawn Mountain.

Deputy Director Barry reviewed the risks associated with the recommended Field Plan:

- Walker Field has a water main running underneath which adds a risk level when considering installation of artificial turf; City of Ketchikan intends to perform competency analysis of the main;
- Walker Field proposal eliminates a little league baseball field in order for the larger turf field and improvements to be made;
- Proposal eliminates multi-use for football and soccer at Walker and Dudley Fields;

Finance Director Gubatayao responded to questions regarding the proposed \$6.6 million bond for the fields:

- FY 2021 REC CIP Fund budget includes a potential bond payment for a 20-year bond of \$6.6 million at 3.5 percent interest;
- \$6.6 million would cover the Walker Field, Dudley Field, and Houghtaling Field, and would be submitted to the voters for approval;
- Fund balance would support ongoing routine major maintenance projects;
- Current sales tax revenue would cover bond payments; half cent sales tax dedicated to recreation, including capital projects and ongoing maintenance of recreation facilities.

The Assembly reconvened in regular session at 1:28 p.m.

M/S: WONG/PIERCE to adopt the *Ketchikan Gateway Borough Field Usage & Development Study* and include the capital priorities in the FY 2021-2025 CIP

Upon roll call the vote on the MOTION was:

YES: LANDIS, OTOS, WESTERGARD, BAILEY, PICKRELL, PIERCE, WONG

MOTION DECLARED MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

The meeting recessed at 1:30 p.m. and reconvened at 1:51 p.m.

Borough Five-Year Capital Plan

The work session began at 1:51 p.m.

Finance Director Gubatayao provided a presentation on the Five Year Capital and Major Projects Plan, as depicted in the spreadsheet at the end of this set of minutes^{iv}:

- Plan incorporates School District projects;
- Summary page includes \$13 million in projects over next five years;
- Larger projects still require action by the Assembly;
- Figures in summary page included in FY 2021 budget document, unless otherwise directed by the Assembly.

A discussion was held about the road and driveway to the South Tongass Fire Station. Fire Chief Ryden explained that staff was reviewing options for addressing road safety issues. Manager Duran explained the ownership and management responsibilities of the road and driveway needed to be determined; there were questions whether a road service area needed to be considered.

Mayor Dial provided an overview of his proposal for a park in the Ward Lake/Revilla Road area:

- Requested the Assembly to approve the idea so that it would come back for future consideration for a design firm to help identify a vision for a multi-use recreational area;