



East High School Proposed Site Improvements Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is included in the Proposed Site Improvements at East High School?

A: Site improvements at East High School include replacement of the field with artificial turf, replacement of bleachers, resurfacing and improved layout of parking lot, new walk-ways, field improvements such as fencing, lighting and a scoreboard.

The proposal includes:

- **Multi-Use Athletic Field** - Primary lines will be Soccer. Secondary lines will be women and men's lacrosse. Background lines will be for football lines with hash marks (no numbers) for marching band
- **Addition of Bleacher Seating to the Site** - Replacement of existing bleachers with new, removable, bleachers and would accommodate seating up to 200.
- **Addition of Score Board to the Site** (16' x 8')
- **Addition of 4 LED Lights to Field Area** - The lights are 70' tall to allow for the most concentrated and narrow, directed light stream possible on site. The taller pole actually helps minimize spillage of light and glare onto adjacent properties.
- **Parking lot reconfiguration and resurfacing** - Replacement of existing parking lot with safer parking lot layout, maintaining the same amount of parking spots.

Q: What is NOT in the plan?

- There is no sound or PA system and no electrical outlet designed for future potential use
- There is no concession or restroom building or plumbing designed for future potential use
- There is no unlimited use of the lights. Lights are proposed for automatic turn off at 9 p.m.

Q: What are the key changes made to the proposal, based on community feedback?

- Reduction in seating from 500, as proposed in November, to 200
- Adjusted layout of the parking lot to keep it a greater distance from the homes that border the District's property
- Limiting usage of lights to 9 p.m.

Q: Why are the light poles so tall and is that necessary?

A: The taller pole actually helps reduce spillage of light and glare, creating a more narrow, directed beam and limiting the impact on adjacent properties. The lighting at East would use a 30 “foot candle”. A foot candle is a measurement of light intensity. The recommended standard for high school field lighting is a 50-foot “candle” and is what most area high school fields utilize.

Q: What is the anticipated impact on neighbors with the proposed lighting?

A: According to light studies, the new LED lighting would limit impact both in reach and in intensity on any properties adjacent to the site. The proposed lighting includes four 70’ LED light poles that would include 30 foot “candles”. Most area activity fields with lights are using 50 watt candles. The height of the poles allows the light beam to spread from the fixture head to the field in a narrow beam. The narrower the beam, the more precise the light placement is on the field and the less spill light there is onto adjacent properties. Additionally, the lighting system has technology to allow for timing and dimming controls. [Attached is map of the impact of the proposed LED lights.](#) Based on the study, the spill or glare of the lights onto neighboring properties is little to none.

Q: When and how would the field be used?

A: The field would be most used by girls and boys soccer, girls and boys lacrosse, high school gym classes, and the marching band. The plan is not to routinely use the field for varsity soccer games, but the field would be utilized for freshman and/or JV games, as the existing field has traditionally been until recently when conditions began to worsen. The latest the field would be available is 9 PM. Priority would be given to District team sports and activities, district clubs and then local Wauwatosa user groups. Groups outside of Wauwatosa would not be able to rent the space.

Q: Why is the field in need of replacement?

A: The field is proposed for replacement due to safety concerns caused by the shifting of old home foundations beneath it. The foundations and conditions beneath the soil of the field have created hazardous conditions including sinking holes and “hilling”, which creates serious concern for injuries of those using the field. In order to make this a long-lasting safe area for use, the foundations need to be removed. The area would then be backfilled with better soils and stone and while doing that work, it is recommended to improve the layout of the field to allow for adequately sized field play.

Q: Why is artificial turf proposed as the best solution?

A: When analyzing best options for replacement, the District considered cost, as well as maximizing the amount of field usage - both in hours and participants. As a result of that analysis, it is proposed to replace the field with artificial turf. Part of the proposal is to include lighting on the field to maximize the amount it can be used by the school’s athletic teams, marching band, the school’s club sports, and the community. While the initial cost for the turf is about \$300,000 more than natural grass field replacement, the turf is more cost-effective than

grass over the course of 12 years when analyzing past years spending and comparing future maintenance needs.

Q: How would the site improvements be funded?

A: The proposed activity field site improvements at East High School were identified as a priority Capital Improvement Project for 2019 by the District, due to the safety concerns for the field. The project would be paid for out of the District's Operating Budget for 2019. **No referendum dollars are being used for the proposed field site improvement.**

The parking lot and loading dock site reconfiguration and resurfacing to improve function and safety of those areas would be funded with referendum dollars (\$900,000), as communicated pre-referendum. They are separate projects that are being done at the same time because it makes the most sense logistically and with budgets for construction.

Q: Why is East High School the best location for the field?

A: The field has long existed at East and provides our students the opportunity to play onsite without the need to travel to another field for practice. The proposal is not creating a new space, it is replacing and updating the current site that is not currently able to be utilized as it should be, due to its condition. This would be home field for many of the sports teams currently at East. The field is also in a walkable location that will allow the community access to a safe, playable surface. Additionally, Wauwatosa School District would maintain scheduling of the field, meaning priority would be given to District team sports and activities, district clubs and local Wauwatosa user groups. Groups outside of Wauwatosa would not be able to rent the space.

Q: How does the plan account for safety measures on the field?

- **Artificial turf w/shock pad** - The turf field would have a shock pad installed which reduces head and other sports-related injuries.
- **Heat Reduction** - Use of a natural infill versus rubber would reduce the amount of heat on the field, which is key for use in warm weather months. For more information about the fill and shock pad please visit: <https://www.brockusa.com/brockfill/>
- **Netting** - Proper netting would be installed to protect neighboring properties and street traffic. The netting would be 25 feet high and would span the width of the field on both the East and West side. The netting will be made for soccer and lacrosse balls. The goals for lacrosse are smaller and sit further in on the field, unlike the soccer goals which sit on the edge of the field.
- **Additional walkways** - The proposal would increase the walkways on site to align with the existing lighted crosswalk on Wauwatosa Ave. to provide safer foot travel

Q: What is the Outdoor Spaces Plan?

A: The Wauwatosa School District's Outdoor Spaces Plan was presented to the Wauwatosa School Board in November 2018. It is the proposed implementation plan for portions of the

options provided in the Active Tosa Plan that directly correlate to the District. It is supplemental to the Active Tosa Plan.

Q: What is Active Tosa and The Active Tosa Plan

A: Active Tosa is the Comprehensive Master Plan for parks, trails, open spaces, and recreational facilities within the City of Wauwatosa. It includes a review of City properties, Wauwatosa School District (WSD) properties, and some Milwaukee County parks. The plan developed through a community-driven process, evaluating existing open space, facilities, programming, demographic projections, changing trends, and level of service. Using this information, combined with community input, a list of priorities and options were established for parks, trails, open spaces, and recreational facilities. The Active Tosa plan was crafted to provide the community with options of action items and key steps needed to successfully implement the recommended improvements overtime. The plan consists of suggestions and recommendations.

The Active Tosa Plan was created in September 2017.