

TOWN OF BARRINGTON

ATHLETIC FIELDS CONDITION AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

Date: September, 2023



Prepared For:



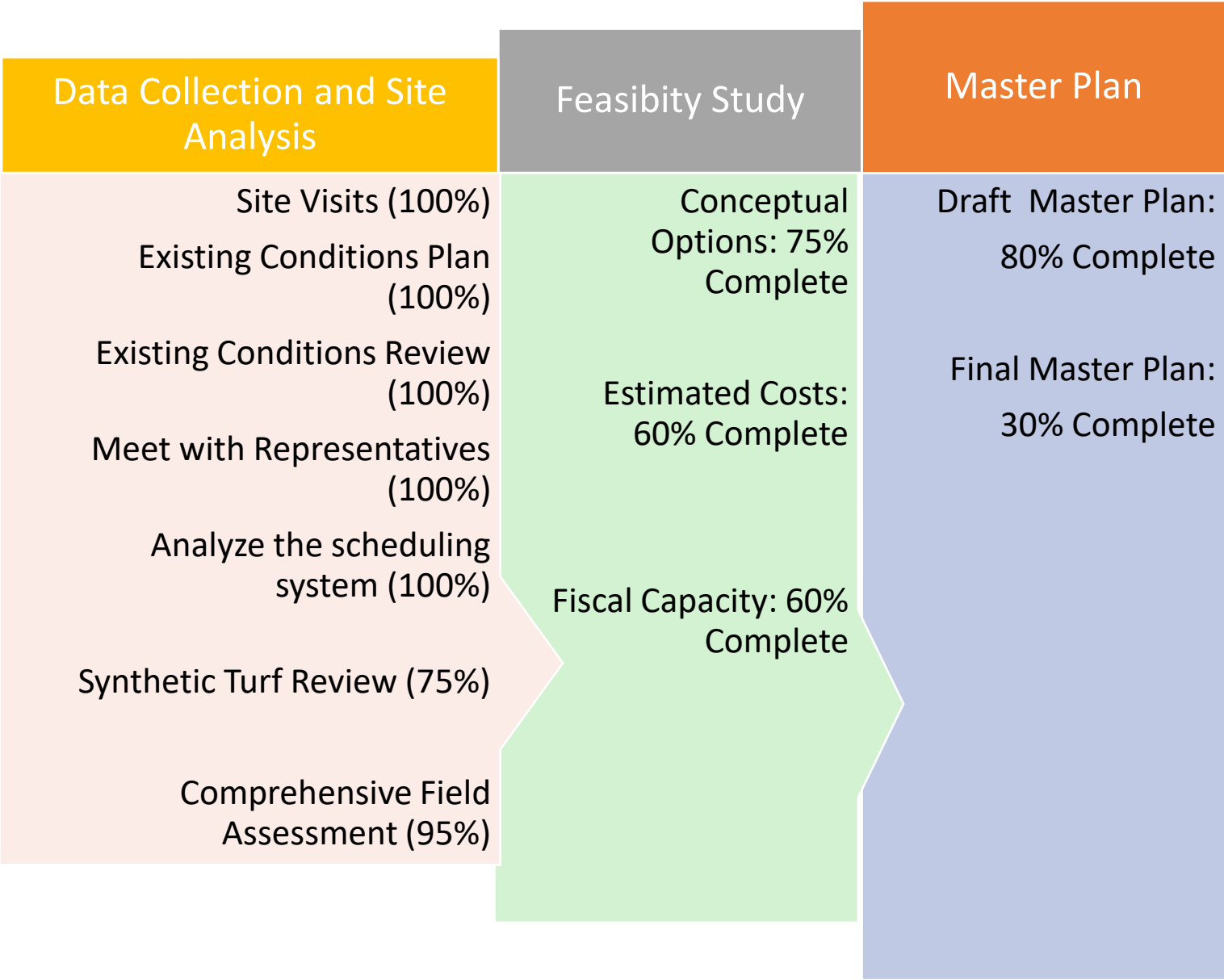
Prepared By:



TOM IRWIN ADVISORS



WHAT HAS BEEN
COMPLETE AND WHAT
NEEDS TO BE DONE?



Barrington Middle School (School)

- Baseball – MS Field 1.1
- West facing multi-purpose field – MS Field 2.1
- North multi-purpose field – MS Field 2.2
- South PRACTICE multi-purpose field – MS Field 2.3

Barrington High School (School)

- Varsity Baseball – HS Field 1.1
- Varsity Softball – HS Field 1.2
- JV Baseball – HS Field 1.3
- MP Field adjacent to parking lot – HS Field 2.1
- Stadium field – HS Field 2.2
- MP Field behind JV BB – HS Field 2.3
- MP Field behind softball – HS Field 2.4
- Softball Field behind Tennis Courts – HS Field 3.1
- Multi-Use Field behind Tennis Courts – HS Field 3.2

Bicknell Park (Town Property)

- Baseball field – BK Field 1.1
- Multi-Use – BK Field 1.2

Chianese Fields (Town Property)

- Baseball field – CH 1.1
- North multi-purpose fields – CH 2.1
- Lower field 1 – CH 2.2
- Lower field 2 (landfill field) – CH 2.3

Haines Park (State Property)

- Lower baseball field – HAI Field 1.1
- Upper baseball field – HAI Field 1.2
- Upper softball field – HAI Field 1.3
- Upper Multi-Use – HAI Field 1.4

Nayatt Ave Field (School)

- West softball field – NA Field 1.1
- East softball field – NA Field 1.2

Primrose Hill School (School)

- Softball field – PRH Field 1.1

Sherwood Park (Town Property)

- Baseball field – SHW Field 1.1

Sowams Rd Park (Town Property)

- Multi purpose field – SOPRK Field 2.1

Sowams School (School)

- Practice baseball field – SO Field 1.1
- Baseball field (play field) – SO Field 1.2

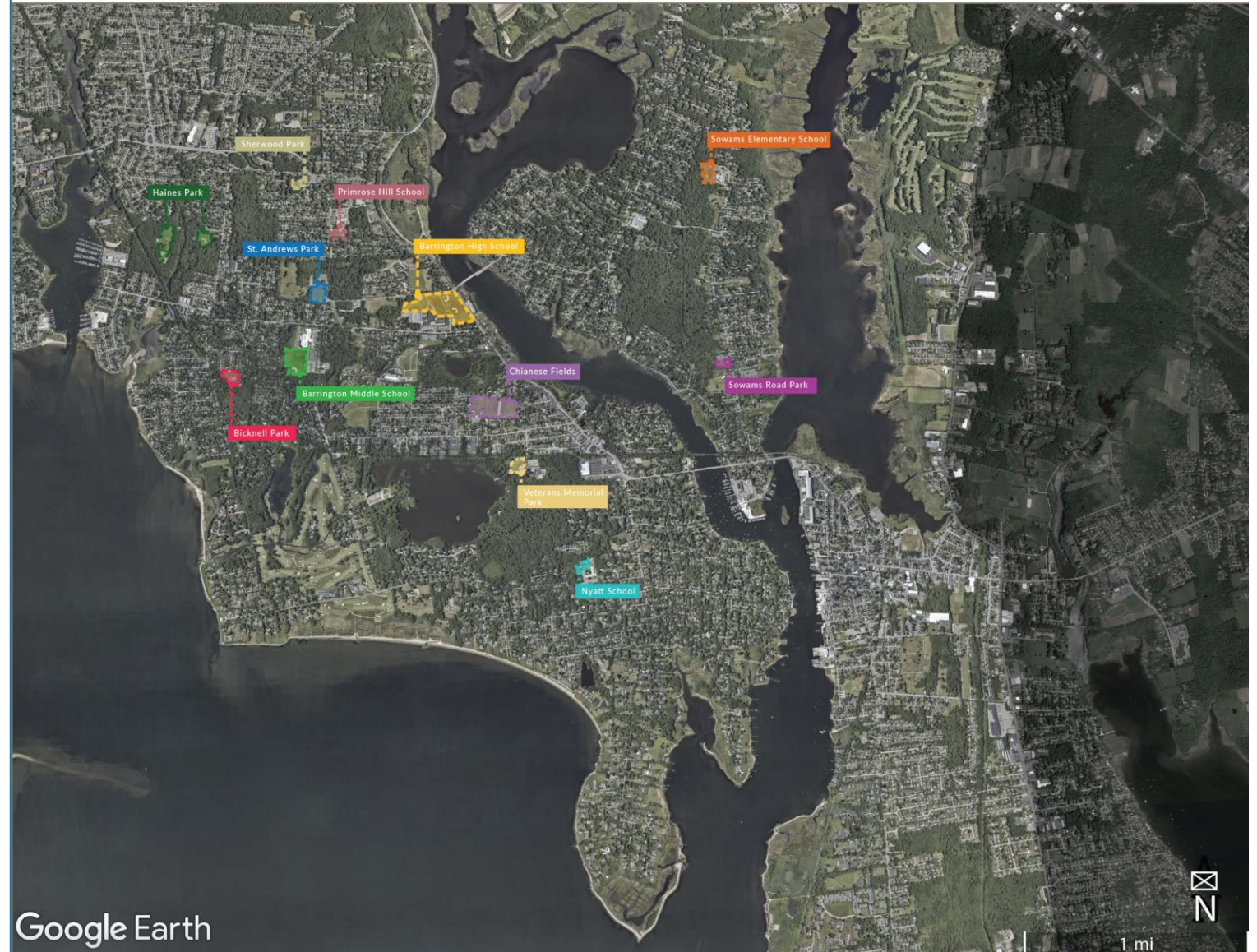
St. Andrews (Town Property)

- Soccer field – STA Field 1.1

Veterans Memorial Park

- Softball: VMP Field 1.1

SITE MAPPING



KEY FINDINGS



FIELD REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULING SYSTEM IS IN ADEQUATE: The system the town is currently using does not allow for appropriate tracking and scheduling of fields which creates demand issues and impacts maintenance practices.

FIELD USAGE: Current Field Demand is higher than field capacity

LAND LIMITATIONS: There is limited land to create new fields but, opportunity to improve underutilized fields.

INCREASED PARTICIPATION BY TOWN YOUTH: Currently, 30% of the youth age 5-18 participate in some type of athletic activity.

EQUITY FIELD DEVELOPMENT: There are currently a lot of fields that do not match up with the registration and demands of the rec leagues.

LONG-TERM REGULAR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM: Current maintenance practices are reactionary to the needs of the fields and affected by the demands of the DPW. A structured system needs to be put in place to increase the quality and safety of the fields.

MAINTENANCE FUNDING: There is currently not a clear structure for maintaining athletic fields in the Town. If increased safety and quality is a goal a clear funding structure to allow maintenance to occur needs to be developed.

FIELD REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULING SYSTEM IS IN ADEQUATE:

Pros:

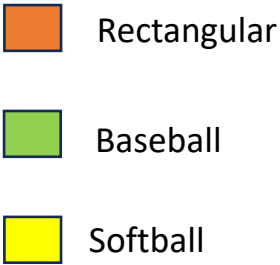
- Most of the leagues know how to use it and cooperate together.
- Priority leagues have access to fields.
- Easy to manage.
- Some of the leagues self manage.

Cons

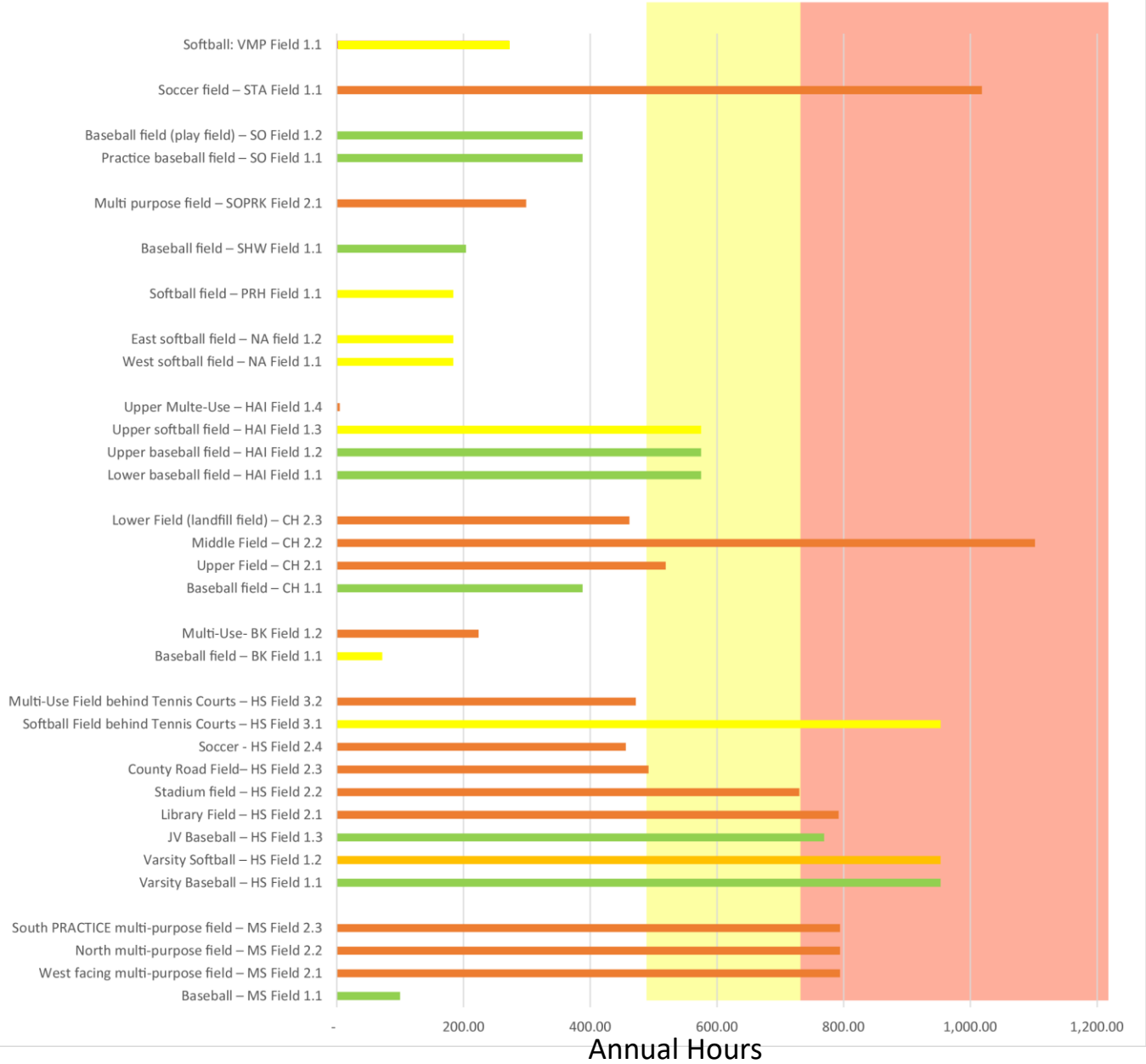
- Leagues fill the schedule to make sure they cover their demands which leaves gaps in field use versus actual demand.
- There is no schedule for maintenance operations versus game set up operations. These services become on-demand as needed.
- Creates confusion for long-term maintenance operations.
- No accurate tracking of actual field use.
- Creates animosity amongst the leagues when fields are scheduled but, go unused.

FIELD
USAGE

Rectangular field surfaces are heavily used in the community. There is a demand for more fields and more fields space. There is further exacerbated by the demand to rest fields for maintenance.



- Veterans Memorial Field
- St. Andrews Field
- Sowam Road ES
- Sowams Road Park
- Sherwood Park
- Primrose Hill
- Nyatt ES
- Haines Park
- Chianese Fields
- Bicknell Park
- High School
- Middle School



LAND LIMITATIONS

- There is limited potential for the development of new fields as there is limited appropriately sized land in the town.
- There are some existing fields that can be redeveloped to provide more quality useable space.



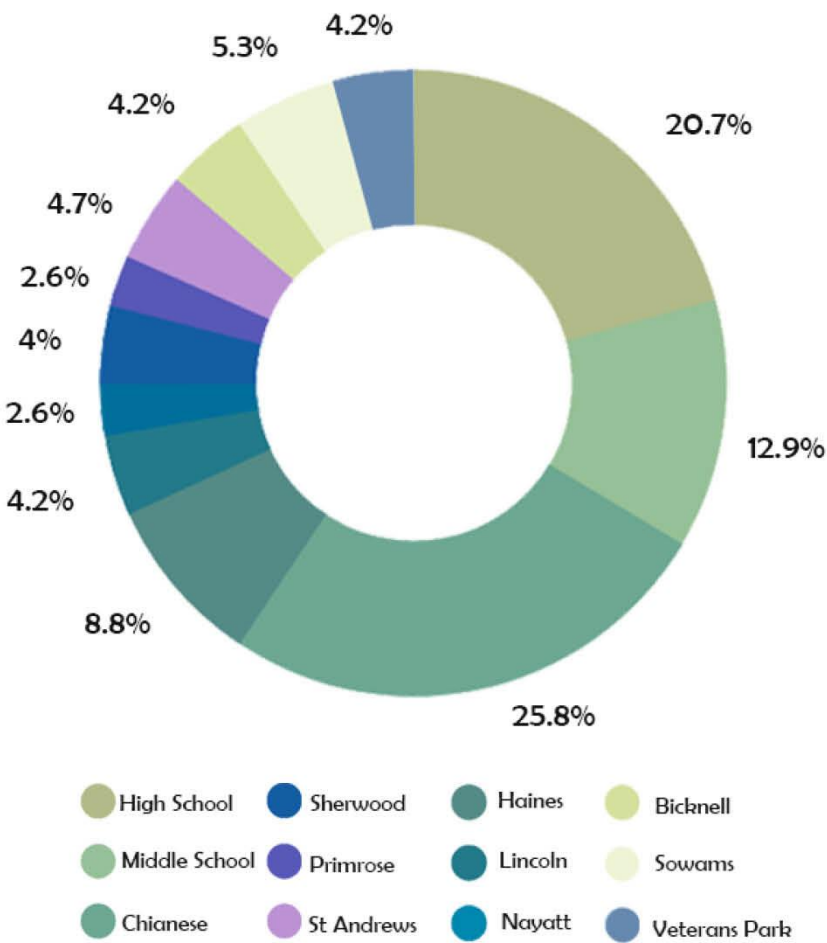
2%
of the total land mass of
Rhose Island is the Town
of Barrington



4.6%
of the Town of Barrington is water



0.015%
of the land mass in Barrington
are athletic fields. 207% of the total
fields reside at the high school



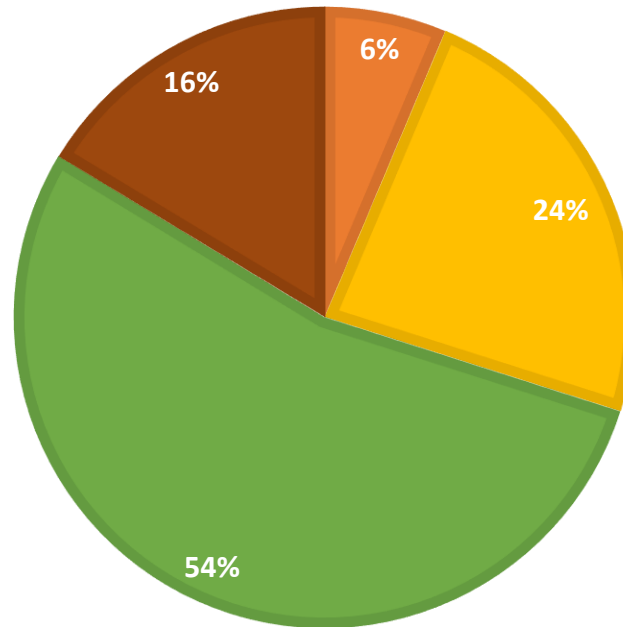
INCREASED PARTICIPATION BY TOWN YOUTH:

A large portion of Barrington's population is made up of 5-18 year olds.

The Barrington Youth population is participating in local sport recreation leagues. Note that this only accounts for the local leagues and does not account for any outside private league participation.

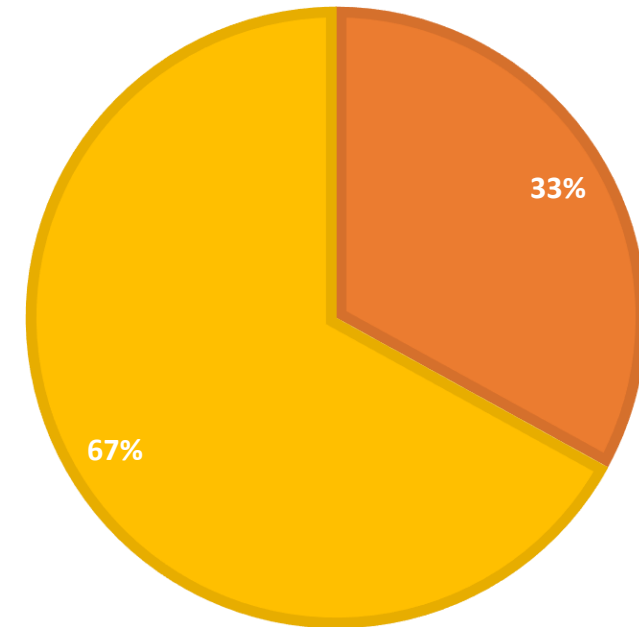
BARRINGTON POPULATION

Age 0-5 Age 6-18 Age 19-65 Age 65 and Over



YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS

Participate Don't Participate



LONG-TERM REGULAR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM:

Pros:

- DPW has developed systems and material supplies that are unique to Barrington and fit the needs of the town.
- There are savings incurred through the services provided through the current town and not outsourcing certain tasks.
- There are practices that are occurring in Town that are innovative and working to keep up the quality of the fields.

Cons

- There is not dedicated staff to maintenance of the field. If there are emergencies in town, fields can go unmaintained.
- There is no clear schedule to indicate when fields can be maintained and most in season maintenance is reactionary.
- Gaps in maintenance lead to compounded stressed in the fields performance.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

SCHEDULING/FIELD MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE: There are a lot of good management softwares on the market like RecDesk and CivicPlus that can help with better scheduling and management of the fields. This will be critical to help with better scheduling of the fields use but, also with maintenance practices where fields can be taken off line for rehab within a structured schedule.

FIELD IMPROVEMENTS: The community is high on use and low on field space. The community needs more field space and the best available way to increase hours of use is the addition of a synthetic turf field. This field will allow for more hours of use but, also allow for resting of other fields. Along with synthetic turf there are some improvements to the natural grass fields that will increase the useability and playability of the fields. The following are options that we believe are viable for the community.

Note: The recommendations in this presentation represent major investments that should occur in the next 1-5 years. The final report will indicate a range of maintenance and amenity improvements for all facilities

Option 1



Chianese Middle and Lower Field



St. Andrews Field

- Convert Chianese Middle Field into a synthetic turf surface. This would be a larger surface that allows for surface usage.
- This would also deal with the current irrigation pressure issues that are located in this area.
- Potential to make lower field parking
- Cost: \$2.9m-\$3.4m

Pros:

- Double field at over 160,000/sq.ft.
- Multi-use sport for a wide range of uses
- Reduced closures to weather
- Would be a cap over the landfill
- Potential to collect water to reuse for irrigation on grass fields

Cons:

- Parking
- Residential neighborhood
- Challenges with building on landfill.
- Costs
- Lacks nearby amenities

- Surface Rehabilitation, which is regular aeration and topdressing combined with fraise mowing and linear sand channeling before seeding. Then continuing with and more routing maintenance, particularly mowing.
- Option 1A: Hybrid Stitch High Use Areas to improve wear and increase performance and usability
- Cost: \$150k-\$250k

Pros:

- Increase usage and performance of the field
- Increased drainage to reduce time for closure do to weather

Cons:

- Downtime to rebuild
- Increased specialized maintenance requirements

Option 1: Continued



- STADIUM FIELD, rebuild entire surface to build subsurface drainages and improve soil conditions.
- Option 1B: Hybrid Stitch the entire field surface
- Cost: \$550k-\$750k

Pros:

- Increased usability and performance
- Improve irrigation for water savings
- Improved drainage to reduce down time due to weather.
- Hybrid stitching allows for increased hours of use.

Cons:

- Field down time during construction
- Hybrid requires increased specialized maintenance
- Soil management

- LOWER FIELD, rebuild entire surface to build subsurface drainages and improve soil conditions and to expand surface for rotation of high user areas.
- Cost: \$450k-\$600k

Pros:

- Increased usability and performance
- Improve irrigation for water savings
- Improved drainage to reduce down time due to weather.
- Expanded play area to allow for reduction of concentrated use in high use areas.

Cons:

- Field down time during construction
- Soil management will increase costs

Option 2



St. Andrews Field



Chianese Middle and Lower Field

- Convert St. Andrews to a synthetic turf surface to provide increased hours of use.
- Cost: \$900k-\$1.1m

Pros:

- Increase usage and performance of the field
- Multi-use sport for a wide range of users
- Reduced closures due to weather.
- Existing parking

Cons:

- Downtime to rebuild
- Complicated drainage system
- Lacks nearby amenities

- MIDDLE FIELD: Surface Rehabilitation, which is regular aeration and topdressing combined with fraise mowing and linear sand channeling before seeding. Then continuing with and more routing maintenance, particularly mowing.
- Cost: \$600k-\$900k
- LOWER FIELD: LOWER FIELD, rebuild entire surface to build subsurface drainages and improve soil conditions and to expand surface for rotation of high user areas.
- Cost: \$500k-\$600k

Pros:

- Increase usage and performance of the field
- Reduced closures due to weather

Cons:

- Parking
- Residential neighborhood
- Challenges with building on landfill
- Costs

Option 2: Continued



- STADIUM FIELD, rebuild entire surface to build subsurface drainages and improve soil conditions.
- Option 1B: Hybrid Stitch the entire field surface
- Cost: \$550k-\$750k

Pros:

- Increased usability and performance
- Improve irrigation for water savings
- Improved drainage to reduce down time due to weather.
- Hybrid stitching allows for increased hours of use.

Cons:

- Field down time during construction
- Hybrid requires increased specialized maintenance
- Soil management

- LOWER FIELD, rebuild entire surface to build subsurface drainages and improve soil conditions and to expand surface for rotation of high user areas.
- Cost: \$450k-\$600k

Pros:

- Increased usability and performance
- Improve irrigation for water savings
- Improved drainage to reduce down time due to weather.
- Expanded play area to allow for reduction of concentrated use in high use areas.

Cons:

- Field down time during construction
- Soil management will increase costs

Option 3



Middle School Fields



Chianese Middle and Lower Field

- Convert the Middle School to a synthetic turf surface.
- Cost: \$2.2m-\$2.5m

Pros:

- Increase usage and performance of the field
- Multi-use sport for a wide range of users
- Reduced closures due to weather
- Access to school use programs with more daytime users
- Access to amenities
- Existing parking

Cons:

- Downtime to rebuild
- Building on top of recently built field and infrastructure
- Complicated grading and drainage

- MIDDLE FIELD: Surface Rehabilitation, which is regular aeration and topdressing combined with fraise mowing and linear sand channeling before seeding. Then continuing with and more routing maintenance, particularly mowing.
- Cost: \$600k-\$900k
- LOWER FIELD: LOWER FIELD, rebuild entire surface to build subsurface drainages and improve soil conditions and to expand surface for rotation of high user areas.
- Cost: \$500k-\$600k

Pros:

- Increase usage and performance of the field
- Reduced closures due to weather

Cons:

- Parking
- Residential neighborhood
- Challenges with building on landfill
- Costs

Option 3: Continued



- STADIUM FIELD, rebuild entire surface to build subsurface drainages and improve soil conditions.
- Option 1B: Hybrid Stitch the entire field surface
- Cost: \$550k-\$750k

Pros:

- Increased usability and performance
- Improve irrigation for water savings
- Improved drainage to reduce down time due to weather.
- Hybrid stitching allows for increased hours of use.

Cons:

- Field down time during construction
- Hybrid requires increased specialized maintenance
- Soil management

- LOWER FIELD, rebuild entire surface to build subsurface drainages and improve soil conditions and to expand surface for rotation of high user areas.
- Cost: \$450k-\$600k

Pros:

- Increased usability and performance
- Improve irrigation for water savings
- Improved drainage to reduce down time due to weather.
- Expanded play area to allow for reduction of concentrated use in high use areas.

Cons:

- Field down time during construction
- Soil management will increase costs

Option 3: Continued



St. Andrews Field

- Surface Rehabilitation, which is regular aeration and topdressing combined with fraise mowing and linear sand channeling before seeding. Then continuing with and more routing maintenance, particularly mowing.
- Option 1A: Hybrid Stitch High Use Areas to improve wear and increase performance and usability
- Cost: \$150k-\$250k

Pros:

- Increase usage and performance of the field
- Increased drainage to reduce time for closure do to weather

Cons:

- Downtime to rebuild
- Increased specialized maintenance requirements