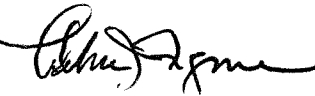




MEETING DATE: 06-06-05  
ITEM NO. 13  
ADDENDUM

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: JUNE 3, 2005

TO: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL 

FROM: DEBRA J. FIGONE, TOWN MANAGER

SUBJECT: COUNCIL POLICY DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION REGARDING USE OF  
OAK MEADOW PARK FOR ORGANIZED SOCCER PRACTICE

The attached letter to Mayor Wasserman from Ed San Juan from the Los Gatos United Soccer League, (LGUSL), dated October 14, 2004, addresses the LGUSL position regarding maintenance of public fields for organized soccer. Since this issue is discussed in the staff report on this item, the letter is being provided as supplemental information.

### Attachments:

1. Letter from Ed San Juan, LGUSL, October 14, 2004



PREPARED BY: PAMELA S. JACOBS  
ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Assistant Town Manager OK Town Attorney \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk Administrator  
SC Finance \_\_\_\_\_ Community Development Revised: 6/3/05 9:16 am

Reformatted: 5/30/02



October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004

To Mike Wasserman

**-Regarding Maintenance and Operations of Public Use Fields-**

It has always been the policy of the Los Gatos United Soccer League that where possible, as a non-profit community service entity where we own no physical resources (other than a storage container), we will provide monies, contract support, and volunteer support, needed to equip, maintain, and cooperatively operate with the field provider (school districts and LG Parks and Recreation).

**Purchasing Equipment**

On average, the LGUSL spends:

- Greater than ~\$25k per season just on field maintenance
  - Non-recurring cost: ~\$15k for hardware (Goals, and storage containers-capital investment items)
  - For recurring cost:~\$20k for field lining (using bio-degradable paint),
- Everything associated with a practice or a game, we fund.

**Hiring Contractors**

For the two previous seasons we hired Jensen Landscaping (same contractor handling the Fisher landscaping) to upgrade and maintain Fisher and Stratford fields. In the 5 years before that it was Ted Cooper. Last season, we could not repair the fields due to the Fisher construction and having the soccer fields not watered for 5-6 weeks (portables stored on fields). This season we hired Richard Johnson to place emergency sod, and handle gopher abatement.

We also hire contractors to do the time intensive scheduling work, and computer registration of the 1350 recreational players.

For any maintenance required to keep the playing surface safe, we would look internally to provide monies for labor and materials. We have also had conversations with Ken Olds, about when his employees had "slow periods", we could provide monies for soccer field maintenance tasks that they could do. He also stated that he's interested in being the preferred grounds keeper (with Maryann's ok), for any soccer field given access to us by the Town of Los Gatos. Ken sees it as a way to keep his folks busy.

**Community Partners**

On top of hiring contractors, two seasons ago we donated a \$5k aerator (deep root plugs for root growth and fertilization) to the Los Gatos Union School District to use on all of the districts fields, including baseball fields. And last season, we co-funded a topdressing machine to the district as well- a \$9k (\$18k total cost) investment. This machine is used for leveling the surface of a field, while compacting the soil- a basic requirement for athletic fields. We helped purchase this with LG Pony Baseball and the LGUSD. We believe we're good community partners.

**Volunteer Support**

We are lucky to have 200+ coaches volunteering their time every season. We also enlist Los Gatos High School, Leigh High school, Fisher, and Union middle school students for a litany of volunteer opportunities that range from picking up trash at the school fields, to working registration nights, moving goals, putting up nets, and working tournaments. We would look to the league volunteers to help maintain any property given to us to use. I've also started a "Green Field Policy" where teams are not allowed to leave a field until all the trash is picked up.

Over and above the standard maintenance required for a schools or public fields (one mowing per week, and consistent watering), we have provided monies for gopher abatement, filling rodent potholes (dangerous by California Youth Soccer Association Standards), and weed abatement where permissible (USD prefers to use their maintenance staff to handle state approved chemicals and procedures for USD schools. Ken Olds and his staff handles this for LGUSD). We either work cooperatively with school district officials to allow their staff to work soccer field maintenance simultaneously with school required work, or we (the LGUSL) pay overtime to Ken's staff, or we hire and pay a school district approved contractor to have the work done (Jensen Landscaping). This is how we've operated in the past, and it is how we plan on operating in the future.

Since we don't "own" soccer specific field like other leagues, our goal is to be 100% self sufficient, and to not burden the school districts and LG Parks and Recreation with a litany of special needs.

So, if the opportunity of a field in town presents itself, you can count on us to maintain it, and operate it in a manner consistent with the spirit of the Town of Los Gatos.

Our intent is for the LGUSL to truly be a great community partner.

Sincerely,

Ed San Juan  
President  
Los Gatos United Soccer League

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