RECOMMENDATION
Staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend Council approval to pursue the following actions relative to increasing the use and inventory of athletic fields:

- Work to identify funding for athletic field sports turf installations
- Explore incorporating into the City’s five-year CIP program installation of sports turf at Cubberley football field, Greer Park field #3 and El Camino soccer field
- Consider lighting at the above fields, taking into account community and neighborhood concerns
- Create short, intermediate and long-term execution plans, including time lines and budget considerations.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The Parks and Recreation Commission, as one of its priorities for 2005, established a sub-committee to follow up on the Palo Alto Fields Advisory Committee task force report of December 2002. The report stated that there is growing pressure to maintain and provide fields at an acceptable level as expected by community and others using the fields. The report recommended increasing athletic field capacity through use of all-weather synthetic turf, lighting to extend hours and development of one or more new athletic field facilities. The Parks and Recreation Commission fully supported the taskforce recommendations including the need to work cooperatively with other jurisdictions including the Palo Alto Unified School District, Stanford and neighboring cities.

BOARD/COMMISSION REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS
The Parks and Recreation Commission fully supports the sub-committee recommendations and requests Council direction to pursue the alternatives as outlined above.

ATTACHMENTS
Attachment A: Parks & Recreation Commission Sub-Committee Fields Advisory Report
PREPARED BY: ____________________________________________

PAUL DIAS
Division Manager, Parks & Golf

DEPARTMENT HEAD: ________________________________

RICHARD JAMES
Director of Community Services

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: __________________________

EMILY HARRISON
Assistant City Manager

Cc: Parks & Recreation Commission
Palo Alto Fields Advisory Committee