

To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Community Services Department
Date: January 23, 2018
Subject: Temporary Lights on Cubberley Turf Field

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Commission accept temporary lighting proposal on Cubberley synthetic turf field from February 12th – March 11th as presented by the Palo Alto Soccer Club.

Background:

During the months of daylight savings there is a high demand for lit athletic fields in Palo Alto. The City of Palo Alto currently has three lit fields available for rental; Mayfield Sports complex has two lit fields and El Camino Soccer field is also lit. The three lit fields are booked 7 days a week, with peak times being 4pm-10pm Monday-Friday. During the peak times there is no available free space. Youth and adult leagues are always looking for additional space during the winter daylight savings months.

Discussion:

The City of Palo Alto has been approached by Palo Alto Soccer Club with a proposal for a one month trial that would place temporary lights on the Cubberley synthetic turf field for the month of February.

Palo Alto Soccer Club provided a proposal that includes the following highlights (full report included):

- 4-6 temporary light stations brought onto Cubberley turf field
- Lights are solar powered with generator as backup
- Lights only used Monday-Thursday, Sunset to 8:30pm (lights off at 8:30pm)
- All additional activity will go through Cubberley Community Center, no pick up/drop off on Nelson Ave
- Additional time on field will be used for practice only
- Lights are secured and have 24/7 tech support

- Lights will be placed to have least disruption to field and track, with safety precautions taken to keep participants and the public safe from running into the lights

Public Outreach

On January 17th, staff held a public meeting, with post cards being sent to all house within the area shaded in image A, as well as email communication with neighborhood associations.

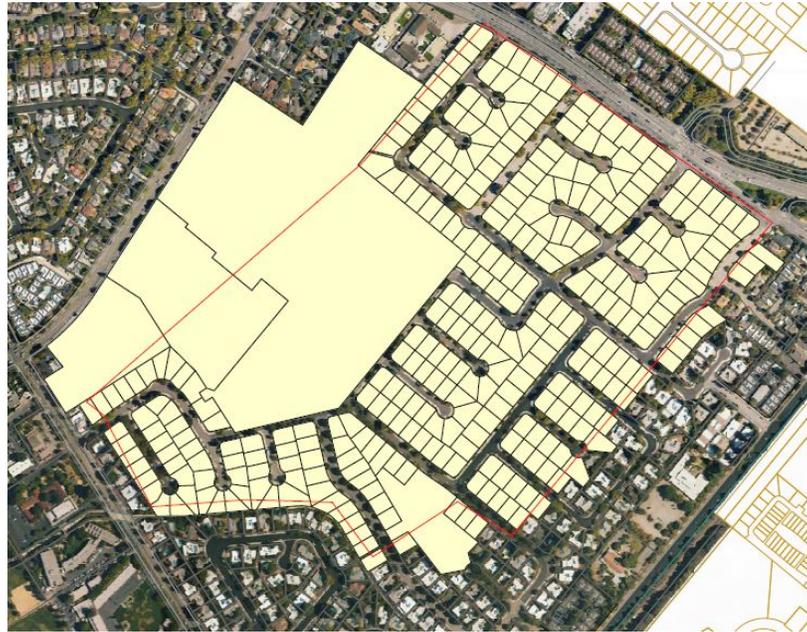


Image A

The meeting was only attended by 2 residents who felt the idea was well thought out and would be a positive for the soccer community and create minimal impact on the neighbors. The main concern for the neighbors was the use of Nelson Drive for drop off and pick up, which is addressed in the plan.

Staff will continue public outreach during the trial period and provide the residents a survey once the trial is complete to gather feedback.

Attachment A: Palo Alto Soccer Club lighting proposal

Prepared by

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City of Palo Alto



PALO ALTO SOCCER CLUB (PASC)
Cubberley Turf Field Temporary Lighting Proposal

1. Proposal: PASC is seeking permission to test the viability of using temporary lighting units on the Cubberley Football Field in the early evening hours of February 2018. If the temporary solution is viable, PASC would obtain permits to use the Cubberley Football Field from the City between the hours of 5:15pm and 8:30pm, Monday thru Thursday, commencing February 19, 2018 and ending March 11, 2018 as a trial period.

2. Lighting Plan: PASC has identified a provider, DC Solar Solutions, that will supply the lighting unit during this period of time. The unit, depicted in Figure 1 below, is solar+battery/diesel hybrid, but will most likely run on the solar+battery system for the estimated three hours of use per day. Accordingly, there would be very little noise or exhaust emissions generated from these units. The specifications of the unit are listed below. DC Solar believes that four units placed at the corners of the field would be sufficient for practice purposes. However, two additional units could be placed at the midline if additional lighting is necessary. See Figure 2 for potential locations.

Mobile Light Tower Specifications

Trailer & Power

- 10 - 240w Solar panels
- Battery-based diesel hybrid
- Two 120-volt power outlets
- W. 11' 11", L. 22', H. 25'
- Lockable Trailer
- Decibel Rating 68 db(A) @ 23 ft. when in generator mode
- Auxiliary Kubota GL11000

System & Controls

- Controls in Secure, Locked Cabinet
- On/Off Timer
- Wireless Capabilities/Controls
- Remote Operation Capability
- 24 Hour Technical Service

Lights & Towers

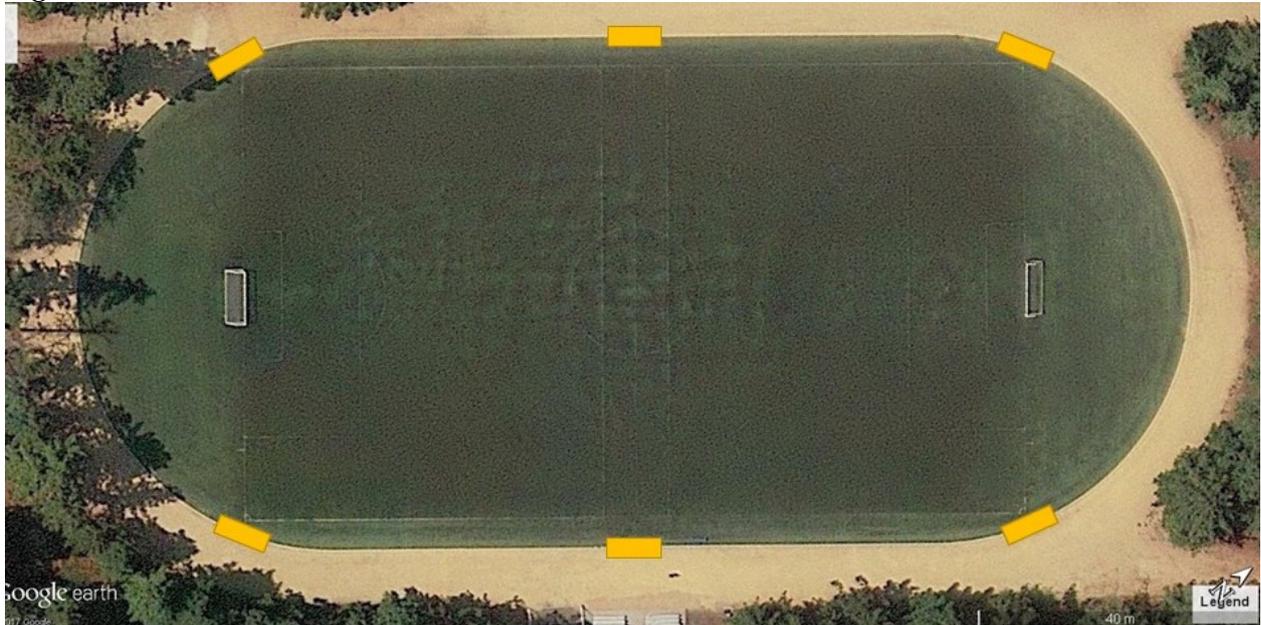
- 120w LED lights
- Emits 86,000 Lumens
- independently directed LED lights
- 20 hours of light with only 5 hours of sunlight



Figure 1.



Figure 2.



3. Safety Issues: The units are secure and safe from tampering. When placed on location, the unit's trailer hitch is removed, and the wheels are locked, making it impossible to move without a vehicle. The unit's control panel is in a locked cabinet on trailer. Lights are both controlled by a timer and remotely through a wireless interface. The system's operation is remotely monitored, and DC Solar Solutions has a 24 hour on call team if needed to address any tampering or vandalism. PASC/DC Solar would be responsible for all expenses including liability insurance associated with these systems. Liability insurance will be secured for equipment and personal injury.

4. Public Outreach Plan: PASC has spoken with a few of the immediate neighbors behind the Turf Field about the prospect of deploying temporary lights. This initial, informal feedback was not opposed to PASC's proposal, but PASC understands that a more formal neighborhood outreach effort should be conducted before the City approves this request.

PASC proposes to conduct a formal, door to door outreach effort to the immediate neighbors, within the redline area identified in Figure 3. The purpose of this outreach will be to inform the neighbors of our proposal; solicit their support for the proposal; and provide information regarding the City's formal process of review and approval. This effort will be commenced immediately upon review and approval of the Commission review and approval.



Figure 3.

