



Elizabethtown
Tourism & Convention Bureau

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Tourism Commission Approves Recommendation of Design Firm for Field of Dreams Outdoor Sports Complex

(Elizabethtown, Kentucky, July 15, 2009) During the Elizabethtown Tourism and Convention Bureau (ETCB) Commission meeting today, the commission accepted a recommendation regarding a design firm to head the design phase of the Field of Dreams Sports Complex.

A committee comprised of representatives from Elizabethtown City Council, Mayor's office, and the ETCB served as the selection committee that recommended m2d Design Group as the most qualified to lead this phase of development.

This recommendation will next be presented to the Elizabethtown City Council at their July 20, 2009 meeting. If approved by the City Council, the firm will be officially notified that they have been chosen and contract negotiations will begin.

Over the past several weeks, a selection committee has narrowed the field of qualified firms to complete this project. The committee noted the following qualifications that elevated m2d Design Group above the competition:

- Based in Lexington, m2d Design Group specializes in landscape architecture and parks and recreation work. The firm has a long-standing partnership with the city and served as the design firm for the master plan for the Field of Dreams in 2006.
- m2d was the only firm to seek professional sports field designers with the required expertise for tournament play design, which differs from typical community park projects. Dean Thomas of Dalhoff, Thomas and Dawes (DTD) will serve as a member of the team of designers. Based in Memphis, Tenn., DTD designed the award-winning Snowden Grove Park in Southaven, Miss., which has become the ultimate standard for amateur baseball complexes in the country. DTD also designed FNC Park in Oxford, Miss., which hosts numerous regional and national soccer events.
- Another member of the design team will be a Sports Turf Agronomist, Phil Hargarten. His role will be to advise on playing surfaces/grass installation, field rotation, and turf maintenance for the new facility.
- M2d has partnered with Lochner Engineers, the engineering company currently working on the permitting for the West Park Road extension, which will feed the main entrance to

the park. This partnership will allow the project team to share vital information and experience with the project site.

The design phase of the process will likely span the next six months. During this design phase, each element of the park will be detailed into construction plans, with a goal of bidding the construction phase by early spring 2010. m2d will be leading a series of public meetings to allow for input from the community on elements of the park.

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