



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Field of Dreams Gets New Name and Revised Park Layout

(Elizabethtown, Kentucky, November 23, 2009) Taking the next step in the development of a sports tourism economic impact tool for the Elizabethtown area, the project known locally as the "Field of Dreams" is officially named the "Elizabethtown Sports Park". Along with the official name, a revised layout is unveiled to the public.

"We realized some time ago that 'Field of Dreams' couldn't be the official name of the park. Obviously there are copyright issues with using the name. While 'Field of Dreams' has been an appropriate local identifier for the project, as we move into this new phase of construction, these dreams are now a reality. Elizabethtown Sports Park defines what it is, promotes our community, and works on a local, regional, and national level", says Janna Clark, Sports and Sales Director for Elizabethtown Tourism and Convention Bureau.

Along with the new name, a revised park plan and a range of probable costs were announced today. The park oversight committee and the ETCB Commission officially endorsed the updated design, new name, and moving to the next phase of the project, which includes the construction phase. A presentation was made to the Elizabethtown City Council during today's work session.

Designers of the park hesitate to call this a final design, because there is still a major amount of work to be done on the site until fields are sewn and buildings are erected. Mark Arnold, m2d Design Group, shared, "with a project that entails relocating approximately 450,000 cubic yards of dirt, nothing can be considered final at this point. However, we anticipate seeing all the major elements in the final design of the park."

Highlights of the design include:

Baseball/Softball

Baseball Complex A: 2 babe ruth fields, 2 baseball fields (250' fences)

Baseball Complex B: 4 baseball fields (250' fences)

Softball Complex C: 4 youth softball fields (200' fences)

- Each diamond will have covered open-air dugouts and brick-walled, padded backstops.
- Each complex will feature at least one championship level diamond with built-in, tiered seating and sloped outfields for lawn style seating.
- Each complex will include a play area for little ones, concessions, restrooms including a family restroom, covered tables, shaded tent areas, and designated warm-up areas.
- There will also be a large pavilion-type structure that will serve as a tournament headquarters, umpire locker rooms, covered plaza/vendor space, and opening/closing ceremonies space

- There will be various entry access points that will allow flexibility for ticketed events and recreational play.

Soccer/Football

2 fields - 240' X 360'
 8 fields - 210' X 330'
 3 fields - 160 X 240
 1 practice field
 2 warm-up areas

- Fields will be able to accommodate up to 23 short-sided games.
- Fields will also be able to accommodate lacrosse, field hockey, and other sports.
- Similar to the baseball complex, a large pavilion structure will serve these fields as well.
- Small covered structures with restrooms will also be located close to the outer-lying soccer fields.
- Two of the larger soccer fields will also serve as championship level fields that can be used for football, band, cheerleading, coaching clinics, etc.
- These two fields will be located adjacent to the soccer pavilion, and will feature additional bleacher seating, lawn-style seating, a separate concession/plaza area and additional parking.
- There are plans for one of these championship fields to be a synthetic surface field.

Additional features of the overall park design include:

- Two paved walking/biking paths totaling over 3 miles of trail
- A playground/picnic area for public use
- Wi-Fi, public address system, weather/lightning alert system
- "Miracle Field" baseball diamond for physically challenged participants
- Park operations and maintenance building to serve as staff headquarters and equipment garage

Along with establishing the elements of a tournament-quality facility, the design team also presented an opinion of probable cost ranging from \$24 – 28 million for the entire park. When speaking about the range, designers explained that unlike construction on one office building or one athletic facility, this project, which spans over 150 acres, will include multiple construction packages over the next 14 months. Given the bidding climate for construction work and the sheer magnitude of variations in costs for materials and equipment, attaching a specific dollar amount at this point is not viable. "We've made as close a projection as possible at this juncture" explains Arnold. "Our goal will be to award construction packages based on the best value and expertise for the project. We also plan to offer packages that appeal to local construction companies."

Work has stayed on track to this point. Moving forward, plans include the development of utility needs, grading and drainage plans, and preparing construction documents for the first phase of construction, the earthwork package. This package is scheduled for bid in March 2010.

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