

September 30, 2002

Honorable Mayor and Members of  
The Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of  
October 8, 2002

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>REQUEST FROM LITTLE LEAGUE RENOVATION OF INFIELDS AT CLARK STADIUM</b></p>
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**Recommendation**

The Parks, Recreation and Community Resources Commission and staff recommend that Council:

1. Approve the request from Little League to appropriate up to \$18,150 from the 4% Utility User Tax Right of Way Fund to be used to renovate the infields at Clark Stadium. (Attachment A).
2. Approve Turf Aerification Specialty as a sole source to provide the materials and labor to upgrade the two west diamonds.

**Background**

On an annual basis, the baseball fields are renovated prior to the new Little League season at a cost of approximately \$3,000. This annual maintenance helps to retain the two dirt infields which have existed for 10 years.

Based on input from Little League, Pony, and Colt leagues, the Parks and Recreation Commission established a subcommittee to study alternatives for upgrading the existing fields; in particular, the main diamond.

**Analysis**

The subcommittee, representatives from the leagues, and staff examined grass, artificial, and dirt infield alternatives for the main diamond. Due to the use of the field by three different leagues with various base path distances, the dirt infield ultimately became the favored choice.

Next, the committee identified successful dirt infields in other cities to select material and methods for rebuilding the Hermosa Beach diamonds. After consulting other leagues that had built successful dirt diamonds, a particular type of composite soil was selected as well as a preferred contractor, Turf Aerification Specialty.

The company provided an estimate of \$16,500 for the materials and labor to upgrade both west diamonds prior to the next Little League season (Attachment B). The request for up to \$18,150 accounts for potential additional irrigation repairs and contingency for the project.

According to the contractor, with annual maintenance at the current levels and good minor maintenance during the season, the new dirt infields could last for well over a decade. So while the initial cost of the service is considerable, it can be amortized over the next several seasons.

Each year, City staff encourages the Little League volunteers to examine their needs well in advance of the season so that the City may be able to accomplish improvements with reasonable notice. This year, that objective has been met and with Council approval, the fields will be ready for the 2003 seasons.

**FISCAL IMPACT: \$18,150 allocation from the 4% Utility User Tax Right of Way Fund to Parks Maintenance account 4202-4201. No impact on future annual maintenance allocations.**

Attachments:

- A. Letter from Hermosa Beach Little League
- B. Estimate from Turf Aerification Specialty

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary C. Rooney  
Community Resources Director

Concur:

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Stephen R. Burrell  
City Manager

Noted for Fiscal Impact:

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Viki Copeland  
Director of Finance