



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

June 2, 1997

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report #11 regarding the testing and renovation of Russell Field, please be advised of the following:

City staff are working with our consultant, Environmental Health and Engineering, Inc., and neighborhood representatives to develop a sampling program for Russell Field. Environmental testing of Russell Field is scheduled to take place in the Summer, 1997.

The Feasibility Study completed on Russell Field in 1996, estimated a \$3.6 million cost (in 1996) to renovate the facility. The recommendations in the study include the addition of a Field House/Changing Facility, a tot lot, community gardens, bicycle, pedestrian and parking enhancements as well as other aesthetic improvements. This is a 1996 estimate and may have to be adjusted for inflation.

As you may be aware, the Transportation Bond Bill, adopted by the State Legislature in 1996, included \$1.5 million for the renovation of Russell Field; however, it is unclear when these bonds will be issued. Additional funds (\$500,000) are also being sought through an upcoming Urban Self-Help grant round through the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services.

The City's five-year Capital Plan includes funds for the Russell Field renovation in fiscal year 1999. Design development for the Field House and field renovations, anticipating a FY99 construction, will commence after the testing of the field is finalized and financing is secured.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Consent Agenda #6

S-324

Relative to Awaiting Report Item
Number Eleven, regarding the testing and
renovation of Russell Field.

In City Council June 2, 1997

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